

Franklin Public School – Parent Council Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2015

7-8:30 pm Library

Facilitators: Mark Eys

Attendees:

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

Welcome

- Thank you all for coming out tonight

Adoption of Minutes

Errors & Omissions:

- Thanks to Heather for taking the minutes at the last meeting
- none

A motion was made by Anessa Selcage to accept the minutes from the meeting on March 25, 2015.

The motion was seconded by Cindy Martin.

All members were in favour and the motion passed.

Principals Comments: Paul / Dan

- Dan – a few highlights of past month:
 - Ministry people came and did a walk-through to see what our needs would be (ie. Kindergarten classroom size). We are still on the Board's radar with regards to how to manage the classroom sizes for the Kindergarten students
 - Drainage – we were assured it will be dealt with. Some schools are now installing artificial turf in their Kindergarten play areas because it doesn't go rock hard when frozen, or when completely dried out and has a spongy feel to it.
 - Admin wanted our opinion as a School Council about how we feel regarding artificial turf – we have been working on becoming an eco-school, so they wanted to know our feelings about installing an artificial turf. Some discussion took place around this. More discussion regarding the possible kindergarten expansion and possibly holding off on any major expenses until any decision has been made at the Board level. It was the feeling of Administration that there doesn't seem much point in waiting as any expansion that might occur is probably years away.
 - It was decided that we need to inform the Trustees to address the drainage issue and then create a good learning space outside.
 - **Action item** – Mark will draft something that we can send to the Trustees on behalf of the School Council.
 - Today was Earth Day. The students helped in cleaning up around the school today.
 - Vow of silence took place last week in alignment with Free the Children.

- This past Friday we had a PD day. Franklin teachers were involved in various professional development training sessions.
- The Gr. 5 bicycle training program is taking place – started last week and will continue once a week into May.
- Zumba-thon happened a couple of weeks ago, it was a lot of fun.
- We are in the middle of staffing season here at Franklin – some potential staffing issues were discussed.

Treasurer’s Report: Eva

- Please see attached excel spreadsheet for details
- Money spent:
 - Math night = \$1,062.00 – there was an increase of \$600.00 from last year, as we now have to pay for Sharon Zintel’s services. We will submit this expense through the Parent Reaching Out grant and hopefully we’ll be reimbursed for the full amount.
 - Wheels for the newly acquired electric piano were purchased as well as a bench.
- Year to date expenditures = \$7,452.00
 - Some budgeted money hasn’t been spent as of yet....or at least hasn’t been submitted for reimbursement as of yet (ie. Gym equipment).
- Fundraising reminder:
 - The Elmira Poultry fundraiser could potentially be a good fundraiser for us, so please spread the word and bring in those order forms

Chair’s Comments: Mark

Discussion Topics:

- **Grant opportunities (follow-up)**
 - Rotary Club (Mark)
 - They weren’t able to help out – all money has been spent.
 - Stanley Park Community Centre (James)
 - James called again on Monday, but hasn’t heard back from them yet.
 - It was suggested that James pop in sometime between 9:00am – 5:00pm as Chris Letizi is often there during the day.
- **Campbell’s Labels – Kimberly**
 - Sent Dan an e-mail with total number of points we have – just over 4000 points.
 - We are just waiting to hear from the teachers as to what they want or need.
 - Dan mentioned that Karen Morton surveyed the classroom teachers to see what they needed. She should have a good idea as to what needs to be ordered.
 - **Action item:** Mark will e-mail Karen to see what is needed
- **Franklin Greening Program sub-committee update (Heather, Gwen, Cindy)**
 - Drainage was addressed earlier in our meeting.
 - Some discussion started around the table regarding the wood chips from the outdoor learning center that are making their way onto the sidewalk and into the parking lot whenever it rains.
 - Jenn mentioned we still have 2 amour stones that were donated previously, we just need to get them here.
 - Paul said we would need to consult with the Board for their policies before putting them in such a high traffic area for fear of them being a tripping hazard.

- **Elmira Poultry (Heather) – Volunteers?**
 - Reminder forms will go home in planners tomorrow.
 - May 14th – Heather’s father-in-law will come with his refrigerated truck full of our Elmira Poultry orders and we’ll hand out the orders together. We usually give him a \$40 gift card in appreciation of his time and effort.
 - April 27th & 28th – we need volunteers to come in and count money and organize the order forms.
 - Janice, Ann...and possibly Anessa, to count on Monday and check in on Tuesday for any remaining orders.

- **PRO Grant follow-up (Eva/Paul)**
 - Have to submit the math night expenses – nothing further to report
 - There was a discussion around the \$600.00 expense for Mrs. Zintel’s fee for setting up Math Night. It was agreed that it was still a pretty good deal considering she supplies most of the games, etc.

- **Family Night sub-committee (Anessa, Eva, Gwen)**
 - They’ve been corresponding via e-mail
 - Would like to get a link up and running and then send out to teachers to poll families
 - Eva suggested a “school-year” kick-off – perhaps a social evening at Meet the Teacher Night which will probably be the first Thursday of the school year

- **BBQ & Cabaret – June 18th**
 - BBQ (Anessa) – BBQ has been rented and confirmed
 - Band (Hilary) – Mark received an e-mail from Hilary saying that she spoke to the Eastwood Fiddle Group and they may be interested
 - **Action item:** Mark will get back to Hilary and ask her to confirm with the band
 - Culligan Water – Jenn can follow-up with her contact to see if we can get a couple of coolers for the refillable water bottles again this year
 - **Action item:** Jenn to contact Culligan Water
 - Menu – after last year’s backlash to the freezies being given out with the combo’s, we have given some thought to giving out apples to go with the burger / hotdog & chips – Anessa looked into Freshco for costing – they will give us apples at cost, which is \$36.55 / box of 100 apples; if we buy 3, we get the 4th box free. We won’t need all the apples in the 4th box, but we can donate them to the Nutrition for Learning program.
 - Do we want to change up ticket options? – people reused napkins last year to get free food – it was decided that we will stay with the napkins and just tear a corner so that we know they’ve had their portion paid for.

New Business:

- **Other**
 - Jenn Wilson – update from WRAPSC:
 - She attended their last meeting on April 7th.
 - “Our Place” (children’s learning center) is trying to get out into the community a bit more. Both ladies from “Our Place” were receptive to collaborating with schools – services are free as of right now for children up to age 6, but they’re realizing that parents are finding they miss their services once the kids are older.
 - People4Education – Jenn recommends getting their e-newsletters.

- Safe, Caring & Inclusive schools survey should be up on our website or the Board's website as of today. As of yet, though, there doesn't seem to be a link for it anywhere. Jenn requested that we do the survey if we can.
 - Heather Barry – she is a parent from the Board who took a sabbatical from her job to put out a math kit that schools can borrow for Primary & Junior. Jenn thought it might be something to think about adding to Math Night.
- Guest speakers:
 - Janice – explained the information session she went to at Stanley Park Senior Public School that was put on by Cat Coode from Binary Tattoo regarding Social Media (Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, KIK, etc). The other council members seemed interested in perhaps bringing Cat Coode to Franklin to do a presentation to parents next year.
 - **Action Item** – Janice will look into the cost and bring details back to the meeting in May
 - Paul brought forth a request from a planning-time teacher for a Dance workshop – she thinks it would be a nice thing to bring to the school. It'll cost \$800.00 + HST + transportation costs from Toronto for 5 – 45minute sessions
 - There is \$800.00 left in the budget to spend for guest speakers / special events
 - **Action Item** – Paul will double check to make sure there aren't any other requests from other teachers and will then communicate with Council. They'll make a decision regarding what's best for the kids.
 - Fundraising idea:
 - Dan received an e-mail from a company asking if we're interested in turning our school mascot into a stuffie. It was decided that it may be worthwhile looking into the costs associated with that.
 - **Action Item:** Mark will look into it to see what it will cost and will let us know

Adjourn: 8:40pm

Next meeting: May 27, 2015

** Enter through front doors. The Library is to the left and down the hall.