

Parent Council Meeting
Thursday, September 26, 2019
6:00pm

MINUTES

Present: Jen Lawless (Principal), Lisa Posthumus (Secretary), Eric Beers, Tara Beers, Kylie Etmanskie (Teachers), Alice Stagner, Judy Gerber-Van Vliet (Parents)

1. Meeting Minutes from May 16, 2019 were approved.

2. Principal's and Teachers' reports

- Tara reported that the whole school attended the Kingston Fall Fair in September. The primary class observed caterpillars transform into butterflies and released them. The Terry Fox Run took place this week and all the grade 5-6 students completed 4K! The school has almost reached the fundraising goal of \$400. The entire grade 5-6 class has joined the running club. Those involved in the running club (Grades 3-6) are training three afternoons per week. The Fort Henry cross country meet takes place on October 17. The primary class will be going to the community garden to harvest the heritage potatoes that they planted in the spring. The Grade 5-6 Class will be continuing their learning of the three sisters teaching at the community garden. The whole school will be visiting the corn maze on October 11. Classes from Central and Sydenham schools have been invited as well. Students are invited to wear their Halloween costumes on Oct 31 and will participate in a Mission Impossible activity in the village. Grand Theatre trips are planned as well.
- Jen reported that our enrollment is steady and we have a new French Teacher, Madame Manning. She informed council that the job action involving EA's, Administrative staff, and caretakers will begin on Monday, September 30th. The union will give instructions to these staff on what job duties they are not to perform. For example, the front door at MPS will be taped open as Lisa is not able to answer the door and teachers can't leave their classrooms unsupervised to do so.

3. School Council finance update

Please see the attached Annual Report, which includes the current financial statements. Our balance is \$2897. It was discussed that we do not need to keep such a large buffer in the account. Each year we usually have \$2000-\$3000 in the account at the beginning of the school year.

4. Distribution of 2018-2019 school council report and discussion

Alice passed out the report and reviewed the purpose of council and her desire to determine a long term vision for council.

5. Election of 2019-2020 council officers

Alice agreed to continue as Chairperson, Judy agreed to continue as Secretary. David Stagner will take on the Treasurer role.

6. Motion: Propose Committee or Small Group Formation

- Alice would like to ensure that council's activities align with improving student achievement and enhancing the accountability of school system. She also would like to ease the burden of the Chair as well as Lisa, who has been acting as Treasurer and taking on many parent council related tasks.
- Discussion occurred about what tasks Lisa has been performing with the parent council and how this will be impacted by the job action.
- Discussion occurred regarding specific groups or individuals who will take on tasks during job action and possibly ongoing as these are parent council's activities and we should perform them if possible.
- Fundraising Group 1: Hot lunch
Alice will request that Angie take on the hot lunch administration (collecting money, sending out forms) as Angie is currently coordinating the program.
- Fundraising Group 2: all other fundraisers
The fall fundraisers have been determined as listed in item #7.
- Alice also suggested we form the following two groups: Parent Involvement Group and Group for Advisement and Communication with Board. Because of our low level of parent involvement at this time, we may need to put this on hold. Alice will contact parents to request more parent involvement and help with the activities of parent council as needed.

7. Fundraising Update

The following fundraisers are planned or currently in progress. Due to the job action that

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will prohibit Lisa from doing some tasks, it was agreed that the following individuals will administer the fall fundraisers:

- Fresh From The Farm - Kylie can place the order
- Poinsettias - Judy will organize this, to start end of October
- School Clothing - Tara will place the order
- Milk program - Bridget has agreed to take this on at least for October

8. Activities for Parent Involvement

- a) Alice will contact parents ahead of the meetings to find out how many children need care. David and/or Shawn will provide care, including planned activities and a snack.
- b) Alice plans to attend the LDSB PIC Safe Spaces Symposium on October 5th. She will post the event on Facebook. All are welcome to join!
- c) Alice is arranging for the showing of the film "Over 18" (about online pornography), to be held in October
- d) Family night: movie night or BBQ and Ball - this was discussed but decided to put on hold until Spring when the job action will hopefully be over and we may have more parent involvement to help organize.

9. Activities for Advisement and Communication

Discussion regarding possible school needs that council could assist with and determining our long term goal. Our goal is to support student activities. School needs mentioned are the track and field mats and a brain bike for Kylie's classroom.

10. Future Meeting Dates

Nov 14 at 5:30

March 5

May 21

Meeting time to be moved to 5:30 for now in the hopes that we may get more parent involvement.