Floradale Public School Council Meeting

Wednesday October 9, 2019

Attendees: Lisa Goossen, Beth Stevenson, Chrisoula Xintavelonis, Sheryl Martin, Shawn Thompson, Lisa Demerling, Nicole Steenbergen, Christina Kuepfer, Azalea Carlaw, Kendra Ellis, LoriLynn Frey, Sherrin Gingrich, Monica Pyear, Elizabeth Kroonen, Jeanette Hiller

1. **Approval of Minutes**

Sheryl motioned to approve the September minutes, Sherrin Gingrich seconded the motion. Motion carried.

1. **Treasurer Report**

Lisa reported that we currently have $1,800 in account as of today.

1. **2019-2020 Council Meeting Dates**

November 13, 2019

February 12, 2020

April 8, 2020

May 13, 2020 \* Off-site at a local restaurant to debrief and celebrate the year

1. **Principal’s Report (Shawn Thompson)**
* Shawn highlighted the success of the Thanksgiving lunch that was hosted at the school
* Nutrition for learning has been running for 2 weeks. Kids trying new things, not just grabbing the packaged options.
* Cross Country run on **October 15th**. This is a 5km race.
* Boys have their final soccer game on **October 11th** at Wellesley P.S.
* Going to try and have a game for the boys and girls volleyball teams during the day so that all students have the opportunity to participate.
* 109 Pretzels were ordered and will be handed out on **October 10th** during 2nd nutrition break
* Next PD Day is **October 25th**
* Grade 7 students will be getting their immunizations done on **October 21st**.
* Picture Day for both individual shots and group photos is on **October 18th**.
* Progress Reports will be going home with students on **November 11th** with interview opportunities later that same week. Shawn encouraged parents to bring their student along with them to this interview as a way for them to also hear how they are progressing and to join in the conversation.
* Grade 8’s will be going to visit EDSS on **November 6th**. Drivers will be needed for this.
* We have one set of new sports uniforms that the boys will have the opportunity to use first with plans to purchase a second set for the girls to use in January or February
1. **New Inclusive Playground and “In-house” Fundraising Initiatives**

Discussion surrounding a new play structure for our school was had. Some key points that were made are:

* This would be a community wide effort
* It would be inclusive for all of our students
* Our current structure would remain – this structure would be in addition to that
* Many sponsorship opportunities available through grants and local businesses
* Great opportunity for the whole community to be united in working towards a common goal
* Shawn has experience in putting in the play structures as he had one put in at Linwood recently

Discussion surrounding how funds would be raised was also had. Some key points that were made are:

* Council would set aside our traditional wish list for 2 years and concentrate our efforts on raising money for the play structure
* Azalea mentioned several grants available for putting in a new structure and would be looking for some people to help in applying for them
* Both staff and students would work together on various in-house fundraising initiatives that would help raise funds for other events like class trips and presentations.
* If local businesses contribute, a plaque with their logo could be on display by the new play structure as a way to honor their contribution
* Forming a sub-committee was discussed as a possible way to accomplish this initiative.
* Estimated price tag is $30,000.
* Possible June BBQ Fundraiser

***Monica Pyear made a motion to move ahead with setting aside the wish list and pursuing the play structure initiative. Sheryl Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.***

1. **School Picnic & Community BBQ**

Discussion was had surrounding what the June Picnic and Community BBQ would look like this year. Some key points were as follows:

* Continuing with the school wide picnic as was done last year was recommended.
* Suggestion was made to make the Community BBQ a fundraising initiative and open it up for the entire Floradale Community
* Having a nominal donation requested for the BBQ to cover the cost of hamburgers ($2.00/person)
* Hold a Potluck dessert
* Lion’s Club was presented as a potential option for making the pre-cooked burgers
* Letters could be sent home in order to calculate numbers
* Invitations would go out to the broader Floradale Community
* Suggestion of having each class put together a themed basket that could be put in a silent auction with a suggested donation amount was made and affirmed by Council
* Forming a possible sub-committee for this was discussed as well

Shawn had suggested that once the funds have been raised for the play structure that perhaps holding the BBQ in partnership with the Meet the Teacher Night in September would be a better idea. Food trucks were also suggested. He mentioned the value of having the community together at the beginning of the year rather than the end as it provides a great opportunity for the students and community to meet each other and build friendships in a more casual atmosphere.

***Lisa Goossen made a motion to move ahead with the Community Fundraising BBQ. Lisa Demerling seconded the motion. Motion carried.***

1. **Committee Reports**

***Fundraising Committee:***

Christina K. reported that our fall fundraising campaigns are off and running. Some clarification was provided with regards to how the mint chocolate smoothies are handled. She reported that the team is working on getting together some prizes.

***Social Committee:***

Sherrin G. reported that the thanksgiving dinner was another success. Everyone felt this was a great day and valuable for our school community. Sherrin reported that 254 students were served along with 35 staff and guests and 20 amazing volunteers. The numbers were up from last year. We brought in $1,090 and our costs were $748.70 leaving us with a surplus amount of $341.50.

***Garden Committee***

Sheryl Martin reported that she removed approx. 95 shrubs, 5 snakes and 3000 snails from the front flowerbeds at the school. A decision was made to have the Community vegetable garden in the flowerbeds instead of making another area for them. 9 teachers have expressed interest in having a spot. Sheryl mentioned the neighbors at Parkview Manor would potentially be willing to help maintain it in the summer months.

Some concern was expressed regarding the amount of gardens going in and what it looks like down the road if staff changes or interest wanes. A suggestion was made to perhaps start small and gradually grow. Given that most of the shrubs etc. in our flowerbeds were dead and needing to come out, a decision was made to allow them to use them as vegetable gardens and if in the future we can’t sustain it, then look at what we’d like to put in for a low-maintenance solution. This will be re-visited every year.

Sheryl reported that the soil is good and that Mark V. is working on applying for the grant. He is also working at getting some tillers from people in the community. No gardens will be put around the bell and the current evergreen shrubs will remain.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05PM.