Sir Ernest MacMillan School Council
Nov 2, 2026 Meeting

Ashley DeRidder
Marie Sargant
*Cassandra Corner
*Sarah Bean
Lisa Robert
Karmyn Bokma
*Ryan Hannigan-Daley
*Sara Middleton
*Indu Suresh
Jitendra Singh
Andrea James
*Laura Tripp
Tammy Lawless
Victoria Hawke
*Megan Ballance
*Rachel Williams
Merryn Renshaw-Williams
*Jay Lewis
Lara Martin-Denby
*Lindsay Siegel
Amanda Simmelink
Jessica Ludwig

Total: 22 people

Council Overview and Roles:
Chairs: Cassandra and Megan
Treasurer: Laura
Fundraising:
Secretary: Sarah
PIC: Sara
Voting Members: Rachel, Fayrouz, Jay, Kim, Ryan, Lindsey, Indu, Debbie
Voting Members = 13
Quorum: 8

Dates: 6:30-7:30
November 2, February 1, March 1, April 5, May 3

Passing the minutes from Oct: Ryan and Rachel

Principal's Report:

- Welcome to Jessica Ludwig, Student Senate Representative. She will represent MacMillan at board wide events and bring information back to the students at our school.
- Grades 2-5 learners went to the Halton Children's Water Festival. They spent the day outside and had a great time.
- Take me outside week was a success and many students completed the bingo sheets to earn free recess.

- Athletics and leadership – volleyball season is starting to wrap up. Junior basketball is starting up. Flag football is finished now. The intermediates had 2 tournaments to play at this year. The junior team went to one tournament. Ms. Scott is looking for 2 opportunities for next year for the junior team.
- Leadership conference for grades 7&8. Troy Sexton, STOMP! Star, did 30 min workshops with each class doing bucket drumming. The kids have signed up for their leadership opportunities.
- Professional Development – Special Education, IEPs with accommodations and modifications and Artificial Intelligence were the topics of the last PD day. They also spent time looking at report card and EQAO data and created goals for the schools. At the staff meeting, they looked at Knowledgehook short cycles. Edwin was also looked at and talked about how to use it in the classroom.
- Facilities – gym stage wall needs a makeover. Vinyl wraps are an option (apprx. $7000). This might need to be a combination from facilities, council and the school paying for it. It will probably take a few years to get it done.
- Wish List – Wrap for gym wall - $7000
    - Funding for STEM programs – any amount. Grade 1-4 Maker Space, Grades 5-8 Application Centre
    - Angel Fund – any amount
    - Volleyball retractable nets (x3) – approx. $90 plus tax each
    - Set of chairs for the library (20) – approx. $1000

School Council Constitution

- guidelines for how council is run

- We need a mission statement and rules for the sub committees.
- School Council advise, support and fundraise. We collaborate with families, students, staff and council. Community building is also important.
- Examples, “To create an effective partnership among students, parents, teachers and the community in order to support the wellbeing and academic achievement of every student.”
- “The school council supports student achievement and strengthens the connection between families, schools and the education system.”
- Do we add to it by saying ‘we will build this by doing…’
- Sub-committees’ by-laws – will be formed whenever the need arises, major decisions must be brought to the school council for approval, all spending must stay within the approved committee budget.
- Put in examples of major decisions – any dollar amount or up to a certain amount
- Sub committees share their meeting minutes with council

<u>Treasurer’s Report</u>:

- Mud kitchen had been taken out of the music budget. It has now been taken out of the BBQ budget and replaced the money from the music budget.
- **Total - $5464.36**
- Staff appreciation - $56

- Music Funding - $2861.79
- Funding for other activities –$ 2874.28

PIC Report:

- Conference – started with a panel to ask questions, CEO was there
    - § Kids got a magician with the childcare
    - § Great event.
- PIC Grant's due date for proposals is Dec 16 ($500-750). Discuss what we want to do and send the list to Ashley to write the proposal.

Upcoming Events:

-**Fall Movie Night –** Nov. 12th. It will be Minions and Monsters. A sub-committee is needed. There will be pizza and tuck shop. Jay will get us popcorn. It helps create a real sense of community. Let Megan know if you want to be part of the committee. Remind the families that shoes need to stay on their feet and that parents oversee their kids. Collect leftover Halloween candy to sell at the event. Put it out to the community and give leftovers to the food bank or use it for the gingerbread decorating.

-**Winter Concert** – Dec. 8th - Sub-committee needed – Emma is asking that we do an intermission again.

* 5-5:45 – Concourse wintertime activities

*5:45 – doors open

*6-6:20 – Act 1 (younger classes)

* 6:20-6:35 – intermission

* 6:40-7 – Act 2 (older kids)

-STEM class could make a donation box for the teacher appreciation events.

- 2 tickets/family

- budget for sub-committee - $200 max for the mix and mingle – Megan approved and motion was carried.

-**Gingerbread Decorating Night -**

- Dec. 17 – Sub-committee needed.

- community building event

- Parents order kits and we provide extra candies

- $200 budget – passed by council

Family Games Night – February/March – Amanda Simmelink is planning this and will need a committee to work with.

- Math Games night – to support families to know how to work on math skills at home
    - Games that could be used at home and school (younger, older and in between)
    - Amanda put in an application for HLF for $1000. First week of December is when she hears the results.
    - Ashley will fund this event

Teacher appreciation day – Dec. 16th – sub-committee needed – money will be collected at the movie night and mix and mingle events. QR code worked well last year to school cash online.

** Use the group chat to create all these sub-committees

Pizza Day Update: There were some parents on council and out that were willing to help but not enough to have us run the pizza program. The new schedule required more volunteers than we had. Admin will run pizza from now on and use any parent volunteers who can come. Marie has 18-20 students who are willing to help run it.

Other Business:

Reminder about VSC – needed for volunteering on field trips or in the school.

Parent/Teacher Conferences – Nov. 26th – if you want to meet with the specialty teachers, send them an email to set up a meeting.

Book Drive – April – book exchange in the evening/afternoon for families to come in and get books. It could be used as a fundraiser for HLF.

Scholastic Book Fair will not be happening this year. There was too much junk and it was too expensive.

Vote passed that $1000 will be spent on new chairs for the library.

Meeting adjourned at: 7:45pm

Next meeting is Feb. 1, 2027.

Sub-Committees – pick which one(s) you would like to join

Winter Concert	Teacher Appreciation Event
Gingerbread Decorating	Book Drive
Family Games Night	