

School Council Agenda

Monday, February 4th, 2019

6:30pm - J. F. Carmichael Library

Minutes:

Attendance: Anna Maste, Sandra Orton, Melissa Y., Stephanie Brubacher, T. Scott (VP)

Regrets: Sarah Kennedy, Aimee Polevoy, Charity, Brian Burnley (Principal)

Welcome and Greetings

Updates and Business:

1. Finances Summary

Mme. Orchard asked for some money for PALS - \$1,000 was in the budget (\$500 last year and \$500 from this year).

2. Event planning:

- a) Math Night: Council hosted one 2 years ago, last year Mme. Colaiezzi ran it. The PRO grant we had used 2 years ago also came through this year. We now have \$1,000 to spend.

Application breakdown of the budget =

\$200 refreshments

\$100 promoting or advertising

\$300 take-home resources (Playing cards, dice, calculators)

\$400 math games for a parent lending library

Mme Colaiezzi can be the teacher liaison this year. Anna doesn't have too much time to devote – Mme. Colaiezzi wants to get some student leaders to help organize it/work it

2 years ago we had 6 or 8 rooms on the main floor, with 2-3 activities in each room (different age levels), kids had a passport that was stamped in each room, and they turned it in at the end to collect their take-home package. The school has a whole room of math resources.

We need to work with Mme. Colaiezzi to find a date (Mme. Colaiezzi wants to wait until April because she's coming back full time, it's after March break, when the weather is nicer, no wet boots).

Third week in April? Something mid-week, not conflicting with Easter or movie night.

- b) Movie Night – Friday, April 5th (not much to do here yet)

T. has the opportunity once in a school year to get a pre-release movie, which would be a big draw.

We may have to pay for the shipping, but T. thinks the school could cover it.

We can look at the titles that are in the pre-release window closer to the date;
Maybe the Lego movie?

Anna gets the popcorn, send out a note home the week before, get a copy of the movie. Giant pajama party.

Volunteer show up at 6, doors open at 6:15, Movie starts at 6:30.

Parents must be here, or kids cannot stay.

One family will get a call home, to remind them that they cannot drop their kids off and take off.

3. Parent involvement & outreach ideas
4. Coffee meetings could work if we have a big sign, do it when the weather is nicer after-school. What about after school coffee? Or we go back to child care – have a mini inter-mural program in the gym from 3:30-4:30pm, and have the meetings then? Kids like to stay and play with their friends for an extra hour. Make the meetings shorter to facilitate this. We'll have a wide range of ages, but younger kids could come to the library (toddlers). Would this be once or twice a year, or are we replacing our monthly meetings? Mix it up? We could start by trying it a few times a year. T. suggested she could advertise on school council's behalf on welcome to kindie night.

KCI parent council meeting, 2 student co-presidents came to the meeting and gave an update on what is happening with the school. They have topical meetings, with regular business but also with topics such as Ion update or course selection. This is something that could attract attention. We already sort-of do this, like when the EQAO results come out, we have a discussion about it. When they went to the grade 9 info night, they gave out a list of the meeting topics for the year, with the dates and times. T.'s kids' school does something similar to this, and when they don't have a packed agenda, they put out a request for ideas for parent interest. I.E. growing phenomenon of more children being diagnosed with anxiety disorder, how to keep kids safe on social media, how to read a report card, how to boost your kid's self-esteem, get teachers coming to meetings to discuss a topic dear to them, etc.

T. and Anna will connect on this to work it out.

We will wait until the weather improves to plan a coffee afternoon, and have an informal council meeting after school on the playground, and see if we can get more parents involved.

Welcome to Kindergarten night is happening in April. Pretty sure it is April 30th.

4. Committee updates:

Home Reading:

It is going smoother than they first thought it would, and our books still seem to be in place. A book count at the end of the year will help us figure out how many books were lost over the course of the year.

Aimee was hoping to take over home reading, but does not feel that she cannot do it.

Housekeeping at the school has found sets of books in the guided reading area, black and white books, tons of books. These have been re-distributed to classrooms, but there are still too many. The leftovers will be given to the home reading program. They will have to be stickered and sorted and counted before they are added.

Charity has been volunteered, and Stephanie and Charity will get together to discuss the hand-off.

Principal's Report:

Festive lunch was a huge success pairing with KCI, went over really well. They want to this for next year, so they are already setting this up, now.

That whole week they were handing out gift cards and turkeys to families in need, which was great. They purchased disposable roasting pans to go with the turkeys, for all the families that needed.

Holiday concert went over well.

Junior kids went to a performance of Les Mis downtown. At that time Mrs.

Santarossa wanted to take the primaries to the theatre as well, but the school said no. So Mrs. Santarossa did a lot of research and put in a lot of effort and got 3 different theatre groups to bring performances to the school. The first one was put on today. The kids were very respectful and quiet.

Forest of Reading program being hosted here. So many kids enrolled that the teachers are trying to get more books so that all of the kids can be involved.

The kids went to the Titans game. They loved that.

Trying to do Cougar-fest. Has been scheduled for 4 weeks in a row.

Kodai choir, lots of kids participating. 3 performances at the end of May.

This Thursday, 15 of the staff, staying from 4-8 to learn a coding program, 2 people from the Ministry are coming to teach about the program, and will give the school the program for free. They will give codes for the parents to access for free.

Received 2 big bins of more chrome books for the school.

The juniors have been using their Spheros all over the halls and classrooms.

Lots of tech in the hands of the kids.

What is going on with our building... top 10 list submitted every year, then the board decides what is the top priority for the year.

This year line painting outside, more recently, new stair treads on the main staircase, staff room now has an island and a dishwasher.

Paintings in the hallways removed, and all the stairways were re-painted. Storage rooms on the top floor have all been prepped for re-painting.

Are there more air conditioners or window screens being considered for the second floor? It's so hot up there in the fall and June every year. At one point we didn't even have one window screen for each classroom so they could open windows.

T. will check on this, to see when it is our turn.

What's on your Mind: