**Courtland School Council Meeting Minutes**

**Feb 8, 2019**

5 people in attendance

Principal’s Update

* Report cards go home on Feb 15th.
  + Will lead to the endeavor and achievement awards
* Basketball – missed some games due to weather and school closures
* Ice hockey is going well – many kids participating who would not otherwise get a chance to play hockey
  + Lots of donations of equipment, skates
  + Takes palace at the Auditorium
* Ski trip – will be on Feb 14th –90 kids have signed up so far and the school is expecting 100 to participate
  + Given the school closures / bus cancellations – requested an extension from Chicopee to get in student participation forms
* Swim to Survive – will continue when weather warms and it is safe to walk to Cameron Heights
  + Not a prerequisite for Grade 7 and 8 camps, but students encouraged to participate
  + No prior swimming experience is required to participate
* Black History month – 2 students have been updating the bulletin boards and doing announcements in the morning on notable black Canadians
* High school acceptances into magnate programs have been issued
  + Courtland does not have any say into whether or not a student gets in
  + Students and parents would need to communicate directly with the magnate schools for more information

School Council Updates

* We have received $1000 from the Parents Reaching Out grant
  + Looking to get parents involved in a Cultural event
    - Indigenous day or night?
    - African drumming?
    - Asian event?
  + Does anybody have any ideas?
    - Mr. Brown partial to an indigenous celebration – completes a land acknowledgement every day on the announcements, but it would be good to reinforce why this is important
    - Could contact the public Library / multicultural centre for resources
    - Will need to look for a speaker
    - We could do three separate events ($330 / per event)
    - Purpose would be to engage parents / children
    - it could be a presentation, storytelling, music, involving the Courtland community
      * Could be part of an Arts nights
    - Will need to set up a plan for a specific night
  + Can parent council communicate over email if anybody knows of a speaker or has any ideas / suggestions for use of the Parents Reaching Out grant.

Parent Discussions

* Highschool – will walk through high school course selection soon
  + Course selection is very prescriptive, especially in grade 9
  + 30 courses required over 4 years
  + All high school students required to complete volunteer hours
* Family day coming up on Feb 18th.
* March Break – next big break (March 11- 15)
* During very cold days over the last few weeks – students were not allowed outside during nutrition breaks (3 or 4 days)
  + Board guideline is -20 degrees Celsius
  + Students don’t always have proper outdoor clothing
  + Kids really need outside time - Space and time is important – burn off energy
  + Staff does their best to keep students busy, but it hard on students when they can’t go outside.

March meeting (would have been Friday March 8th) is cancelled to due proximity to March Break.

Next Meeting – Friday April 12, 2019 at 6:30 pm in the School Library