

Minutes of A.B. Ellis School Council Meeting
October 4, 2016

In attendance: Krissie Vanier, Jennifer Tilston, Edith Presseau, Brenda Legrow, Michael Bellrose

Minutes of September 12th meeting approved (Krissie – moved; 2nd by Edith)

Principals' Report

EQAO - Michael reported that while our students have made some gains in their reading and writing performance from grade 3 to grade 6, our students are still having difficulty scoring at the provincial standard in mathematics. Consequently, math learning will continue to be a focus for both staff and students at A.B. Ellis. Teachers will participate in five full days of Learning Cycles during the school year, with support from Shelley Tamura and Bobbie-Jo Lumme, our assigned Math Support Teacher. The Cycles are designed to enhance teacher's understanding of mathematics and mathematics teaching.

Winkel's YIG Fundraiser

In an effort to raise more money for co-curricular (e.g., sports, music, drama) opportunities and excursions, students in grade 6 will participate in 'bagging' at Winkel's Your Independent Grocer over the Thanksgiving long weekend. This is just one of several fundraisers that we plan to organize this year at A.B. Ellis, with parents deciding which campaigns they wish to (or can) support. Little Ceasar's Pizza orders are also being collected to help raise funds for the school.

Several other fund-raising ideas were discussed, including the selling of gift cards.

Tim Horton's Camp

Students in grades 4 through 6 will visit Tim Horton's Camp in Parry Sound between March 21 and March 24 in 2017. Arrangements will be made well in advance to have parent chaperones secure vulnerable sectors (police) checks prior to the date.

School Library

Students began visiting the school library in October to meet with Lindsay Rodrigues, our school library clerk, and to sign out books. Five hundred dollars of new picture books, chapter books, and graphic novels were purchased and were quickly scooped up by students.

Outside Play Areas

Michael reported that work on the outside and inside play areas will continue until two basketball and tetherball standards are installed in the rear playground area and a stage and more decking are installed in the center court of the school. The possibility of plant boxes and other adornments in these areas is still being considered.

Stuff the Bus

A.B. Ellis students once again displayed their generosity by bringing in hundreds of non-perishable food items for the local Foodbank as part of Veterans' Stuff the Bus campaign. The grade 6 class brought in the most food items for a second year in a row.

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