

Franklin Public School – Parent Council Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2015

7-8:30 pm Library

Facilitators: Mark Eys

Attendees:

Mark Eys, Anessa Selcage, Heather Lee, Eva van den Brink, Paul Milne, Dan Enns, Ann Wong-Lettenbauer, Carmela Gentile-Faure, Cindy Martin, Jewelle Wyatt, Trish Morgan, Gwen Lloyd, Hillary Toller, Kimberly Janzen, Jenn Wilson

Adoption of Minutes

A motion was made by Ann Wong-Lettenbauer to accept the minutes from the meeting on February 18, 2015.

The motion was seconded by Eva van den Brink.

All members were in favour and the motion passed.

Principals Comments: Paul / Dan

- Staffing season coming soon.
- Kindie registration continues to happen and encouragement to get registration in. Kindie welcome meeting is May 14th.
- Had a near flood before March break due to clogged sink with roof run off (somehow the roof is tied into the sink plumbing). Crisis averted with call to plumber. Whew!
- EQAO is coming up (May 25 to June 5th). 6 hrs of testing but school allows for extra time if needed. Paul and Dan are looking for volunteers to support this by helping students with scribing etc. ½ day allotment would be great. Training and guidelines will be provided.
- Request for a dolly for the piano. \$235 USD plus shipping (\$66) plus duty and taxes – about \$500 USD. Piano bench \$105 from Long and McQuade – adjustable height to accommodate students.
MOTION: (Eva) To extend additional spending for the dolly/wheels and bench to \$750. Gwen seconds the motion. All members were in favour the motion passed.
- Math night is next week. Sharon Zintel and Karen Morton are looking for volunteers for the 7 – 8pm slots. Receipts need to be kept to submit with grant application.
- Request around funding for phys. ed. equipment – Beth and Karen provided a list for \$2,300. These funds were already approved by council at the February meeting (with the \$1,000 in budget and \$1,300 from the excess of dance-a-thon)
- Safe, Caring, and Inclusive school update: School was asked to identify issues to address. These issues included more structure during breaks outside. When kids aren't feeling safe a lot of the time it's during unstructured play outside. A solution for this was the addition of playground activity leaders and referees for mini sticks and beyblades.

Buddy benches were also suggested. When students are feeling left out, they could go and sit on the buddy bench so playground activity leaders or others would go over and find ways to help them feel included. Change rooms and washrooms were another area where students felt less safe. These un-structured areas can lead to negative behaviours. The school/committee discussed how class meetings and pod meetings could be strategies to address these issues. The committee hasn't met formally since December so need to meet again soon.

- Barb, our head secretary, retiring at the end of the month. Eileen will be stepping into the head secretary position. Jackie DeSousa, our new secretary, will be starting full-time on Monday. In addition to the 2 full-time secretaries, we have Joanne 2 mornings a week and Shelley Strub.
- New hires: French teachers – Primary Core: Alison Goulden, Junior Core: Matthew Germyn (part-time)
- Science fair on April 30th. More info at next meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Eva

- We have an available balance of \$6,102 available to spend (Treasurer's Report attached)
- Eileen is hunting down where the \$500 PIC Grant was deposited from last year (and if this has happened over multiple years)

Chair's Comments: Mark Eys

- Grant opportunities – Rotary Club (deadline end of February). Will keep in mind for next year.

ACTION ITEM: Jenn will see if we can submit late. If yes, Mark will send the information to Paul.

- Grant opportunities – James was going to look into funding from Stanley Park Community Centre. He sent an email but hasn't heard anything back.
- Fran sent some updates to Paul. Spring book fair is June 10th to 12th. Blue Spruce and Silver Birch reading programs are up and running. Blue Spruce voted for The Day My Mom Came to Kindergarten book. Silver Birch will be voting during a Pizza Lunch. \$3,400 was raised at the winter book fair to spend on new books. Library services has received some of the order and we're hopeful they will be in circulation before end of year.
 - Student Birthday Book – lots of possibilities for birthday book shelf. Fran isn't looking for money to run the birthday book program. She's looking for help advertising and support. Trish brought up the point that a "Birthday" shelf isn't inclusive (cultural diversity). Some students don't celebrate birthdays or don't know when their birthday is. What's council's role in this? Fran seems to be asking for some suggestions. Maybe "Special Me Day" or "Alphabet" Day – if you're name starts with "A", come and get your book. Fran is given a lot of books that she can't put into the system and thought she could use these donated books to make the students feel special as well as promoting reading and the library. There is also a free book area for students in the library where some of the donated books go. Previously Fran would offer the donated books to teachers to round out their classrooms.

ACTION ITEM: Paul will go back to Fran with our discussion points.

- Zero Day treats and ice cream party to take funding out of Spring Book Fair? Eva mentioned this is how it's been taken care of in the past.
- Campbell's Labels – Dan mentioned that there is a need for outdoor equipment and that there are quality items on the list.
ACTION ITEM: Kimberly will give Dan the revised points amount. Dan will give the total to Karen to go shopping.
- Franklin Greening Committee – deferred to September 2015. Heather will connect with the Toyota Greening Committee rep to make sure we're ready to go in September.
ACTION ITEM: Paul will think about the appropriate board member parents could voice concerns to regarding getting the school drainage situation figured out in order to move forward on our greening initiatives.
- Pro Grant: Parent engagement for student achievement and well-being. We always use Math night and last year also used the KW Counselling evening. Perhaps we could use the BBQ? Paul is concerned that the way our proposal was worded that we need to have a speaker as was represented in the proposal. We need to submit expenses to be reimbursed.
ACTION ITEM: Paul will check with the Pro Grant committee to see if we need to clarify expectations.
- Brainstorming to replace Family Skate Night: Reading PJ night? Bingo night? Movie night? Variety sports night? Arts and Crafts nights? Mark suggested a sub-committee. Anessa suggested polling the students to see what they are interested in. Paul thought parents should be polled too. Eva suggested waiting until the fall as we have 3 events this spring. Mark suggested getting the polling and planning done before the end of the year.
ACTION ITEM: Anessa, Eva and Gwen's husband (Gavin) will work on the committee.

Additional business:

- BBQ –
ACTION ITEM: Anessa will order the BBQ.
Alternative to Steel Drum band?
ACTION ITEM: Hillary will look into Eastwood music options. Alternates for coloured napkins (to avoid people going up for unpaid seconds)?
Coloured tickets (so people have to turn them in – no chance for going for unpaid seconds)?
ACTION ITEM: Janice and Anessa will shop for food. We will discuss other bbq items at next meeting.
- Elmira Poultry –
ACTION ITEM: Heather will look into this (get forms, check with refrigerated truck) – May 14th from 3 – 6pm?

Adjourn: 8:40pm

Next meeting: April 22, 2015