**Franklin Public School – Parent Council Meeting Minutes**

**January 15, 2014**

**7-8 pm New Staff Lounge**

**Facilitators: Heather Lee & Jenn Wilson**

**Attendees:**

Heather Lee, Jenn Wilson, Victoria Jacobs, Eva van den Brink, Cindy Martin, Kimberly Janzen, Theresa Barrick, Dan Enns, Paul Milne, Anessa Selcage, Janice Scherer, Jewelle Wyatt, Jamie Burton, Deborah Hughes, Hilary Toller, Trish Morgan, Pauline Tomlinson, Fran Brenneman

**Adoption of Minutes**

A motion was made by Jenn Wilson to accept the minutes from the meeting on November 27, 2013.

The motion was seconded by ­­­­Heather Lee.

All members were in favour and the motion passed.

Heather made a motion to include Pauline Tomlinson as a voting member on council.

The motion was seconded by Anessa Selcage.

All members were in favour and the motion passed.

We now have 12 voting member giving us a quorum of 6.

**Welcome to Fran Brenneman – Library / book fair update**

* Fran was very happy to join us for our meeting. She gave us an update on the Book Fair that was held in December. It was very successful. She thanked Shelley Strubb for all her efforts in organizing the book fair. Our total sales were $6,900.00 giving us a profit of $1,899.00 which now gives us a total of $3,734.00 from the June 2013 and December 2013 book fairs.
* Fran asked for Council’s permission to go ahead and start purchasing library material using the funds that were received from the book fairs. She would send $3,600.00 in to Library Services with a list of books that we want / need and all is done on their end. Some discussion took place and questions were asked of Fran regarding books purchased in the past – what was the average cost per book, how many books will we be able to purchase with the money? In the end, council gave Fran the go-ahead to purchase library materials with the money raised from the 2 book fairs.
* The Blue Spruce & Silver Birch program is up and running now. Two teachers have started a club to encourage students to participate in the program.
* Fran introduced the council to the “And then it Happened” series of books written by 2 Canadian authors (Michael & Laura Wade). The kids just adore them and the books are read to death. Michael Wade (author) does school presentations. He will do two, one hour presentations for grades 3 and up followed by a short writing activity. The cost is $300 including tax. Fran was wondering if School Council would like to support bringing Michael Wade to Franklin to talk to the kids. Some discussion followed and a motion was made.
  + Motion: Eva van den Brink moved that we fund the presentation for Michael Wade’s “And then it Happened” series to come and present to grades 3 – 6

The motion was seconded by Victoria Jacobs.

All members were in favour and the motion passed.

**Principals Comments: Paul / Dan**

* Paul – Franklin’s 50th Anniversary celebration was well attended and very successful. We made the front page of the paper with Mrs. Inch photographed holding some of the contents of the 1988 time capsule. The cakes were good and well quantified.
* A parent of some children here at the school (Crawford family) passed away on Monday while working on a jobsite in Mississauga. A trauma team came to Franklin to give support to the classmates of the Crawford children. The team will be here as needed in the future.
* January 24th there will be a live dramatic production “Jack and the Giant” coming to Franklin. They will perform twice and the actors will follow up with classroom visits for any questions from the students.
* School improvement plan – not a lot has happened since our last meeting, they’re just starting to plan some events now.
* Things going on in the school:

- Kodaly Choir, intramurals, Dream Team, French Club, Coin Club, Coding Club (computer programming), student classes, Humane Society here to talk to the students, PD day this Friday for teachers to work on reports, gymnastics (4 weeks set aside) coming up

* The Head of the Board IT Department and an Apple Rep are coming on Monday to have a visit. The Apple Rep wanted to see a school that is fairly active with Apple products. They want to see where they can go in the future.
* Q – Jamie – She was curious about what the future looks like with regards to letting students bring their own personal electronic devices to school?
* A – Trish – The Board of Education has given us some policies on how to deal with that kind of thing. Right now, it’s up to the individual schools as to whether they want to allow it. Here at Franklin, we don’t have a policy regarding students bringing their own electronic devices to school. We will table this discussion for the February meeting.
* Fran will be setting up an Olympics corner in the Library
* A parent called Paul and she has a child who requires frequent visits to Toronto Sick Kids Hospital (for Uveitis) and she was wondering if Franklin would like to participate in some fundraising for the hospital. There was some discussion around the table regarding this topic. There are so many kids affected by so many different things. It was decided that maybe we could get the word out to the school that there is an anonymous donor in the general public who is matching donations and perhaps the Dream Team could take that on.
* There was a discussion regarding the Crawford family who lost the parent – should we support them financially in any way? We were also notified that there was another family at Franklin who was recently displaced due to a fire at their home. It was decided that we would purchase gift cards to Zehrs for each family to help in meal prep.
  + Motion: Heather Lee moved that we support the 2 families in need (affected by fire & death) up to $300.00 ($150 each) in the form of a Zehrs gift card.

The motion was seconded by Victoria Jacobs

All members were in favour and the motion passed.

* Q – How do we as a Council decide who to support when it comes to various traumas? Should we start a benevolent fund?
* A – Tabled for next meeting.
* Dan – Home Reading update: they have used up all the money that we gave them. They are running into problems with level ‘A’ books and they’re asking for more money. A discussion resulted and it was decided that it is worth asking for a proposal from Lynn Gaudet for titles and cost. Dan will take that back to Lynn and get back to us at the next meeting.
* Dan talked to Heidi McLean regarding the fireproof curtains for the stage. She was able to find a company in the US for half the money!
* Family & Children Services update – there were no families in our Franklin PS family to sponsor for Christmas
* Request for piano update - no further info regarding a piano proposal from Susan Schoneveld
* Dan was contacted by Janice Klassen from Sunnyside Home regarding their “Walk & Roll” fundraising event. She was wondering if we would like to partner with them? It’ll take place on Saturday, June 7th, 2014. Participants need to register and collect pledges, but mostly what they’re looking for is our participation. It might be good for us to be involved in the community. Dan will pursue this.

**Chair’s Comments: Heather**

Discussion Topics:

* **Family Skate Night reminder – January 24th, 5:30 – 6:30pm:**
  + Everything has been confirmed. Heather will draft a flyer and it will get it ready to go home with students next week.
  + Heather asked for volunteers to greet parents and direct them to the change rooms
    - Hilary volunteered and Anessa will volunteer too (if possible)
  + Dan will ask if Frankie would be able to make an appearance.
* **Discussion of KW Counselling Services – Community Presentations (Theresa):**
  + Theresa spoke to KW counselling services regarding some seminars that they run for parents. Each seminar is approximately $400.00
  + The seminars usually run for about 2 hours with questions afterwards
  + KWCS is responsible for any handouts and supplies needed for the evening, but advertising is up to us
  + They suggested that with a K-6 school, we should find a way to offer childcare during the seminar
  + There was some discussion as to whether pre-registration should take place if childcare is needed?
  + “Positive Discipline, Cooperative Kids” and “Great Kids, Big Feelings” were recommended seminars for our school
  + Q – What is their minimum number of attendees in order to run the program…..what is their maximum?
  + Diane from KWCS would be happy to come out and talk to us – Theresa will connect with her and invite her to the February meeting
  + Please e-mail Theresa with any seminars we think might be interesting
* **Update from WRAPSC and Steering Committee (Jenn):**
  + The January meeting was cancelled so she will have more info for the February meeting
* **Emerald Schools? What is this? What does this get us? Is there anything School Council can do to help?:**
  + Tabled for next meeting
* **Toyota Green Grant (Heather):**
  + Tabled for next meeting – Heather will bring info
* **Community garden idea (Jenn):**
  + Tabled for next meeting
* **Safe, Caring and Inclusive schools – Update?:**
  + Tabled for next meeting (Deborah)

**Treasurer’s Report: Eva**

* **Update:** 
  + $2,869.00 – received from the treasure books fundraiser
  + $7,200.00 – is what we have right now (we should carry forward $4,000.00 for next year’s budget)
  + Money that has previously been set aside in our budget for guest speakers is no longer in the budget as we haven’t used it in quite some time
  + The funds for Franklin’s Family Skate Night comes out of the special events budget

**Additional business:**

* Q - Clean-up from the ice storm – is there any timeframe regarding when clean-up will take place?

A – No specific time frame right now. If there is any imminent danger, they’ll call the city.

* Upcoming dates:
  + February 25th – Dance-a-thon
  + April 1st – Math night – 6 to 8pm

Adjourn: 8:30pm

Next meeting?

* Wednesday, February 26, 2014