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| **Leslieville School Council****Meeting Minutes****February 19 2019** |  |

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| **Item** | **Notes** |
| **Principal’s Report** | * Feb 8 Potluck/Chinese New Year Celebration went really well. Thank you to Ms. Vahidy.
* Junior Kindergarten Registration – 33 in total (22 in-person and 11 online). Projected numbers are around 45 for Sept. 2019.
* Deadline for Optional Attendance applications for Grade 6 students was Feb 15. School visits are usually in the Spring.
* Parents advised to be careful with pick up/drop off due to snow banks, traffic and sidewalks.

Upcoming School Events:* Junior Symphony – Feb 28
* Razzmatazz – on Inclusion Day – March 8
* March Break – March 11 – 15
* Family Dance – March 22
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| **Special Guests** | Susanna Siou– Manager, Business Development, TDBSS* Susanna briefly described various ways a school council can raise funds (e.g. Donations, Sponsorship, Grants, etc.). Council cannot fund Teacher professional development.
* She advised that fundraising should be purpose driven (i.e. Funds should be collected based on a particular goal/identified need for the school).
* In general, it is recommended that funds raised be spent within two years, unless the goal is not achieved and fund raising efforts must continue beyond that time.
* To fundraise for a large school project (e.g. play ground upgrade), the school and council must submit a *Viability Assessment Review Form* so that TDBS can assess the needs (e.g. is there an accessibility barrier to address) and work with the school administration on an appropriate plan of action (e.g. fundraising, TDSB funds and Vendor of Record etc.).

Jennifer Story, School Trustee* Provided a brief welcome and shared some suggestions for the council to consider, including Educational Partnerships, reading programs such as Sheila reads and improved parent engagement.
* It was suggested that the council might want to align with the School Improvement Plan, that includes how the school will be looking at *Student Achievement, Equity and Well Being*, for current funding opportunities.
* Jennifer shared that the trustees are working together to understand the broader impact of the current political context and government plans for the public education.
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| **Fundraising Context and Brainstorm** | * It was discussed that although there is a surplus of $14,515 in the council budget, it does not need to be spent before the end of the 2018/19 school year end.
* That said, members felt that it would still be good to make a commitment to fund some things and continue with the momentum to raise more funds in the Spring with a longer term goal.
* Members shared a number of ideas that were captured during the meeting and parents were encouraged to share further ideas prior to the March meeting.
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| **Student Persona’s**  | * It was shared that council members are not fully representative of the parent population at Leslieville.
* In an attempt to try and include as many perspectives in the decision making process (re: funding and otherwise), Nisha Haji suggested that we may want to develop Student Persona’s for the school.
* Persona’s would be one of many tools and would be developed based on a number of data inputs (e.g. census, teacher/parent consultation etc.)
* Once there is a sense of what the student make up is in the school and what is already happening (i.e. curriculum, school funded programs/events, council supported initiatives etc.), it may be easier to assess the gaps and fundraise towards closing those gaps.

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| **Roundtable**  | * It was recommended that we may want to start with a Health and Safety Audit (both for AODA compliance and environmental).
* Some members brought forward that the email communication from the Principal about the February 2019 meeting seemed as though the meeting and council is only about fundraising – it was noted and future emails will be further contextualised for clarity.
* There was some concern/questions on how the council might get further involved in the broader context of Public Education in Ontario (e.g. Changes to Health Curriculum, suggestions for classroom cap sizes, changes to full day JK/SK etc.) as well as making more value driven choices/decisions.

Other **(NOTE: shared via email after the meeting)**: The fundraising committee is planning a Spring fundraiser (details below):* **When**: Friday, April 12, 7pm to 11pm
* **Theme**: Crock-Off: A crock pot cooking contest (and taste test!)
* **Admission**: FREE, with a suggested donation of $20 per person
* **Drinks**: Alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks will be served for a fee (likely $5 and $2 respectively). Water will be free.
* **Description**: The committee will source 15 - 20 contestants who will cook up a delicious crock pot dish of their choosing. Contestants will cover the cost of their own crock-pot creations. Everyone who attends the event will get unlimited tastings of any and all dishes (while supplies last!), about 1/2 cup each. All guests will get 2 votes for the best crock-pot concoction, with the top 3 winners taking home prizes (to be sourced by the committee).
* **Where**: The Redwood, 1300 Gerrard St E, just E of Greenwood (the former Circus Academy). Note that we’re not able to host this, or any other parent events, at the school.
* **Comms plan**: The committee will work with the comms team to develop (and translate) promo materials and spread word.
* **Volunteers**: We’ll need 15 - 20 volunteers, including 4 Smart Serve volunteers. Please email Grace to flag your interest in volunteering (gracetesa@rogers.com). Additionally, if you have leads on a volunteer DJ or alcohol sponsors, do let Grace know.
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**Decisions**

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|  | * No further funding decisions were made.
* Devin Horne was appointed the Health & Safety Advisor
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**Actions**

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|  | * Co-Chairs to consolidate the brainstorming ideas and share next steps at the March meeting.
* Nisha to start developing some persona’s based on available Census data from the Principal.
* Devin and the Principal to conduct a Health and Safety Audit in the Spring.
* Principal to share the School Improvement Plan.
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**Future Agenda Items**

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| March 2019* Fun Fair
* Spring Fundraiser
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**Future Meeting Schedule**

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| 2018-19 | The 2018-19 meeting schedule is as follows:* March 19
* April 16
* May 21
* June 18
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