

Franklin Public School – Parent Council Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2012

7-8 pm New Staff Lounge

Facilitators: Heather Lee

Attendees:

Heather Lee, Cindy Martin, Jenn Wilson, Kimberly Janzen, Victoria J., Nicole Thorne, Carmella Gentile-Faure, Mark Eys, Theresa Barrick, Dan Enns, Jane Pritchard, Jewelle Wyatt, Jamie Burton, Janice Scherer, Anessa Selcage

Adoption of Minutes

A motion was made by Heather Lee to accept the minutes from the meeting on October 9, 2012. The motion was seconded by Victoria Jacobs. All members were in favour and the motion passed.

Principals Comments: Jane / Dan

- Nice to see everyone, thanks for coming on this cold night
- Grade 6 students were at camp for 3 days. Mr. Enns was there the whole time. The focus was on camp activities including such skills as rope work & archery, camp fire activities. We had some wonderful parent volunteers... all went well.
- There has been a Secretary change. Tracy accepted a temporary job as Head Secretary at Doon Public School. We were sad to see her go, but it's a great opportunity for her.
- We've been through an interview process to fill the Secretary position. Unfortunately, we were not successful. However, we have found a temporary Secretary who is lovely. Her name is Casey Sullivan, she has a lot to learn but is willing to learn and is a nice addition to our staff
- Bus evacuation drills have been completed for the primary, junior & kindie students. The students get a chance to experience an emergency on a bus.
- Fire drills have also been completed. Three were done this fall, a tornado drill will come this winter and 3 more fire drills to come in the spring
- Primary students went to the symphony
- As of November 1st, all classes are in their rightful place. The portable arrived and has been painted and path has been paved, so the library is now available to all classes.
- Progress reports went home on Monday, November 5. Interviews are happening this week

- We are pleased to say that, here at Franklin, a lot of the “extras” (coin club, running club, intramurals) are still happening despite the collective bargaining that is going on
- Remembrance Day – the big assembly with the entire school that we’ve had in past will look differently this year. Instead of gathering in the gym, the assembly will take place via the PA system. At 1:00pm on Thursday, November 8th, we will have a 15-20 minute assembly over the PA system

Chair’s Comments: Heather

Discussion Topics:

- **Family Skate Night** – Heather gave us an update on behalf of Wendy: she’s been trying to arrange the Rangers ice with not much success. Heather will reconnect with Wendy and try to figure something out and if in December something is arranged she’ll send an e-mail out
- **Think Recycling** – Mark connected with Mr. Boyer regarding the recycling program for ink cartridges, etc. Looks pretty good and some good money to be taken from it as well as helping the environment. He signed us up for the program. He needs a box and somewhere to put it. It was decided to put the box between the front doors. Items included are: Cell phones, cartridges, laptops, blackberries, iPhones (old blackberry - \$25, laptop - \$5). He has posters to put on the box. He’d also like to send something home with the teachers in their monthly newsletters to advertise that we’re doing this. We’ll post it on the sign outside, too.
- **Zehrs tapes** – Eva not here to give update
- **Bulletin board** – Kimberly Janzen has been working on the board outside the office and it looks great.
- **Dance-a-thon** – we need to book Prof. Jamz – gymnastics is in the gym for all of February so we’ll try for the week prior to March Break (maybe Wednesday March 6th or Thursday March 7th. Heather will make the initial contact with Prof. Jamz but will need some additional help as the time gets closer. Jewelle volunteered to help out and possibly contact the additional volunteers.
- **Fundraising initiatives – recommendation from CATC for annual technology protection fund:**
 - Dan showed us the document camera. It can be used to show a document, show a book (avoid a whole lot of photocopying). The document camera shows colour so you can demonstrate things like cubes – they can be shown and seen clearly using this machine. It’s great for taking a student’s work and projecting it on the wall/screen...great for sharing successes.
 - We currently have 5 Document Cameras (1 for each pod). Most teachers use them on a regular basis. Several teachers would use them a lot more if more were available; some have even purchased their own mini cameras that they use in class. Each Document Camera requires a data projector.
 - We currently have 10 data projectors – 1 for the Wii, 3 for Smartboards, 5 for Document Cameras, 1 extra in pod 4
 - The portables have neither Document Cameras or projectors right now. They just received wired internet access this week and each have a desktop computer.

- We also have 21 iPads so far – 5 in the Kindie pod, 16 in Room 10 all for other teachers to sign out. They are used regularly. 3 were acquired through CATC plan, 8 were received from Jane at start of last year, 10 were received from School Council last year.
- Wish list:
 - o 4 Document Cameras (2 for Portables to share, 1 for Pod 3, 1 for Pod 4) = approx. \$1,600.00
 - o 4 Projectors to go with the Document Cameras = approx. \$1,600.00
 - o Carts – depending on what is ordered (we have a few in the library in varying sizes)
 - o 2 laptop adaptors for projectors = approx. \$90.00
 - o Total cost = approx. \$4,500.00 (plus HST) depending on what carts need to be ordered
- iPads are not on the wish list as Franklin is getting some from the board.
- We also need to look into the protection plans available through Best Buy when purchasing items from them.
- **Fundraising initiatives – Kindergarten Trees** – update from Dan
 - Dennis from Board office came and gave Dan some advice. We have placement for the trees figured out based on where the sun shines. We still need to have locates done (we have about a 5 day window for the locates to be done). Once they're done we're free to dig. We also have placement for the armour stones. Jenn's husband has been able to get us 4 large rocks for free!!!
- **Brochures** – Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario brochures are here if anyone is interested, please see Heather
- **Healthy Eating Initiatives** – Mark
 - Some discussion took place regarding treats etc. that are being shared in the classrooms – his question – do we have a healthy eating policy?
 - Jane responded – we don't have a policy but we have a philosophy that has been discussed with the teachers. They have ongoing discussions at staff meetings asking teachers not to reward with food.
 - Some parents in the school yard have approached Mark and have discussed the idea of "thinking candies" for testing in math and getting chocolate bars for distributing text books
 - Jane responded – on occasion we would expect some treats to come in.
 - Mark – suggests that we rid the rewards for basic behavior. He asked that it be taken back to the teachers.
 - Jane responded – She suggested two things: First, please have the parent voicing the concern speak with the child's teacher and then send them to Jane & Dan if they're not happy with the results of that discussion. Second, Jane will raise it again at the staff meeting happening this week.
- **Question from Jewelle** – what happens to the volunteer forms that are returned with the initial school package?
 - Jane – sheets are compiled and given to appropriate people (Shelley for strong start, Heather for council, etc.) Jane to check into Jewelle's form
- **By-laws** – Heather wants to "refresh" some of the things that need to be done. She will work on them and send out the changes so that we can discuss at the next meeting in January

- **Peace buttons** – Heather would like them to be offered as an additional symbol to the poppies on Remembrance Day. They are offered through Mennonite Central Committee at a cost of \$1.00 per pin (as a donation). A discussion took place regarding what we should do. It was decided that perhaps we look into a “generic” peace button for next year seeing as the Remembrance Day assembly is in 2 days. International Day of Peace is September 21st...perhaps look into a non-denominational button for next year in September.

Treasurer’s Report: Theresa

- No official report as we don’t have an updated print-out
- QSP update:
 - Magazine sales – sold just under \$12,000.00 – we should be able to keep 40%
- With money still in bank & magazine fundraiser, we should have about \$7,300.00 total to spend this year
 - Dance-a-thon & BBQ fundraising will be extra funds to spend
- Jaime suggested that Council “gifts” a techie item to another school who could really use it perhaps Wilson PS or Howard Robertson PS. Suggested items include: a Wii, an iPad, a document camera, projector
 - There was a discussion around the table regarding this point – would it be better to support another school with hats & mitts?
 - **Motion:** Heather Lee made motion to accept Jamie Burton as a council member and part of the quorum. It was seconded by Jewelle Wyatt. All members were in favour, and the motion passed.
 - **Motion:** Jamie Burton made a motion to gift our sister school (Wilson P.S.) \$1,300 in a technology solution to be determined according to their need. It was seconded by Victoria Jacobs. All members were in favour, and the motion passed.
 - **Motion:** Theresa Barrick made a motion to approve \$5,100 to support the 2012-13 Franklin technology wish list. It was seconded by Jewelle Wyatt. All members were in favour and the motion passed.
 - **Motion:** Jamie Burton made a motion to approve the cost of \$400 for line painting in the 4-square and hockey play areas to be done in March 2013. It was seconded by Anessa Selcage. All members were in favour and the motion passed.

Adjourn: 8:27pm

Next meeting January 15th, Staff Lounge

*Enter through doors closest to the new parking lot. The staff lounge is just inside.