# Vimy Ridge Public School Parent Council Meeting Minutes Dec. 5, 2017

1. **Update from Principal McCormack**

* Boundary adjustment zones being addressed
* Four classes will participating in an hour of coding on Dec 7 with robots by IT tech; hoping by next year to have all classes involved.
* Train the trainer to literacy IEP- by January all staff will be trained
* Maker space coming along well

**School council update (by Ms. Hutchinson)**

* Vaccinations completed.
* Student-run grade four popcorn program will start soon. Good revenue for school council.
* Holiday concert for Dec 20 has 15 programs coming along.
* Kids Helping Kids: students will have a bake sale to raise money for graduation and for charity.
* A Prayer room is now open.
* Each class will be suggesting a Mascot name this week, all students to wear purple on Tuesday December 12.
* Green screen in maker space is up and coming.
* Volleyball court requires poles; Borden ball tournament Dec. 12; basketball and badminton in Feb and March.
* Choir doing well with over 60 kids who practice 3 times a week.

1. **Social/Events Committee update**

* Lunch program doing well
* November movie night was successful with a profit of about $1500. Revenue will be higher at next movie night in January due to inventory like popcorn and water left over.
* Popcorn funds raised went to STEM-- scientists in the school program is a successful and unique one.

1. **Playground Committee update**

* Hopscotch and other play lines to be painted on the asphalt. Student council has taken ideas proposed by council and will consider games appropriate for the kindergarten students.
* Widening of gate still outstanding item with contractors.
* Discussions ongoing to take students to Diamond Jubilee Park for skating or snow shoeing. Maybe soliciting donations of skates from parents so that there can be a pool of skates to have for kids who don’t have any.
* One parent suggested that we have an activity at the park for students, parents, and teachers.

1. **Grounds and Safety Committee Update**

* Tamarack sign still on our property, still trying to get it removed.
* Bike racks will be addressed in the spring.
* City has indicated they do not have crossing guards for us this year. Ottawa Police, bylaw etc. have all acknowledged a problem. Asking parents to call the City and Councilor Qaqish’s office.

1. **STEM Update**

* STEM committee met in November.
* Osbots, Lego and small robots purchased.
* Considering making stations: knitting station, mystery bag station, origami bag station, low tech stations for classrooms.
* Business case proposed: looking for $3887.11 to purchase 8 Lego Mindstorms EV3 Robotics Kits. These can be used in the classroom and for robotics competitions. Suitbale for grades 5-8 and can be used for estimated 5 years. They need laptops for full function- will solicit Mike Fisher’s office for laptops.
* Suggestion to a fundraiser at the Holiday concert to raise the funds requested.
* Goal for next fall to be in competition.
* Council votes in favour of this business case.
* Proposal will be put in soon by parent for a 3D printing in the maker space.
* Proposal to have a bottle drive in the New Year. RSS raised $12 000 form their bottle drive.
* Fundraiser committee to be created.
* One parent proposed to have a Facebook account to communicate with parents and each other.

**6. Parent Council Funds Update**

* Received a $2000 advance from money left over from last year. Balance is $7,384.22
* Waiting on the rest of the funds from school board, approximately $20,000.
* At least 90% of funds raised by school council needs to be spent in the same year it is raised. We should raise money with a purpose in mind e.g.) to buy something. This is called a fundraising plan. Ahmed advised that the template for the proposals can be part of the fundraising plan.
* Tammy suggests that we as a council should be thinking about a constitution.
* Council members encouraged to get some business plans in so we can start spending our funds.