

Kate welcomed and thanked everyone for joining School Council. No elections were held as there were just four members present and Sitting members from last year agreed to remain in the positions for this year.

Chairperson: Patsy Gates

Secretary:

Treasurer:

Community Member:

Admin: Kate Sleeman (vp); Ron Paling (Interim Principal)

Chairperson Report: (Patsy)

Fundraising is a key component to what we typically do as School Council but these are different times...

Krispy Kreme was a big success last year - we raised approximately \$9000.00 in October of the last school year.

We were scheduled to have a Chocolate Fundraiser too but then the Strike and Covid resulted in us not being able to take part.

We are able to take part in a Domino's Pizza fundraiser this school year! Our day is January 13/21. Our families and community members can go to Domino's on Franklin Blvd, order a \$10 cheese or pepperoni pizza and the school will receive \$5.00 profit per pizza ordered! Patsy mentioned that in conjunction with Kate, there will be advertising for this fundraiser posted on School Day and other social media platforms that we use.

Patsy mentioned that in the past, classes would receive \$200 per class to help pay for year-end trips, class projects, etc., but that with this year being a different year, that may not occur.

Council is open to staff/admin requests for funds.

Last year, Council made a variety of purchases (gardening, landscape rocks, etc.).

There is approximately \$11,000 in the School Council budget - carry over from last year.

No school agendas were purchased for this year - something Council has helped subsidize in the past. No year-end trips are to be scheduled at this point. Again, Council is open to requests to use funds that they have in the budget.

Admin Report: (Kate)

Kate mentioned that a request for funds for more sports equipment for classes....would be a good use of available funds. Classes are outside more and need equipment for their class (cohort).

September/October were very busy months with Covid and a reorganization in October. We lost two classes and teachers.

Grade 7 numbers have been going up - currently at 25,25,26 per class. Grade 8 numbers are at 20,21,16.

We had two Covid cases (an Outbreak was identified by Public Health - occurs when there are two or more confirmed cases). Both cases were in the same class (cohort). Students in the

class were home for two weeks self-isolating. Several staff also were required to self-isolate due to direct contact with the students infected.

Winter Procedures: We are waiting for direction from the Board around best practices to store winter clothing/boots. We do not have appropriate numbers of hooks, etc., where social distancing is manageable. Hopefully more to come on that soon.

Gr. 7/8 students will begin using lockers. An update on appropriate use/expectations around lockers will go to staff by this Friday, to begin next week. Boots, jackets, snow pants will be kept in lockers but no personal items. Backpacks will continue to be with students in the classroom. No locks will be on the lockers. Gr. 5/6 classes will be using coat hooks in the halls.

Gr. 1-4 classes are the biggest area of concern for storage of winter clothing/boots and this is the direction we are waiting for.

Council has indicated that if funds are required for the solution to the problem (hooks, etc.) to put in a request.

Emergency Procedures: We had one fire drill in the fall and classes have been practicing on their own. We are currently trying to have the snow pile location moved so that we have adequate social distancing for Gr. 1/2 outside.

We had a Lock Down drill. There were some PA issues for those outside but we have resolved that.

More drills will come later in the year.

We have teacher candidates in our building from Laurier and Nipissing Universities. We appreciate having them in our building as they learn their craft.

Ron thanked Kate for her outstanding leadership with the Covid Outbreak that we had.

Kate reviewed the many staff changes that have occurred at the school. Some of those were due to reduced numbers of students at the school, Distance Learning, Leaves of Absence, etc.

The new staff that we have are all fitting in nicely and we appreciate having them here!

The next date to have students return to the school from Distance Learning is February 3.

We have also had quite a few new registrations to the school.

A question was asked....How is everyone doing? Kate noted that students and staff are happy to be back to school. We continue to help students feel safe at school and are taking measures to remind students to wear their mask, socially distance, wash their hands, etc.

Traffic Issues: We are currently undergoing a traffic study. Issues with traffic out front, student safety. The School Board, City of Cambridge, Cambridge Counsellors, School Administration are meeting November 26 to continue the dialogue and review possibilities to help ensure safe traffic flow and safety out front of the school.

Upcoming School Council Dates:

January 13      February 10

March 10      April 14

May 12

Meetings are from 6-7pm and will (at this point) be held virtually.

Council members were asked by Kate to invite any other interested parents or community members.