

## School Council Minutes Monday October 30, 2023

### Attendance:

Lauren McDonald  
Hilory Steffan  
Christine Rogalsky  
Isabeau Glebe (teacher)  
Farida Jamal (vice-principal)  
Amy Humphries (principal)

### Regrets:

Chantal Drouin-Charters  
Antoinette Duplessis

Call to order: 18:05

Approve October Minutes and November Agenda: Passed unanimously

### Financial Summary:

- \$18513.55 in the account, but that includes money to pay for the upcoming pizza and supplies that were approved last month, and there is a \$1400 pending transaction
- Update on getting rid of the separate named accounts that don't have a documented reason for being separate
  - Would be complex to amalgamate the accounts, easier to just use them up first and then delete them off the books (can easily close out empty accounts).
  - **Action Item: have upcoming transactions come out of the named accounts so they can be closed**

### Pizza Day:

- Problem one week with the order not being properly sorted: store owner has been notified, manager was given better instructions, problem has not been repeated.

### Coat drive:

- only needs to run for ½ hour
- should be earlier but not too early – make sure that everyone has checked to see what coats can be used vs donated.
  - If we give more notice before coat swap that parents can get coats out in advance.
- Some items that were dropped off appeared to have purchased as donations, which isn't the intent, but not a big problem, and would be a challenge to avoid
- Had some worn out women's clothes dropped off, can't see good way to avoid that.
- **Action Item: Start planning for next year in June, so families can be notified in advance**

### Welcome to EZ event:

- 18 adults, 20 kids RSVP so far

- Will put out leftover coats from coat swap, anything left after that will be donated to another school that will be doing a similar event.
- Will provide coffee, tea, juice boxes at the event (fruit potentially too messy and distracting).
- **Lauren to drop juice boxes off at the school on Wednesday**  
**Hilory to pick up 2x boxes of coffee and tea from Tim Hortons morning of.**  
**Christine to attend as representative of council if parents want to meet**
- Numbers to be provided by Amy on Wednesday for refreshments
- Need to have it in the gym rather than library as the ceiling is having work done again on Thursday

#### WRAPSC meeting

- Covers secondary as well as elementary, so less relevant to us this month
- PPE is being made available to staff from the board
- Still ripple effects from COVID from disruption of care for kids
- Some parents concerned that not aware when lockdown/fire drills happening, so kids can be prepared and not worry – school by school decision as to if and how parents are told in advance

#### December Harveys Day:

- On Facebook page a lot of parents had concerns about mustard on the hamburgers – kids turned off by that
  - Could look at asking Harveys to remove mustard and give packets of mustard on the side
  - No action to be taken as numbers of complaints isn't high enough to be worth the bother of changing the mustard
  - Looking to have numbers back by Thursday Dec 7<sup>th</sup>

#### Playground access:

- Question: can parent volunteers be trained to supervise children before/after school so the playground can be used?
  - no, as this is an insurance issue, and a conflict with the extended day programme not a supervision one.
  - Yard supervision starts at 8:45, before that time parents need to be supervising anyhow.
  - Playground is currently closed for the season.

#### Vice principal/principal report:

- 5 days of giving:
  - Dec 4 through 8, messaging coming from the students who are running it not the office
  - New Mom Monday (Monica House)
  - Toonies for Tummies (Nutrition for Learning)
  - Comfy Cozy – Warm Woolen Wednesdays kickoff (Lutherwood)
  - Tidy Toiletries Thursday – (Healing of the 7 Generations)
  - Food Bank Friday
- Farm Fresh stuff came in, several people donated their boxes to the food bank

- EQAO Results: on par with the board and the province in all areas of achievement, except for Grade 3 math which is trivially lower – 56.1% at or above provincial standard, province had 59.7%, board 59.3%
  - Interface isn't ideal for getting kids to take it seriously – some expect instant feedback, very different from how they normally work
  - EQAO asks students their confidence – math is still low, may be due to the cultural belief that math is hard.
  - Math switching to English for Immersion students will make a difference as the EQAO testing is in English
- The school is struggling with students arriving late.
  - Some days have to escort 10-15 kindergarteners.
  - Varies from just barely missed the bell to half hour.
  - Interferes with with office's work.
  - Can't have parents escorting the kids because that ends up being more disruptive.
  - Only needs 19 days (10%) to be considered chronic absence.
  - May end up missing a lot of a specific subject if student is often 30 minutes late, because some subjects aren't a lot of hours
- Will be construction on Moore in the spring
- Parents need to label children's items – lost and found keeps growing
- Message on School day about smudging – someone from board & social worker has trained staff in how to support kids in smudging (staff are not to participate or do it themselves) – just sage, no tobacco, will be in the conference room in the office as is best place to do it
  - Have had parent requests for the smudging, presumably will have some students who will be able to use the kit.
  - Kids need to approach teachers, teachers can't suggest it
  - PIC symbols available to help kids request smudging if needed
- Inclement weather: families do not need to send their children in if it does not feel safe. If the school is open there will be staff, call any children who are not going in absent for attendance
- Playgrounds are closed until spring due to the weather, for insurance
- Don't have the staff to allow kids to slide on the hill at nutrition break, but staff can take classes out (need to connect with parents to discuss safety items)
- Previously purchased supplies are being helpful in classes.

Next meeting January 29

Adjourned 19:20