**Parent Council Meeting – April 21, 2021**

Attendees: Michelle Schmid, Alissa Bingeman, Carey Devries -LoRusso, Carmin Lakhanpal, Chloe Siddorn, Dominika Nelson, Kristy Bill, Melissa Cowburn, Richard Li, Sonya Willsher, Tricia Duckett

**Principle/Staff Updates**

Carrie

-Teachers are preparing a lot of lessons, very busy and the kids are engaged

-There is more interaction with kids than during the last round of online learning

Michelle

-BPS had their first presumed positive case in the intermediate division. The student that was involved was only infectious at school on Friday, April 9th. Cohort is impacted until April 23.

-This infection is now reflected on the Board website after a minor delay

**Grad Committee Update**

-Met on Monday night. Pushing to get pics from all parents for yearbook.

-Sent out Grad Snapshot google form which teachers will share sometime this week with their classes, to fill in their favourite subject, words of wisdom etc. for the yearbook

-Jen Friese (sp?) is working on grad shirt design

-Lifetouch is not able to take pics during the Stay at Home order. So, date for pics is held but it may get cancelled.

-There is a potential that graduation will become a full virtual event this year. Michelle will know more after the meeting next week.

-Clothing drive continues to be delayed, but we will be first in line with the vendor when things do open up. We will proceed at some point regardless.

-There is a lot of focus in the region on equity between schools so we may not be able to cover the grad $25 per contribution for t-shirts and yearbooks. Michelle will know more after her meeting next week.

-Some parents feel they have been fundraising for all these years, and they anticipated their grads would benefit from their contributions.

-Conversation to be re-visited

**Craft Show**

-We will need to make some decisions soon as to whether or not we will move it and reserve a date, book chairs etc. We have 86 vendors that paid and registered last year.

-Alissa suggested we hang tight and wait till the fall. What do we say to vendors? We are waiting for more direction. Most have been happy to just wait it out to date. They just need enough notice to make their products if they need to.

-Chair/Table rentals will not accept any bookings at this time regardless. The school may not be able to rent space in the fall either.

-We will need to renew our domain. Sonya will find out what the price is for that.

-Students will not likely be vaccinated in the fall which could also impact our ability to hold the craft sale because of public traffic and potential exposure for the kids.

-Potential to hold it outside or at the community centre. Liz and Sonya will continue to track this and send updates as needed.

**Outdoor Classroom/Budget**

-Missy has been in contact with Earthscapes. They put together a proposal for some possible options.

-Stump tables, outdoor kitchen and benches are in the proposal, to mixed reaction from the staff

-Rough estimate of the work is about $11.5K

-Outdoor classroom area was around $35K plus $6K overall for some of the design work, approvals etc.

-$37K - $51K range

-They are open to other options, but Missy got some general ideas for discussion

-What would be the priority between these 2 spaces? Maybe it becomes a multi-year plan with 2 or 3 different stages.

-Biggest priority is removal of benches in courtyard that may soon become a safety concern.

-Do we want to think about another material other than natural wood? Composite materials would likely be a good alternative to look into, but cost would likely be higher. Missy will look into it.

-Michelle would need to work with grounds to confirm if we can do the work outside during the summer. How quickly do we want to move vs. how quickly we can move?

-$16,597.77 was in the account as of Feb 12

-Do we have any legacy items to cover off? We usually set aside $ for instrument repair but that may not be needed this year.

-Naturalization area needs a good clean up, more mulch etc. so some funds would be needed for that.

-Charla and Lynn would know who the approve vendors are.

**Monday Pizza**

-Alissa talked to Napoli and they are willing to do a pizza day for the next 3 days with $2 per pizza going back to the school

-Alissa was thinking about this for Grade 8 grads so this could be a fundraiser that we could promote schoolwide and the funding could go to the Grade 8 grad funds. He will offer this in any pizza.

-The board agreed to the pizza fundraiser so Alissa will see if we can run it from May 3 – 17 (3 weeks).

-Michelle will add it to the announcements starting next week and we will promote via school day etc.

**Bylaw update**

-Michelle made 3 updates to the bylaws after our last meeting which the Council all approved. We will review the rest of the by-law updates needed in the next meeting.

**Staff Appreciation**

-Teachers really don’t need anything but they do appreciate kind words from parents. Maybe we can think about ways to do something as a community to encourage parents to give more support to parents.

-Sandi to draft a letter from the parent council to thank all staff at BPS

May 19th is the next Parent Council Meeting.