



Country Hills Parent Community Meeting

September 22, 2021

Call to Order – Bethany Leis at 6:05pm

In attendance: Bethany Leis, Keiko App, Joanna Kneale, Jennifer Boyer, Leslie McNabb, Karina Carpenter, Laura Eady, Terri Holland, Tarra Strumpf

Approval of Minutes (from June 2021) - Karina and Bethany

Approval of Agenda – Keiko and Laura

Principal's Report – Leslie McNabb

- Has been a great start up, special shout outs to teaching staff and also the office staff.
 - Office has been very busy, but Jenn is always there for everything.
 - Data verification forms coming in, has to be put in manually
- After school some children have been climbing the trees, per board legal direct supervision needs to be had with children on the school property outside of school hours.
 - Due to covid it would be best to clear off school property and not gather. However, if going to stick around, parents are asked to wait until 3:25 and a final sweep by teacher on duty to use the playground and yard. Council is asked to get the word out about this.
- Dogs on school property, dogs can react to smell/noise/numbers and become a liability. Asking that parents not bring dogs on to property, please keep to grass at the street/sidewalk which is city property. Terri brought up example of dog eating peanut butter treat and causing allergic reactions.
- Board has finalized classes; school day message went out to parents whose child is affected by any moves. Parents will also be notified tomorrow via phone call, kids and class will talk about it tomorrow. All changes will take place Monday.
- Families changing between remote and in person will be entering the school on the 29th. Out of boundary families will be notified later, probably October.
- We are not allotted a VP this year. We are at about 352 and increasing. Even some of the 500 children schools are without a VP.
- Heather Preddie is coming in soon, will be alternating days with Leslie.
- Thrilled to get to see and be with the kids. Excited to be with the staff as well.

Teacher's Report – Joanna Kneale

- Things are going smoothly, kudos to parents for making that happen.
- Kids seem to be happy and adjusting well to being back in person and seeing friends again. Office staff have been amazing during the daily screening checklist days.
- Leslie has been going above and beyond.
- Terry Fox day is this Friday, we are at about \$175 from the community, please keep encouraging donating to this.
- Link has also been tweeted out via school's account.
- Joanna has been encouraging teachers to send out weekly emails to families to include the link to donate. Alternatively, you can just go to the website and click donate, find our school listing and go through there.

Treasurer's Report –

Balance \$8,042.05 in account

Sub-Committee Reports

- WRAPC Meeting Report - they had their first meeting. Karina will find out when next one is and share that information.

New Business: Country Hills Parent Community – Member Election

Chair - Bethany proposed 5 in favour

Vice-Chair - name proposed is a staff of WRDSB, going forward without this position

Secretary - Laura proposed 5 in favour

Treasurer - Tarra proposed 6 in favour

Discussion Items

- **Spirit Wear** - Leslie will look into ordering spirit wear. Last year it was a no for students, but staff were able to. Joanna ran that last year and is willing to help with that again this year.
- **Fundraising plans for 2021-2022 school year**
 - Leslie is unsure, no food stuff. Karina still has contact with the read-a-thon rep from last year. It is a completely virtual fundraiser. Students can read in class and/or in home. Possible class prize for highest earnings, which teachers can come up with. Joanna liked the idea last year and is good to go forward, thinks teachers will support this.
 - Leslie would like us to come up with a spending plan, or what we are fundraising/saving for.
 - Bethany would like to see a visual of what we are planning, mentioned a school that sent out a planning picture of updates to playground that they were fundraising for, if someone has an eye for that. Karina mentioned grants for trees but that would require a lot of detail about what we are planning. Joanna brought up more outdoor class space, or kids to sit and hang out at

recess. Logs to sit, or maybe another gaga pit - off limits right now but was very popular pre-covid.

- Terri brought up the accessibility of the rocks, they were placed under trees and may not be as accessible as wished.
 - Leslie has experience with greening project at a former school, good idea before doing any outdoor stuff to go and monitor what kids want in a school yard. Some kids aren't as athletic, some enjoy sitting and watching others play.
 - Leslie proposed council helping pay for some activity item bags, ie frisbees and other play items. This year cohorts are able to share equipment and would appreciate equipment bags.
 - Leslie noted we may wish to reach out to board person Guy Mackie. This will cost a lot of money, so it will need to be a long process of affording 1-2 items at a time. Took 3 phases at her former school when they took this on.
 - Bethany feels phases are something parents can see happening. Leslie will reach out to Guy and see what the process looks like now.
 - Leslie brought up point that board doesn't like leaving money. We need to be clear with plan and make sure board knows what it is we are saving for and that money is earmarked for that. This information will be noted in council minutes.
- **Weeding and greening school grounds** - Tarra picked up garbage and cleaned up the kindie flower bed before school started. Property looks great.
 - **Clubs** - Bethany questioning clubs - nothing yet, Leslie added board just approved start for secondary schools but nothing for elementary as of yet. Elementary cohorts cannot be brought together, not even outdoors with mask. The Region is being cautious leading up to Thanksgiving, hopes would be if numbers are stable and still good after that then there could be a possibility of more opening up.
 - Tentative dates for future meetings: October 27, November 24
 - Bethany brought up changing our front sign, maybe a congratulations to Mrs. Lippert on retirement. Leslie asked Bethany and Karina to be sign changers, and sign can be changed to highlight orange shirt day coming up next week. Leslie will look up proper wording of sign (takes place September 30th)
 - **Motion:** To purchase class equipment bags with council funds, equipment will be used at nutrition break (soccer balls, footballs, frisbees, skipping ropes). Motioned by Karina Carpenter, seconded by Terri Holland. Leslie will get a list made and let us know how much it will cost.
 - Karina wants to know how we can get more members. Leslie proposed council making up a blurb to be shared via google classrooms. Laura proposed a picture collage with just council members photos so parents can put a face to council on school grounds. Karina added that we can also list our council email so parents can contact us.
 - Next meeting link will be sent to members who currently attend will automatically get invite
 - **Motion:** To adjourn meeting. Proposed by Bethany, seconded by Karina at 7:15pm.