**Garden Creek Home & School Committee**

**Minutes from: September 20th, 2016**

**Present:**

Jodi Parker, Rebekah Thompson, Heidi McNair, Samantha Robichaud (VP), Julie Werner, Kim Kennedy, Katherine Boisvert, Michelle Peach, Dawn Marie Gordon, Nick Waye, Kat Gardono-Roberts, Jason Addison, Tim Heustis, Krista Bowen, Heather Cairns, Katherine Campbell (Principal), Jodie Yerxa, Ashley Yerxa, Jeanetta Hill

**Welcome new and returning members**

Jodi Parker welcomed all new and returning members. Round table introductions were made and the agenda was adopted.

**2016-2017 H&S Executive**

New members for this year:

* Katherine Boisvert – Christmas Bazaar co-chair
* Rebekah Thompson – secretary
* Heather Brander – Evening Event Coordinator

Jodie motioned to approve, seconded by Heidi McNair

**Treasurer’s report – Krista Bowen**

Opening balance just under $5,000

Bazaar highly successful last year as was the Chapters and Papa Johns fundraisers.

Typically goal is to fundraise and use the money within the year, typical starting balance of $1800-2000. Movie license $800 (good from Nov-Nov).

Purchased an exercise bike for the classrooms – to come out of current funding.

Funding motions done through the executive group

Signatures required – one from office and one from H&S (usually treasurer and principal or VP)

**Funding requests from staff**

1. Heather Cairns – applying for a grant for exercise bikes for the classroom ($5000-6000 to get 5-6 more bikes for the classroom). Self regulating tool for the children – used by the kids as they see fit. A way for children to calm themselves and awaken their brains. Lots of literature to show the success of these in the classroom. Currently have 4 at Garden Creek rotating through the classrooms. Children continue to participate in lessons while on the bike. Bikes make no noise. Planning to run 3 bottle drives this year to get funding. Bikes are purchased through the District. Also looking at alternate seating for the classroom, pedals, things that attach to the bottom of desks for kids who fidget, stand up desks, etc. Looking for funding to meet all needs. Ultimate goal is to have a bike in each classroom (15). 2 are on order now. H&S supported this last year and will continue to do so. Another grant available in the Spring. Planning to do bikes first then alternate seating.
2. Others – wishlists coming in from staff – classes asking for higher seating, stand-up desks, bikes, help with field trips, need storage for the classrooms (one teacher had her father make shelving), whiteboard for one classroom, projector ($600), spare bulbs ($300), resources for the K classes (books), different instruments for music class. Teachers to supply costs of each item to H&S.

**What is our focus for this year? Are we continuing with technology?**

As a group, it was decided that ‘Wellness’ would be the focus this year

Side note: VNB has program where they come into the school and teach volleyball in a new way and leave free balls and ball bag – to look into this.

**Alternate funding options**

* Recycling drop box – Katherine Campbell described how it worked at her previous school - had one at the gas station and everyone in the community would drop off there…made ~$400 per month. Need a parent to collect and maintain it (paid $100 per month). Heather Cairns offered to do this. Suggestion made that many groups of people could be scheduled. Julie Werner to talk to management at Esso to see if they would be willing to have a box set up there. Suggestion made to put the box at the Montessori school. Heather Cairns to contact Oakland Farms to see if they have bottles to donate. Could we have a drop box right at the school too? Need a lock on it. Julie volunteered her husband to make wooden box.
* Book fair – traditionally done in November by librarian. (New librarian starting this week – won’t put her in charge of book fair just yet). Maybe a committee could run a book fair this year? Parent-driven project. Or wait until the spring and have librarian run it. Lily and Hope have volunteered to take the lead on book fair. Heather volunteered to be teacher contact. Decision made to do this in the Spring before Easter
* Chapters night – Kim offered to help organize. Need to book asap (looking into Tues Nov 29). School choir sang Christmas carols. Chose to get 10% cash from all sales that night. Need to say you are with Garden Creek at the cash (need a sign at the cash? Someone around to remind people, use stickers).
* Summit Dodge/Fredericton Nissan Test Drive – for every person registered, the school gets $20. Will need some volunteers. Kim to organize – tentative date Saturday, Oct 15th 10-1. Looking into possibility of keeping the gym open in case it’s raining/cold? Coffee and donuts?
* Papa John’s fundraiser (save until after Christmas).

**Vice-Principal’s Report**

Samantha distributed an updated list of upcoming school events which will be posted on the school’s website. Clarification of dates for the Christmas concerts – they will be on Dec 16th (9:30 and 12) with storm date on Dec 21st (8:30 and 10:30)

**Hot Lunch Program Update – Jodie Yerxa**

Papa Johns starts on Thursday Sept 22

Next one starts Oct 27th – need to vote on where we will order from: Subway, Great Canadian bagel, BP. Subway chosen for October.

H&S sponsors some children. Could ask for parents to sponsor? Need to be clear about what money would be for and what we would do with any extra $.

**Next Movie Night – Heather Brander (not present at tonight’s meeting)**

Available now: Secret life of pets, Finding Dory, The BFG (?too scary/not appropriate).

Secret Life of Pets chosen. Family event – Friday night @ 6:30 (Parents need to stay). Sell popcorn, juice boxes, water. Wear PJs, bring your stuffies. Usually make ~ $300-$400 per movie night). Need to pick a night – Friday Oct 21st Clothing orders will also be done that night (parents and kids to try on).

Suggestion made that we could set up the exercise bikes at movie night to raise awareness

**Christmas Bazaar – Heidi McNair & Katherine Boisvert**

* To be held on November 19th
* Usually have a main focus of what the funding will go towards – ‘wellness’ will be the focus – start with bikes and alternate seating. If more money available, other ideas suggested: Playground equipment – basketball area, soccer nets.
* Last year we made $14,000 (usually make anywhere between 9-15K).
* Christmas Bazaar – are we ok with this name? Should we change the name to something more inclusive? Winter Bazaar, Holiday Hooplah. Decision made to look at this idea for next year.
* Suggestions for big ticket items – usually go with some sort of electronic. Occasionally donated, other times need to purchase. New Wii unit coming out this Fall. ipad minis? Kids Bike? (Gift certificate to get a bike). Heather and Julie to check with their businesses
* Poinsettas – Jeanetta

**Funding Motion**

Funding motion for movie night up to $1000 (including license)

Up to $500 for the bazaar

$1500 approved for tonight – Krista motioned. 1st Heidi 2nd Katherine

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm. Apologies made for a lengthy meeting!

**Next meetings**

Oct 18th, Nov 15th, Dec 20th (skip), Jan 17th, Feb 21st, Mar 21st, April 18th, May 16th, June (meeting is offsite).

**Submitted by:**

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Rebekah Thompson

Garden Creek Home & School Association