

**Royal School Parent Connection Meeting Minutes**  
**Taken by Kara Spittal**

**Date:** Feb 20, 2024@6:30pm

**Where:** TEAMS mtg.

**Attendees:** Sara, Danae, Joe, Natasha, Tanis, Trish, Monica, Oscar Roman, Kara

**Action items:**

- **Team** to:
  - o Input feedback/comments/changes to RSPC Constitution by March 12<sup>th</sup>
- **Sara** to refine S.K.I.E.S. program idea and bring more info/details to the March mtg. including what would RSPC's role be

**Decisions:**

- Monica put forward a motion to give \$100 to each of the 9 classrooms for a planned Field Trip (or 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Trip) or educational guest speaker
  - o 9 classrooms X \$100 = \$900
    - Natasha seconded and Joe supported
    - Quorum given on the call
- Kara will prime the ad-hoc Constitution Review committee
  - o March 12<sup>th</sup> for first draft of feedback deadline
  - o March 19<sup>th</sup> update for next steps will be given

**Notes:**

**Meeting Start:** 6:34pm

- Sara went over "House Rules" of the mtg. in order to stay on agenda points and timeframe of mtg.
- Sara asked for a motion to accept January mtg mins.
  - o Motion to Approve by Natasha and seconded by Monica

**Treasurer report (Joe):**

- Indicated that there is an account balance of ~\$6,500
- Fun lunch fund is up to almost ~\$600
  - o No indication of families wanting to use the donation fund thus far
    - See if by eow if any families who decide to utilize
- Update for current Freshie Fun Lunch:
  - o ~\$500 came in so far from families (as of Feb 20)
- Reminder that Feb 29<sup>th</sup> is the Freshie Fun Lunch date
- Fun lunch dates have been set for March and April
- Danae is waiting to hear back on school catering menu from Santa Lucia
  - o Will update once info is obtained
- Volunteers for February Fun Lunch:
  - o Trish, Monica, Tanis and Sara
    - Kara will try her best to volunteer
  - o Show up at 11:00am and go to Art room

- Question asked if RS Leadership team help with the fun lunch
  - o Tanis said yes they can come help

#### Old business (Sara):

- Lego family night:
  - o Sara has not had time to put more thought into it
  - o Talked to Tanis about tentative dates, however it is hard to line up dates due to scheduling and gym availability
    - This means this event will not occur in the winter and will be tabled to the March mtg. for some date options and further discussion

#### School Report (Tanis):

- Tanis shared PowerPoint on Social Media and Internet Safety
  - o (See principal report)
- A few notes:
  - o Social Media and Internet Safety mtg. will be recorded for those who cannot attend on February 27<sup>th</sup> virtual event at ECS@ 6:30pm
  - o Purpose in sharing these slides to give background info and confidence for parents to attend the February 27<sup>th</sup> mtg.
- Questions:
  - o Natasha asked via chat *"Why iPad and tablets versus computer and computer rooms?"*
    - Tanis answered via chat: *"Great question. Having devices that can be moved around, rather than one room that has to be "booked", has provided more flexibility. For example, our younger students have used the iPads to go on nature scavenger hunts outside and create presentations."*
  - o Natasha asked via chat *"I've heard that kids watch TV on during lunch and what about go noodles and online on smart boards?"*
    - Tanis answered via chat *"That question was actually asked, and answered, during the lunch supervision program report that was presented...I think in January?"*
- Tanis stated that her goal with Royal School – the less screen time the better the more outside item the better
  - o i.e. How do you be outside even in colder temps? E.g. Introduction of the Polar Bear club

#### Topics of Discussion (Monica, Sara and Kara):

- Monica's topic:
  - o Talked previously about asking Teachers what they wanted/felt they needed from support from RSPC
    - One item mentioned was money towards field trips or a guest speaker
  - o Proposed that RSPC provides each classroom with \$100 towards a Field Trip that is planned (or a 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Trip) or to bring in an educational guest speaker
    - There are 9 classes X \$100 = \$900 in total for the year from RSPC
  - o **Monica put forward this motion**
  - o Joe – curious – does Tanis have an idea if these funds would get utilized in each classroom and if not used this year, would they be used next year?
  - o Tanis said knowing that every class has funds to cover 1 bus trip for field trips and should be spent by June 15<sup>th</sup> from the school budget
  - o Teachers also have one trip worth of admission/entrance fees – no budget, most teachers have booked a trip

- Tanis believes that there is probably 1-2 teachers who are very creatively trying to leverage the bus funds for two trips but then they still only admission funds for one trip and not two
    - These funds can help cover those costs
  - Natasha thinks this is a great idea – and would support and second this motion
  - Question:
    - What are the rules for spending? i.e. have to be used this year or do the funds roll over to next year?
  - Suggestion:
    - One large pot of money designated to the school for extra field trips/speakers etc.
  - Sara suggested – give money with not as many strings attached and if some teachers are not sure what to do, they can utilize it for other classroom purchases
  - Natasha agrees – perhaps next year we do a pot for every class to utilize how they would like
  - **Monica motioned, Natasha seconded and Joe supports**
  - **DECISION: RSPC will create another category in the savings account and set \$900 aside**
    - **Process:** When teachers submits receipts for their Field Trip/Guest Speakers, RSPC will reimbursement out of that account for tracking purposes
  - Everyone aligned for quorum
  - Group agreed that funds should be given sooner rather than later or there will be no time to plan and spend
  - Natasha asked – suggested advertising that money was given away to teachers for this – “Do we want to advertise that RSPC gave this money?”
    - Decided that a blurb should be included in the school newsletter – Funds towards Field Trips in March newsletter as per normal process
- Kara’s Topic:
  - Kara asked if everyone was ready to discuss the proposed changes to the Constitution or is more time needed?
  - Joe said minimum March mtg.
  - Natasha and Kara asked about voting in an Ad-Hoc committee to prime the review of the Constitution
  - **DECISION: An Ad-Hoc Committee will be created in order to more efficiently update/input changes to the RSPC Constitution**
  - Kara volunteered on Constitution review
    - No objections from the team
  - March 19<sup>th</sup> will be the check-in date with RSPC to decide next steps and approach
  - **Action: Kara suggested March 12 for first draft of feedback from this team to be inputted to work scope could be assessed and decide next steps at March 19<sup>th</sup> mtg.**
  - Monica, Natasha, Sara volunteered for the committee and Tanis for school representation
- Sara’s Topic:
  - See Sara’s attached to the February agenda’s summary of S.K.I.E.S.
  - Sara submitted to launch a space and coding program in Royal School to help students to dream big and allow the school to look at space and connect everyone together
  - Help get students excited about space and the Artemis 2 program
  - Get everyone focused on one big goal and focused on a unique elementary program to think about space in a big way get
  - Sara will try to get buy-in from the parent community and teachers
  - Sara named this program SKIES
    - Skies the limit allowing students to be passionate about space and coding

- Sara would like to get started by next fall – Artemis 2 is launching a fly by mission to the moon
- Let Royal School be the leader in elementary
- Sara mentioned that there are 17 coding clubs in Manitoba – none are elementary
- There is more to coding than just gaming e.g. aerospace etc.
- Sara mentioned she may be looking to the school for grants to help with this program
- Joe commented that there are a lot of STEM related topics and to not narrowly focus on space and coding as the vehicles for seeing larger dreams related to science – could be exclusive and maybe not fully representative of everyone’s interests
  - Sara said that was a good point but coding was to be the jumping point and spans to other areas
- Sara said she brought this topic up because one of RSPC goals is to be a forum to share perspectives ideas, suggestions, concerns also to organize and enhance learning opportunities for our students
- **Action: Sara will refine this idea and have more info/details at the March mtg. for discussion**

**Discussion topics for March mtg.:**

- Lego Family night (Sara)
  - Discuss possible dates and feasibility of occurring this year
- S.K.I.E.S. program (Sara)
  - Further details of this proposed program and RSPC’s role (if any)
- RSPC Constitution Update (Kara)
  - Define next steps and timelines

**Meeting adjourned 7:49pm**