

WCPS Parent Council Meeting

Thursday, October 28, 2021, 7:00-8:00 pm

Present: Julie Boucher, Sarah Bougen, Elizabeth Goodyear-Grant, Gemma Zelmanovitz, Lucy Aron, Patricia Collins, Annie Lee

Julie moved and Lucy seconded approval of minutes and agenda

Chair Report

- Not a lot to report from Elizabeth.
- Update on hot lunch is that it is going very well. Little increase in orders. 72 orders this week, 82 last week. About a quarter of the school so that is pretty good.
- Elizabeth submitted the 2020/21 School Advisory Council report.
- There is continued input from the parent engagement survey.
- Elizabeth would rather not ask parents to have to provide their vaccination certificates to enter the school for SAC meetings, especially since it could end up with parents being excluded.

Principal Report

- Overall enrollment is up by about 300 students in the Board.
- This resulted in more contract teacher positions being available in the Board. Therefore, those that were in temporary/contract roles applied for contract teacher positions which has resulted in a fair bit of turnover.
- Mrs. Gladstone is now the full-time Grade 1 teacher. She will remain in that position until Mrs. Anderson is back.
- Whitney Underhill is the new core French teacher to fill in where Madame Betas is not able to fit in.
- Thanks to council for the pizzas and for the field trip bus funding and the funds for "How to Code a Sandcastle"
- Fun Run coming soon, next Wednesday.
- Waiting to participate in a cross-country meet once the students have had a chance to train and prepare.
- Nov. 11 virtual Remembrance Day assembly. Pseudo-live with students who are presenting.
- Picture retake day will be on Nov. 17th.
- Change in scope of the School Street Safety Initiative. Now on Macdonnell from Earl St. to Hill St.
- Patricia asked if possible for a double vaccinated parent to help with a field trip - Gemma said yes.

Treasurer Report

- There is about \$13,900 in the bank account right now

- \$1,000 is earmarked for “PRO Grant” which we believe was for the 2019/20 Multicultural event. Annie/Elizabeth to look into whether this can be used for the Spring/Fall in 2022 for the same event.

Teacher Report

- Sarah reached out to Frontenac Cycle to look into getting the stationary bikes fixed. They have now been fixed, he is a Winston grad! It was only \$148.
- Running club really needs some parent volunteers to help with the kids running through the neighbourhood. Discussed potentially having childcare on the yard for a parent with younger kids to be able to help with the running club.
- Teachers are busy doing progress reports right now on the new program.

PIC Representative Report

- The Environmental Sustainability Committee has a position available?
- Indigenous reps list being compiled.
- There is also a list being put together of Indigenous families who would like to be connected with other Indigenous families in the community.
- LGBTQ+ has proposed a formal anti-hate policy to the Board. Lucy has joined that particular committee.
- Gemma asked to be sent the committee names and links to add to the bulletin.

New and Continuing Business

Indigenous Education for Parents

- Dawn asked the School Council to help with facilitating families with how to have conversations at home with their kids about the difficult Indigenous issues at hand now. Dawn is interested in helping to facilitate those conversations.
- Ethel has asked if the virtual elementary school council could be invited to that as well.
- The idea is that that could happen in November.
- Patricia suggested that maybe questions be submitted ahead of time.
- Elizabeth would chair the conversation.
- It was suggested that this become a private event.

Social Events Committee

- There will be a posting at some point soon about the fact that we are going to need some people on this new committee in the near future to help organize events.

Class Reps

- There was some discussion about whether this would be useful, and what the role would entail.
- One idea from Ms. Boughen was that they could collect emails for the families and be more of a social contact.

Spirit Wear

- SAC decided that we would order some spirit wear to hand out to students who would really like the
- What about a fundraiser to provide every student with a spirit wear item?
- At Gemma's old school, they would do a T-shirt swap for bigger/smaller sizes, and only provide a new t-shirt to brand new school students.
- Everyone thought this is a great idea and we are going to look into doing it.

School Lunch

- Council had spoken last week about whether there are more students who need support with lunches.
- Lunch meat and sliced cheese would add to what they already have with the food sharing to make a sandwich. SAC agreed to reimburse and support this.
- Another item is that teachers have been purchasing water bottles for a lot of students.

Next Meetings -

Nov. 25, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Dec. 16, 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Jan. 27, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Feb. 24, 7:00 – 8:00 pm

March 24, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

April 28, 7:00 – 8:00 pm

May 26, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

June 23, 7:00 – 8:00 pm

The meeting was adjourned.