

**Ayr Public School Council Meeting
November 9, 2016**

1. **Call to Order** – 6:08pm by Ingrid

2. Introductions/Attendance

Guests, Nancy Culoberra and Brenda Clements from the Family Counselling Centre

Attendance: Mike Coates, Erika Gordon, Victoria Campbell, Ingrid Nicholls, Sarah De La Chevrotiere, Heather Raby, Tammy Maurer, Maureen Wilson, Jacquie Deacon, Lisa Buck, Lisa McLinchey

3. Review and Approval of Previous Minutes

Motion by Ingrid and Heather to approve minutes from October 12, 2016 Meeting.
Seconded by Erika.

4. Family Counselling Centre for Cambridge Presentation

Brenda from the Family Counselling Centre (FCC) presented on the various services that are offered through their North Dumfries location, which is right behind Calvary Church. The services are available to everyone, some are run in conjunction with other provider groups in the area. Residents can make an initial Intake appointment by contacting the FCC office.

Examples of Services

Seniors Group – 40-50 seniors attend, healthy lunch, Knox United Church

Employment Assistance

Education – Cambridge Career Connections

Outreach- available for families with kids 17 and under, works with JumpStart to fund kids in sports.

Transportation – gas cards are available for people in community who may be struggling and in need of assistance with transportation

ChildCare – shoes/backpacks can be purchased, Neighbours Helping Neighbours

Christmas – 55 Christmas Hampers were provided last year in North Dumfries

Nancy is a Registered Psychotherapist that works part time out the office. She has been in the AYR office for 3 years. She provides counselling services, as well as works to facilitate various groups/presentations and workshops within the community. Outreach and Counselling services under 1 roof. Smaller communities face different challenges which can be addressed. (Some free, and others where funding through the foundation may be available)

Examples

Parenting Groups – free, 6 week set program

Moms Groups – creative coping, mindfulness

Taming your Dragon – after school, set program, hands on, for children experiencing anxiety, Grades 3-4 and 5-6, run through the WRDSB

Workshops – Understanding and Dealing with Anxiety for school age children

Suggested areas/red flags where you may want to pursue counselling:

- Acting out in children
- Aggression
- Irritability/defiant behaviour

- Separation/divorce
- Anxiety
- Not wanting to be social
- Withdrawal
- School work
- Procrastination

Nancy incorporates Play/Art therapy into her counselling.

5. Treasurers Report – Lisa B

Handout provided. We have funds that are still earmarked to go towards Phase 3 of the Greening Project. WRDSB Grant will cover the trees and 3 rocks. Still money to come out of account for Classroom Supplies at \$100 per classroom.

6. Principals Report

PD Day (November 18) – The morning half of this PD Day will be staff working together on the School Improvement Plan, with a focus on a Comprehensive Math Program. Handout entitled Comprehensive Mathematics provided.

Dreambox - will be rolling out to primary classes shortly

Caring Kids Concert – November 22 performed by Eril Lee, there will be 2 performances. K-3 will be entitled Being a Friend and will include music, media and a sing along. This presentation will focus on kindness, and inspiring students to care about others and the environment.

The 2nd performance will be for Grades 4-6, and will be entitled Hero Club. The focus of this presentation will be on honesty, empathy, respect and optimism.

7. Staff Update – Mrs. Wilson

- Thank you from the teachers for the \$100 per classroom that was approved.
- Classrooms are busy with many things before the rush of December including field trips, symphony trips, farm trips
- Teachers are working on progress reports, interviews will be available in the afternoon
- Remembrance Day Assembly will be at 10:45am
- Teachers have recently attended an IT Workshop that focused on technology in the classroom. Apps are good, but there is a need for more program based technology. Additional Chromebooks are needed for the classrooms.
- Kids are enjoying the Family Fun Fitness challenge that runs until next Tuesday
- Mrs. Wilson advised that this will be her last meeting with the Parent Council. Carrie Percy, who is new to Ayr Public will be taking her place effective January 2017.

8. Nutrition for Learning Update

- Nutrition for Learning has sent a reminder that we need to run a fundraiser to support the program.
- It has been decided that the funds generated from the Candy Cane Grams will be provided to NFL, and that the NFL fundraiser will be incorporated into the Week of Giving.

9. Fundraising Update

Mint Smoothies

- approval by the committee was given to purchase 1800 mint smoothies at a cost of \$1.25 each for the Mint Smoothie fundraiser.
- We will issue 10 per family, to be sold at \$2.50 each
- Discussed the idea of doing a fundraiser in advance and the possibility of not all money/smoothies not coming back in

Candy Cane Grams

- Will be run the same as in the past.
- \$1 each or 7/\$5
- Will also do Candy Grams for Valentines
- Proceed from both Candy Gram events will go to Nutrition for Learning

Chapters Day, Online Fundraiser

- Chapters Day will be November 30th
- We will earn 15% in cash with each person that uses our coupon/code
- Members from parent council will be set up at the door and throughout the store to encourage shoppers to use our coupon with their purchase.
- There will also be an opportunity to purchase electronic gift certificate, which will run for a longer period

10. Food Days Update – Kathleen/Lisa B

A couple of options have been explored with no luck. Continuing to look at other options. Will continue to run the one pizza day at this point. The pizza days will rotate between the pizza places in town.

11. Math Night

Mike advised he has been in contact with Jeff Brown from the Board and notes that he may be able to set something up in Google Classroom. Parent Council would set up, distribute the event. Mrs. Wilson will bring forward to teachers to gauge interest.

12. New Business

a) Week of Giving

To be condensed to 3 days of giving with the focus on Community, Friends, Food/Toys/ Clothing.

b) Community Christmas Tree

Families are welcome to make ornaments and add to tree.

Ingrid motioned to purchase a tree for Ayr Public School at a cost of \$18.08 with All in Favour.

13. Next Meeting

December 7th - informal meeting, location to be determined.

Adjourned – 7:59pm

Scheduled Meetings:

2016 /2017– December 7, January 11, February 15, March 8, April 12, May 10, June - TBA