



# ESM Home & School Association

Thursday, April 25, 2024 · 6:00 p.m.

## Agenda

Attendees

David O'Brien - Principal

Lauren Bowes - Administrative Assistant

Amber Golding - Chair (EXECUTIVE)

Lesley Publicover - Member-at-Large (EXECUTIVE)

Melanie Connors Blades - Lower Level Teacher

Courtney Allan - Regrets

Heather Napoli - Regrets

## Principal's Welcome Message

Welcome and thank you for attending!

## Spring Fling

The Spring Fling is scheduled for May 25, 2024 from 11 am until 2 pm with a rain date of May 26, 2024.

David O'Brien: various events last year, and some of those are already confirmed again for this year. Last year, most of the activities were free for families to enjoy, but there were a few ticketed events.

### **TICKETED/CASH EVENTS - CASH ONLY!!!**

Bouncy Castles

Face Painting

BBQ

50/50

Raffle Basket

### **FREE ACTIVITIES**


Dance Off

Hockey Shootout

Sidewalk Chalk

Bubbles

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Games - electronic basketball shooter (missing piece found), velcro darts, fish pond, toilet paper toss, beanbag toss, hillbilly golf, axe throwing, other lawn games, possibly Halifax REC Van

Obstacle Course

### **PRIZES**

Hockey Shootout - Chocolate Toonie Medals

Obstacle Course - Chocolate Toonie Medals (Top 3 PP-2; Top 3 Gr 3-6)

Dance Off

Treat/Grab Bags for smaller games

### **VOLUNTEERS**

We will need volunteers for this event. Last year, we did a Google Sign-Up with space for 8 adults. Grades 5/6 volunteered last year, but it's doubtful we will get the buy-in for that this year. We may require more than 8 adult volunteers this year.

### **CURRENT VOLUNTEERS**

Amy Bishop - Face Paint

Lillian Golding - Face Paint

Amber Golding - Purchase Food

Lauren Bowes - Floater (on-site the day of event to provide support and help where needed)

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. Spring Fling volunteers do not require Criminal Record Check/Child Abuse Registry because it is a public event, and children will be in attendance with their guardians/not working with any unsupervised adults.
2. Bounce castles require a direct power source, but ESM does not have an extension cord long enough to set up on the ballfield. The group consensus is that if we can source a long enough cord/power source, it would be nice to have everything together in one space as it did feel a bit disconnected last year with things out back and up front.
3. The face painting line was quite long last year. A sign-up sheet in 10 minute increments should be posted so the kids don't spend their whole time waiting in line. Full face painting might be too much, so we should discuss with Amy and Lillian what kinds of designs could be done in 10 minutes or less and post a "menu."
4. A soccer pro has been invited to attend, but not sure this is the event for that. We need more information on what he's planning to do to make a final decision.
5. There are some questions regarding our ability to hold a silent auction as an educational institution based on NS regulations/licensing/permitting. David O'Brien

has organized, in the past, silent auctions for other schools. Shatford Memorial Elementary has an auction scheduled in the next few weeks. We need to do research to confirm. Further to that, the Spring Fling is not the appropriate venue for a silent auction. A separate fundraiser should be scheduled so attendees know what to expect. Families come to the Spring Fling for a fun afternoon together at the school. They will already be paying for tickets and 50/50, so a silent auction will be too much.

6. Items have been collected for a Spring Fling auction all year, so there may be items that have been donated that are time sensitive and need to be raffled. The silent auction is too much \$\$\$, but a raffle basket of smaller items will be fine.

### **APPROVALS**

1. The Home and School Executive approves a raffle basket at the Spring Fling.
2. The Home and School Executive approves the purchase of \$800-\$1000 in prizes for the Spring Fling. Prizes will be purchased by school staff on the school credit card and shipped to the school.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

Lauren Bowes

1. Confirm Amy Bishop has non-latex/non-toxic face paint
2. License for 50/50 Draw
3. Contact Halifax REC Van to see if they'd like to bring the van to attend
4. Confirm power source requirements for bounce castles and source proper equipment
5. Check for signage in the shed
6. Make sure all games are intact and in working order

David O'Brien

1. Check on school supply of face paints
2. Arrange the playlist for Dance Off
3. Confirm Obstacle Course with PE Teacher Kara Hogan
4. Reach out to HRM and request mowing before the event date
5. Discuss soccer pro with Kara Hogan - Spring Fling or School Day event?

Lesley Publicover

1. Confirm Wyatt (or Jase's) involvement
2. Chocolate Toonie Medals for Hockey Shootout and Obstacle Course

Amber Golding

1. Costco/Gateway Run for BBQ
  - a. Hot Dogs
  - b. Chips
  - c. Pop



- d. Water
- e. Juice
- f. Popcorn
- g. Freezies

Courtney Allan

1. Continue to organize and arrange a raffle basket with the support of the school office

## Executive Committee

Lauren Bowes: ESM has not had a vote for any member of the Executive Committee since December 2020. We do not have Home & School bylaws, a constitution, or any official Home & School documentation aside from a few meeting minutes that Sissy Berringer passed to David. The following is what I've been able to piece together from the few documents we do have:


1. All parents/guardians are members of Home & School (ESM Website)
2. The Executive Committee consists of the following positions: Chair, Secretary, Treasurer. If there is enough interest, there could also be a Co-Chair, and a number of Members-at-Large.
3. The EC is a 2-year commitment
4. 6 meetings/year: September, October, November, February, April, May, and June (if needed)
5. December 2020 was the last EC vote. Amber Golding - Interim Chair, Sissy Berringer - Secretary, Kelly Bradbury & Shelley Myra - Co-Treasurer, Lesley Publicover - Member-at-Large *\*Lesley noted in the April 2024 meeting that she was also named Vice-Chair in that vote. There is no notation of that in the meeting minutes.*

In our October 2023 meeting, nominations for a new EC were pushed to an unspecified later date, and we are now 6 months down the road without having had nominations or appointments of a new EC. I propose a call for nominations be sent to the school body via the May newsletter (published next week) with a follow-up sent via email 2 weeks later. The nomination period would close at the end of May with a vote being held in June. The new EC would be installed for September 2024-2026, which would allow us to hit the ground running at the start of the next school year.

## DISCUSSION

Lesley Publicover: We should hold off on the nominations for Executive until September. This allows incoming PP and Primary families the opportunity to join the EC. Additionally, people don't know today what they are doing 2 months from now, so they may not be ready to make a September commitment in May/June.

Lauren Bowes: We continue to procrastinate on this, and I believe we should do it and get it done so we can start the school year with a set EC. Incoming PP and Primary families will



have the opportunity to get involved when they arrive and will be eligible to join the EC in 2 years. Additionally, none of us ever knows what the future holds. It's better to let someone say they are available and need to step off the EC than to continue holding off because of unknowns. There will always be unknown circumstances.

David O'Brien: I can see that it makes sense both ways, but the final decision is up to the Executive Committee. It's possible that we may fill only a few of the possible positions now, which would give us the opportunity to try and fill the rest of the positions in the coming school year.

Amber Golding: Agree with Lauren. Put the call out now, vote in June, and we are ready to hit the ground running in September. The beginning of the school year is always so busy.

The Home and School Executive approves a call for nominations to be sent out in May with a June vote for the September 2024-2026 Executive Committee.

**Adjournment**