

Minutes

Castor Valley Elementary School Council Meeting

September 13th, 2018 from 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Meeting began at 6:40 pm
Meeting was chaired by Kim Chen
Secretary: Jenni Bell

Attendance:

Voting Members (15 Current, quorum reached):

Kimberly Chen, Cynara Corbin, Jenni Bell, Tara Starzomski, Patricia Bezaire, Tina Clarmo, Melissa Ekdom-Delorme, Maryam Sugrue-Foubert, Sarah Slater, Carrie Amell, Elli Kapsalis, Natalie Elliott, Catherine Yang, Stephanie Pagan, Esther McConaghy,

Non-Voting Members and guests:

Chris Toivonen (Principal), Carrie Merriam (Teacher), Deborah Tomlinson (Teacher), Samantha Ward (ECE), Kristeen Kemp (Teacher), Cassie Donnelly, Adriene Gannon, Shawna Rioux, Sasha Clayton, Melissa Davey, Radam Feizo-Gas, Lori Dales, Amanda Briglio, Christine MacMillan, Kelly Kelly, Vicki Compton, Andrew Scott, Nicole Esinor, Veronique Ielo, Melanie Ritchie, Eleanor Robinson, Karen Percy, Amber Smith, Jamie Janes, Jodi Forest, Jen Danby McDonald, Jenn Hannah, Deb Carter, Alison Reaume, Maureen Bryden, Kandi Piamonte, Billy Lacharity, Carolina Suarez, Maria Armas, Michelle Fekkes, Gail Spencer, Zvonko Custic, Debbie Hill, Brenda Fenton

Voting Members absent:

Tamara Legris, Lisa Multari, Megan Breau, Emma Kryzanowski, Deanna Morris, Erin Ingraham

1. Welcome, Attendance

Kim opened the meeting and went over standard housekeeping rules for council.

15 current voting members of council are present; quorum has been reached.

2. Dissolution of 2017-2018 Council

- Chris Toivonen officially dissolves the current council.
Chris introduces Andrea White, the new VP
Chris thanks the outgoing council for the work that they did in the 2017-2018 year. With the Boundary Review and all the events that went on last year it was a very busy year for council.
- Cynara Corbin explains the council roles and the difference between voting and non-voting members. Council has 7-8 meetings a year, and voting members are expected to attend all of them. Executive members must be selected from the voting members. There are current executive members seeking reelection this year as well as new co-chair and co-secretary nominations.
- Nomination forms are collected and Cynara Corbin, Chris Toivonen and Carrie Merriam go to review and tally them.

3. Listen Up Ottawa! – Presentation by Kristeen Kemp:

- Castor Valley has been chosen as this year's Listen Up Ottawa! school through Ottawa Chamberfest. Chamberfest is funded privately as well as through some commercial donations.
- Our students will have the honour of working with some of North America's finest artists in various fields. It is a year-long project, culminating in a large production in May in a larger venue. Will feature a variety of art, music and poetry.
- Will feature a composition by a world-renowned composer Kelly-Marie Murphy, as well as Juno nominees and winners the Gryphon Trio who will be working with singers from CVES. The composer will have created the work exclusively for CV students, lyrics will use poetry created by CV students throughout the year.
- Teachers have an upcoming meeting with Chris and a handful of the artists and coordinators to organize the project. This will involve all levels and grades.
- School council will ideally contribute money for transportation and t-shirts, occasionally art or other supplies during the modules that take place throughout the year. We generally look for contributions of up to \$5K.
- This will be a truly community event in May, local trustees, superintendents, municipal politicians and all community members should be welcome. The venue chosen is the Parkway Church which is a large venue that meets all of our needs. Chamberfest is negotiating costs and have received a preliminary quote of \$2500, but this may decrease. The T-shirts are beautiful and they really represent the project in a joyful and professional way. Uncertain how many shirts would be needed at this time as it is dependent on the number of performers we have, which will be dictated by the piece created by the composer.
- Launch is happening next week at CV on Sept 20th. The Gryphon Trio will be performing; everyone is welcome to attend
- Pamphlet says the core group is 7/8's, but we will also be working with 5-6's, and other students and grades will still be able to benefit and contribute to the poetry being considered.
- Kristeen hopes Council will support this wonderful opportunity.
- Kim Chen says she believes she speaks for all of council when she says that we will be happy to help support this amazing opportunity for CV students.

4. Nominations and Election of 2018-2019 Council

Voting members (43): Catherine Yang, Carrie Amell, Sarah Slater, Natalie Elliott, Melissa Ekdorn-Delorme, Elli Kapsalis, Tara Starzomski, Trish Bezaire, Tina Clarmo, Maryam Sugrue-Foubert, Kimberly Chen, Jenni Bell, Cynara Corbin, Shawna Rioux, Adriene Gannon, Cassie Donnelly, Sasha Clayton, Radam Feizo – Gas, Véronique Ielo, Christine MacMillan, Vicki Compton, Nicole Eisnor, Melanie Ritchie, Stephanie Pagan, Andrew Scott, Eleanor Robinson, Jamie Janes, Karen Percy, Carolina Suarez, Amber Smith, Lori Dales, Amanda Briglio, Jennifer Hannah, Kandi Piamonte, Maureen Bryden, Esther McConaghy, Billy Lacharity, Deb Carter, Debbie Hill, Brenda Fenton, Zvonko Custic, Lisa Multari (absent), Tamara Legris (absent)

Non-Voting members (2): Jodi Forest, Maria Armas

Vicki Compton made a motion to vote in new members, seconded by Trish Bezaire. All in favour, motion carried.

Executive nominations: Kimberly Chen as Co-Chair, Tina Clarmo and Tara Starzomski as Co-Treasurers, Jenni Bell and Trish Bezaire as Co-Secretaries.

Sarah Slater made a motion to vote in the new executive members, seconded by Natalie Elliott. All in favour, motion carried.

Quorum reached

5. Approval of September 2018 Agenda and the Minutes from May 2018

Trish Bezaire made a motion to approve the September agenda, seconded by Sarah Slater. All in favour, motion carried.

Question from floor regarding May minutes;

- Cassie Donnelly would like to question the May minutes; Cassie has 2 documents stating that quorum wasn't reached (an email and FB post).
 - Answer by Kim; Some of our members came late and Kim was not aware as Cynara had the sign-in sheet and minutes were not completed for a couple of weeks. Future meetings will be run more strictly to take note of exact number of votes being cast.
- Cassie; The minutes indicate that there was an ongoing discussion via email – Cassie requests that we attach a copy of all the emails as an appendix.
 - Kim does not feel that is necessary or appropriate. The email discussions were specifically with regard to information that was being sent and reviewed.

Melanie Ritchie made a motion to approve the May minutes, seconded by Vicki Compton. All in favour, motion carried.

6. Co-Chair's Report

PRO Grant Discussion – Topic Ideas:

- We will likely receive the PRO grant funding again - \$1500 – has to be spent on the parents, some type of educational seminar. We held 2 seminars last year, one was Childhood Nutrition, and one was on Yoga and Meditation. Start thinking of ideas on how to spend this.

Folding Tables:

- Discussion moved to October

AC Units – Feedback:

- Chris says the AC units went in. We had 4-5 portables that didn't already have built-in AC's. Council sponsored AC units for these portables last year. They work well at lowering the

temperature in those classrooms, it's not a perfect solution but both teachers and students have reported that its an improvement. Much appreciated. Now all portables have something for AC.

Painting of games/lines in kinder/primary yard:

- Kids are loving the new games painted in the yard.

7. Principal, Teaching & Support Staff Reports

Teachers Report

- Today's teacher reps are Carrie Meriam, Deborah Tomlinson and ECE Samantha Ward
- No updates at this time.

Principal's Report (by Chris Toivonen)

- Fantastic start to the school year. Kinder start seems to be smooth, SK's well prepared coming in this year. Kids and teachers are settling into routines. Custodial staff, office staff and educators have been preparing since late Aug.
- Cross country is starting up. Terry Fox run is tomorrow. CV has been chosen as Listen Up school. Next week we will be starting our emergency procedures practice– fire drills (6 total in year), lock down practices (2), and bus evacuation drill. Lock down practices involve Chris on PA stating it's a practice lock down, Chris and Andrea then wander halls and knock on doors to make sure everyone is quiet. Then on PA to announce Secure School, then finally to release. We don't invite a school resource police officer because it tends to freak out some of the kids.
- Chris went and tested School Cash Online last night for his own kids, it was very easy to use and a great addition for this year.
- Photo day coming up, and Meet the Staff night.
- On October 9th we are hosting 22 students from China at the school. They arrive on the Sunday afternoon, staying with host families. Spending Thanksgiving in Canada with those families. Will have activities for them at the school, and will have some tours around Ottawa. This spring we will have grade 7 and 8 students going to China again. We have set up a program now where every other year we host, and every other year we travel to China. Teachers are working together to share assignments. Adding some more international flavor into the "corn field".

Questions from the floor;

- Elli Kapsalis– can the school make a map to show where all the teachers will be on Meet the Staff night? Helpful for parents that need to visit multiple teachers.
 - Great idea! He will talk to admin staff about this.
- Jen Danby-Macdonald – how many teachers, how many resources etc. do we have this year?
 - We have a total of 57-58 staff this year. New staff includes VP Andrea White and 5 new teaching staff scattered throughout the grades. A couple of new term positions; new

grade 1-2 teacher. New ECE's as well down in kinder filling in for some maternity leaves. We got an increase in our learning resource teacher, Krista Murrell our spec ed teacher is still full time. We did have a part time last year, but now we have a 2nd full time learning resource teacher. Ms. Bickmore will be in more of a learning support role with our intermediates as well as teaching this year.

- Total 717 students this year
- We have 11 portables; we could have requested a 12th but instead we are re-organizing spaces a little bit.
- For some students the quiet of the portables is very beneficial. The grade 2's have really adapted well.
- Jen Danby-Macdonald - Where do teachers go for prep now that they don't have access to their own rooms sometimes?
 - We repurposed a small room into to a prep room that teachers can use. We also have a smaller prep room near the staff room for teacher use.
 - We continue to make student spaces a priority as well. We have some rooms that were offices, that we are going to take doors off and open up to allow kids to work in different spaces.
- Question (name unknown) – Is there an Ambassador Program this year?
 - Yes – grade 7-8 students will again be running an ambassador program. They donate their time to run events, fundraise for charities etc. Give back to the school and the community at large.

8. Treasurer's report (Tina Clarmo): (See attached Appendix A)

The Treasurer's position is split between 2 people. Tina Clarmo handles all the reporting, and Tara Starzomski handles all the money. Their duties do not overlap in any way. That is to ensure proper accounting controls are in place.

Financial Reports and Summary of 2017-2018 (See attached appendix)

- Summary Report – shows you everything that happened throughout the year. As you can see we had approx. \$85K that went through council last year. We are not supposed to carry a whole lot over, though we are allowed to have some reserves for upcoming expenses. Most things came in on budget as expected. We did not spend as much money as we expected to last year.
- Cash Flow Statement Operating Fund; this is the amount of money that we have to spend, we currently have \$40K in bank. \$14K currently in reserve. Leaves us with approx. \$25K to be spent this year. This statement is a discussion of where the balance of these funds are. As of July we have \$24K in our Operating Fund.
- Cash Flow Statement of Reserve Fund; Tina had budgeted that we spend an additional 18K last year. A couple of years ago we stopped a lot of fundraisers because they weren't needed

anymore. In future if we have new projects that require more fundraising we can re-visit new fundraising options.

- Ad Hoc; Budget is set at 15K but we assign that based on how much we have to spend
 - Chris advises the staff that Ad-Hoc is available for them to use. It is not for things that you would normally collect money for, i.e. field trips, transportation etc. But if there are classroom needs you have, this is the type of thing that can be requested through Ad-Hoc. Guest speakers, performers, special programs etc.
 - In the past ad-hoc requests weren't consistent, so 2 years ago it was determined that we don't cover field-trips, transportation, etc. with one exception - we paid for the transportation costs of a school in need to come visit here last year. We ask parents to pay for field trips, but if there was ever a situation where parents cannot pay that, the school would cover it.
 - Parents, teachers, students can all submit ad-hoc requests. We notify everyone, we form a committee, and we present all requests to council in October.
 - Ad-Hoc requests can be submitted at any time of year, and we always try to split it up between the grade levels.

2018/2019 Budget Approval

- See attached suggested budget. Essentially this money is what we spent over the last couple of years. The only difference here is that the milk budget has been cut in half. No additional Fundraisers are needed this year.
- Are there any larger projects on the radar for this year?
 - Chris says for classroom upgrades, moving projectors from floor to ceilings, and installing whiteboards everywhere with the goal that eventually we'll have touch sensitive projectors – where the kids can drag and drop / touch screen on the whiteboards. Some of our current projectors are near end of life so we're looking at upgrading those. Also we always need more Chromebooks as needs to access Google Classroom by students increase. Screen repairs, new chargers, keys that go missing etc.
- We have a technology reserve leftover from last year and a new one set aside for this year –so we have \$10K budgeted for this now
- Chris always asks the School Board first to pay for any upgrades. The board committed to a 4:1 ratio for tech devices, which CV did not meet. So last year we benefited as the Board contributed to get us up to that ratio.

Questions from the Floor:

- Jen Danby-MacDonald - Years ago when we talked about increasing outdoor learning spaces it was planned to have an outdoor stage, is that still something that's possible?

- Tina - This is something that could be explored again but often these types of structures cost too much money. Any structures for the yard must be purchased through the Board and so they cost significantly more.
- Question (name unknown) - Speaking of outdoor learning spaces - what happened to the pond out back, it's been filled in?
 - Chris - the board came by to inspect it in winter and spring, and deemed it unsafe. So when one of the portables was being upgraded, they filled it in.

Sarah Slater made a motion to approve the 2018-2019 Budget, seconded by Natalie Elliott. All in favour, motion carried.

Appointment of Signing officers

- Current Signing officers – Lesley Segal, Tara Starzomski, Lesley Chen. All checks must be signed by 2 people. Current signing officers will remain.

Ad Hoc Requests deadline & Ad Hoc Meeting date

- Ad-Hoc meeting is set for Tuesday October 16th. It will be held here at CVES library at 6:30pm. It is a discussion regarding all received Ad-Hoc requests.

Any Need for Additional Fundraising this year?

- No further fundraising is needed this year unless council decides to take on a new large project.

9. OCASC – Ottawa Carleton Assembly of School Councils

- Is there anyone who would like to be our OCASC Representative?
- Last year we did not have a representative, someone to go to their monthly meetings – their meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of the month. A lot of valuable information gets shared at these meetings. It would be great if someone could attend and report back to parent council.

10. Fundraising / Programs / Events Report

Hot Lunch Program and Lunch Lady

- Forms are out, everything is set up on School Cash online which is a great improvement. Once we get the data from Gail it should be easier for set up etc. since the money is now handled for us. The menu is the same as last year, with the exception of juice being removed. September 17th is the deadline for submitting your orders. Paper forms are posted on Council's website if its needed.
- Tina mentions that the money that goes through School Cash online gets put into the school's account, and not Councils.
- Hot lunch program is run by Tara and Johan which is on Wednesdays. It is a fundraiser. Lunch Lady is on Monday and Thursdays and we get a very small kickback for those.

Movie Night

- Discussion moved to October Meeting, Nov 16th first movie night.

Milk Program

***The following notes are from a discussion that took place over nearly 2hrs and which involved many different speakers and a lot of back-and-forth comments/questions/remarks, many motions and suggestions to vote were brought forward but not carried through. The secretary (Jenni Bell) has done her best to capture each speaker's main points, but please note that not every word/thought/comment could be captured.

Chris Toivonen opens the discussion;

- His hope is that we go through this at a respectable pace, as we don't want to be here all night but we do want to give everyone a chance to speak.
- With regards to the decision about removing chocolate milk from the council milk program; school councils and schools work together to make decisions together for the vision that they want for the school. This particular decision was in line with that. Chris was fully in support of that. When he came to CV, the community was known to be very kind and open, this has changed recently. We have in the past been known throughout Ottawa as an exception place to learn and right now that is not what we are currently known for. He would like that to change.

Kim Chen - We are going to go over the process as to how the vote was taken;

- In Fall 2017, one of the Pro-Grant ideas that came forth was for a local physician to come and speak to parents about health and nutrition for their children. We held a seminar and all CV parents were invited to attend. In May we had the Milk Program listed on the agenda as an item for discussion. Agenda items do not normally list specific details. A huge oversight on Councils part was in forgetting to invite the Milk Program Coordinators to the meeting. We did not mean to undermine or make the volunteers feel less important. Because we weren't looking to remove the entire program, only to make adjustments to the program, no one anticipated it would affect so many.
- 16 of the 18 members who voted on this change - voted Yes to remove Chocolate Milk. It was an electronic vote. We are supposed to be voices of the parents but there is no specific expectation or rule that we must poll parents for the decisions we make. We were surprised that there was so much uproar over this one. We added electronic votes to the Constitution 3 years ago, recognizing the fact that although we always try to be there that sometimes life happens and we cannot attend. We want to ensure that every voting member has a chance to vote. Specifically, for ad-hoc requests, this is very helpful to ensure the item goes through in a timely manner. This can be found in our constitution, which specifies that a request to vote needs to be distributed to all voting members and that they be given 48hrs to cast their vote. Eleanor asked if she could send us information, which was sent to Kim and was distributed to all members of Council. After reviewing this information, no one wished to change their vote.

Tina Clarmo – Would like to share her personal reasons for her vote choice;

- Originally she was against the removal of chocolate milk. After the May meeting Tina went home and did her own research. In particular Tina found info in the proposed new Canada Food Guide relevant in making her decision. (Tina reads Guiding principal #2 of the proposed new food guide regarding sugary drinks including flavoured milks) Knowing that schools need to abide by this policy, as well as any program within a school – it didn't make sense to keep Chocolate Milk when it was clear that in 2019 we would be forced to remove it. We don't need it as a fundraiser. Providing chocolate milk gives a mixed message to the children being taught this food guide at school.
- At school council it's our job to support the school's vision and support the teachers as well as the parents. Tina changed her vote because it just made more sense. Council spent a great deal of time at the meeting and in the days afterwards reviewing all of the information, as well as doing further research.
 - Question from the floor; "But what about Popcorn days, Popcorn isn't healthy either"
 - A: The difference is that Chocolate milk was offered on a daily basis at the school. Popcorn days are only a few times a year. Likewise, with the Wednesday Hot Lunch program even if ALL meals are ordered the maximum is twice per month. Fun Night, Popcorn, etc. – these all fit into the "10 Special Event Days" clause where a school can choose to not follow the guidelines.
- If the chocolate milk doesn't follow the new guidelines, we would no longer be able to offer it. It would no longer be a choice.

Chris Toivonen: The school administration and staff are making decisions all the time for the kids, without specific consultation to parents and this is no different. It's our job to make the best decisions for all the students in the school.

Sacha Clayton: Can there be a re-vote on this issue?

Cynara Corbin: Our constitution has no specific rules on this, but it says we should revert to Robert Rules. There are provisions to rescind something or reconsider it – the gist of it is we cannot rescind immediately. You have to give notice to re-open the discussion, and the re-vote would happen at a future meeting.

Tina Clarmo: Cancelling the program mid-year would be extra work for all the volunteers, processing multiple refunds etc., and would cause confusion for kids.

Billy Lacharity: Discussion should be taken off Facebook, not an appropriate place for these discussions.

Chris Toivonen: Suggests we make a list of speakers; he reminds everyone to be respectful.

Jamie Janes:

- On the Health Canada revision – there's a footnote on page 5 stating that nutritious foods that contain milk such as homogenized milk should not be considered in exclusions. No one is arguing that chocolate milk is better than white milk.
- Jamie introduces herself as the one who did the CBC radio interview. This is not just an issue for our school now, it's causing discussions across Canada. It's not just about the

chocolate milk anymore. Council made a decision that is within their rights to do. However, it's become apparent that the majority of parents disagree with this decision. She wants it to be reopened as a discussion and a revote taken. The people who showed up tonight show that they aren't ok with the decision. It would be a gesture of good faith to put it back on the table.

Cynara Corbin reads the Roberts Rules regarding the process of rescinding a motion:

- “Suppose that after a meeting is over you feel that the assembly made the wrong decision when it adopted some motion. For example, assume the assembly has adopted a resolution authorizing the purchase of certain property, which you now think was a mistake. At the next meeting, you may make a motion to rescind the approval of the purchase. You may say something like “I move to rescind the motion relating to the purchase of the property that was adopted at our June meeting.” If previous notice is not given of an intent to make this motion so that members are not alerted ahead of time to the fact that the motion will be made, adoption of the motion requires a 2/3 vote. If previous notice is given however a majority vote is all that is required for adoption. Previous notice is given by announcing an intent to make such a motion at the meeting immediately preceding the meeting at which the motion is to be made.”
- Also an important thing to remember is that the council should be in line with the school's vision, and the school does not support bringing back chocolate milk.

Jamie Janes: Gives notice of intent to move a motion at the next meeting to rescind the chocolate milk decision.

Vicki Compton: She is neither for nor against chocolate milk, but a lot of parents felt like they were not being heard. Can we make a motion that for future items that are being removed from programming, could all parents be polled to get their opinions so that everybody feels they are being heard?

Cynara Corbin: This can be reviewed in more detail in the sub-committee we are forming to review our constitution. Polls that would produce accurate results are very difficult to action.

Radam Feizo-Gas: Has no questions but would like to make several statements;

- Procedurally – absolutely a new vote can be taken tonight. If one person moved and someone seconded – and they received 2/3 vote it could be done.
- The job of the council is to communicate the visions and the desires of the parents and the community to the school, it is our mandate to reflect and solicit the views of the parents. This is mentioned twice in the constitution and in the school resource guide for councils. The school council is raising money and giving it to charity; but who is the council to give parent's money to other schools or people outside the community?

- The council says it was surprised that there was such a backlash, but to his understanding it began in the meeting while it was being discussed – this should have been a red flag right away.
 - Kim Chen interjects and advises Council that this last information is not accurate
- His main objection really was on how decisions were made and how guidance was not sought by the parent community. In terms of people trying to justify it as science; it was based partially on a guest speaker’s advice. And the argument that we preemptively have to do this – but the fact of the matter is the new Food Guide is not settled, and it is a new government – anything can happen.

Eleanor Robinson: Has been running the milk program for the last 7 years and been involved with the school for 14 years.

- Did not know it was part of the meeting discussion in May, or she would have been there. There were 340 students involved in the milk program last year, grades 1-8. 1200 milk processed a week (800 chocolate and 400 white milk) Eleanor had a meeting with Chris in June to advise him of the importance of the milk program and listening to the school community. Council should have had another meeting in June to revisit it when they saw the backlash, to hear the concerns of parents. Now we have to revisit it several months later. How can we get this school community back together? Has council thought about a way to mend the school community and move on? We need to put this behind us.
- When Eleanor ran the program for 7 years, she had 23-25 volunteers every year. Everyone was respectful and worked well together. Eleanor asks Vero Ielo how the numbers are looking so far for this new year? Vero says we have less volunteers and about 1/3 the orders, but it won’t be as much work with only white milk to process. Eleanor feels that we will have a lot of trouble getting volunteers this year due to the backlash of this issue.
 - Kim Chen: interjects and says that a lack of volunteers is consistent with all programming in the last few years. Council consistently asks for volunteers to run its various events and programs, and there are never enough people willing to step forward and help.
- Eleanor did her research and would like to propose an alternative. She has been able to source out a reduced sugar chocolate milk. She says the new proposed Food Guide will not be ready until 2022. (Tina Clarmo interjects to say this is not accurate, government website clearly advertises it will be released in 2019). Eleanor proposes a reduced sugar chocolate milk for the program, its 50% less sugar than regular chocolate milk. It’s still being developed. Please remember that the first 12 grams of sugar is from naturally occurring lactose. This reduced sugar option has just 6 added grams of sugar. She’s hoping she can get support from council on this. The manufacturer is Reid’s Dairy, a private company in Belleville.

Kim Chen: Consider the perspective of parents who don’t want their children have to see their peers being given these less healthy alternatives at school “by the school”.

Eleanor Robinson: This is a great learning curve for children to help them understand everyone makes different choices. Milk program started because milk is difficult to keep cold.

Tina Clarmo: If the new Food Guide comes out in 2019 and this new product fits within the program, then council could review the reduced sugar option and reconsider.

Eleanor Robinson: Makes a motion that we consider this new reduced sugar product, seconded by Jamie Janes - Eleanor will provide more information to Council in October or November.

**Rest of Council did not participate/vote so motion is not officially completed or carried. However, Kim Chen and Council agrees that we will review new reduced-sugar product information once Eleanor has it.

Debbie Hill: Her kids have always ordered a combo of white and chocolate milk. Her kids aren't ordering this year now that chocolate milk has been removed. She would like her kids to have the option to order chocolate milk at school. Parents should have a say in this. This is not a decision that the school should determine. She feels that since there is such a big overwhelming response to what's happened, there is no other choice than to reopen it. It's not a Chairs role to say whether we can reopen it or not. Debbie reports saying this last comment, because earlier in the evening, she recalls the Chair saying there would be no vote on the topic (added after the meeting, as an edit).

Cynara Corbin: Again quotes Roberts Rules that a decision cannot be rescinded at tonight's meeting. To have the vote rescinded tonight, they would need 2/3 of the vote in their favour.

New parent (name unknown): Speaks that she's here for her child's education, not for any of this chocolate milk debate. Don't assume everyone showed up here tonight to support bringing chocolate milk back.

Kim Chen asks Chris Toivonen: How does he feel about the possibility of Council bringing back something the school does not support?

Chris Toivonen: We have big concerns over bringing back something the school does not support.

Cassie Donnelly:

- Appreciates everything Council does, respects Chris and all the people here. Feels Council is here to represent parents and not school. In the minutes from May, it is clearly noted that the milk coordinators needed to be notified. Cassie reads an email from Kim to Council regarding the vote. The minutes clearly say we've got to reach out to milk coordinators. The email says the opposite. The vote went through. Argues about the order in which this happened.
 - Tina Clarmo: No one said that we were going to reach out to the coordinators before the vote took place, only that we would speak with them.
- There were conversations between Chris and the milk coordinators; as far as Cassie was aware, they informed Chris if they go to parents with this it would create chaos. There is a lot of things making her uneasy about this situation. Chris indicated to her that a re-vote occurred, but Kim Chen said tonight that a 2nd vote didn't. June 13th the decision was communicated – but e-votes came in on May 21st. Cassie feels 2.5 weeks was too long for parents to find out about the decision.

- She also had conversations with Superintendent Shawn Lehman – who told her that if there is a big turnout at school council, that says something about the topic being discussed. We should in future consider whether parents will want a say in something before making a decision on trigger topics.
- Council responsibility is to listen to parents. On June 13th a member of the FB community posted an online poll; between the informal poll results, as well as the other things – any leader would look at this and reconsider the decision made. Parents want to be heard.
- Regarding the new proposed Food Guide; There are a lot of players involved in the decision making. Cassie was working at Health Canada at the time the 2010 food guide was launched. There are many stakeholders in this debate, it's very politicized. Some people involved stand to make money off the decisions, such as the nutrition expert. She is speaking in her personal capacity only here and not on behalf of HC.
- She feels our decision was made hastily, and it was unfair to say that we don't need the money we lose from the revenue.

Natalie Elliott: Regarding Cassie's comment about the physician/nutrition expert (Dr. Yoni Freedhoff) making money off his recommendations to remove chocolate milk from children's diets: This is a physician and obesity expert advising people for Free not to drink chocolate milk; this is not going to make him any money, in fact quite the opposite. Advising people to eliminate sugary drinks from their (or their children's) diets will cut down on obesity and therefore cost him potential clients.

Chris Toivonen: Superintendent Shawn Lehman said to him that he supports Council's decision, and that he supports the school's vision and does not recommend a revote to bring chocolate milk back.

Billy Lacharity: Council should support the educational aspect of the school; this should be a priority.

Sasha Clayton: Look at NB and how they are reversing their decision regarding removing chocolate milk now after so many public complaints.

- Sarah Slater: Sarah spoke with Beth Morrison at the Ministry of Education in NB, who advises on policy matters. In NB, they still do not allow chocolate milk in their milk programs, it is white milk only. Chocolate milk will be allowed at some school special events, such as Fun Night or a Fall Fair.

Carrie Amell: Referencing the official School Council Resource Guide; What issues require broad school-community consultation will vary depending on what the specific issue is about. She feels if we can't agree on when we should consult parents, that this is something we can work on in the constitution sub-committee that Cynara is leading.

Natalie Elliott:

- The suggestion to move past the chocolate milk issue and focus on the improving the process is a good idea.
- She voices the concern that all the new voting members here tonight may only be here for this first meeting to talk about the chocolate milk issue, and then won't show up at future meetings. If that were to happen, we would not have quorum and never be able to make any decisions or move forward with things.

Debbie Hill: Just wants chocolate milk for her kids, that's why she's here. She may not be able to attend all meetings.

Shannon Oakes: Likes Eleanor's suggestion to introduce a reduced-sugar option and supports it.

Tara Starzomski: Please consider that it would be an intense amount of work to make changes to this program mid-stream if a new option were to be introduced.

Kim Chen: Notes that a few half-motions that have been mentioned during the course of this discussion; we must clarify what motion(s) we are going forward with.

Asks Council; Do the new council members here tonight want to proceed with their motion to rescind the motion that was adopted on chocolate milk in May? If so, a 2/3 majority vote will be required.

Jamie Janes: No, we would prefer to wait and make a motion at the next meeting when we would require less votes.

Natalie Elliott: Why wait and drag this out? Let's get this vote done. She suggests Kim motion to either end or continue the debate here and now.

Kim Chen makes a motion to continue this chocolate milk discussion at the October meeting. Please note that a vote against this motion means to completely stop the discussions on chocolate milk, but that we will still review new information that Eleanor Robinson, and only Eleanor, would like to provide us on a new ½ sugar option when she is prepared to do so. Natalie Elliott seconds;

Chris Toivonen clearly calls out the instructions for this vote;

1) If you are in favour of continuing the chocolate milk discussion raise your yellow name card: 8 votes are counted.

2) If you are NOT in favour of continuing the chocolate milk discussion raise your yellow name card: 27 votes are counted.

8 in favour, 27 are opposed.

Majority vote to end the chocolate milk discussion, motion carried.

**Some individual members chose not to vote on this motion.*

Kim Chen - We will review and discuss reduced-sugar option when Eleanor Robinson has more information to share at a future meeting.

11. New Business

- Moved to October

11. Important dates:

- Movie Night – November 16th
- Christmas Shopping Day – December 11th
- Movie Night #2 – February 8th

- Fun Night – June 13th

12: Adjournment and Next Meeting:

Motion to adjourn

Moved by Kim Chen, Seconded by Sarah Slater. Motion Carried
Meeting adjourned at 10:09 pm.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday October 18th 2018.