

Franklin Public School – Parent Council Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2012

7-8 pm New Staff Lounge

Facilitators: Heather Lee

Attendees:

Heather Lee, Janice Scherer, Cindy Martin, Wendy Hill, Jewelle Wyatt, Jenn Wilson, Sue Tomchick, Sherri Martin, Kimberly Janzen, Jamie Burton, Ebenezer Rajeevan, Carmella Gentile-Faure, Dan Enns, Jane Pritchard, Kim Laughlin, Theresa Barrick, Eva van den Brink

Welcome

Heather introduced herself and we did a round table introduction of all those present

Adoption of Minutes

Heather made a motion to accept the minutes from the May 2012 meeting and Janice seconded the motion. All members were in favour and the motion passed

Principals Comments: Jane

- 646 students registered this year. There was huge growth with 10 French Immersion classes, 11 English classes and 5 Kindergarten classes. They had to do some reorganization of the grade 1 – 3 classes on English side because of the class cap sizes. Letters went home to parents on Friday advising them of a potential impact and all parents whose child was affected by a change were called.
- There were a lot of walk in registrations which came in at the last minute this year. Some of these were even for current Franklin families. We were asked to remind parents that it is much easier to organize the classes when most new students sign up during February registration, rather than at the first day of school.
- This year is Franklin Public School's 50th Anniversary!! There is a time capsule that is set to be opened this year (from 25 years ago). It was suggested that perhaps council could set up a subcommittee to help with the celebration.
- Bill 115 passed today which has direct effect on Teachers and others. At this point, we are not sure what this will mean for our teachers in terms of extra activities, clubs, etc...Staff are still 100% dedicated to teaching our children.
- Fun events coming up:
 - Jr classes will be going to International Plowing Match;
 - Justin Hines concert on September 20th at 12:30 for grade 3 to 6. This will be inspirational for our students.

Chair's Comments: Heather

- This is a transition year for council, with Kim stepping down as secretary and Leah who is no longer at Franklin and as such not longer co-chair. We will be opening up nominations for council. Nomination forms will be sent home with students. If you cannot commit to a position on council, there are a lot of volunteer positions available
- Volunteer committees (Bulletin board by office , Zehrs Tapes- counting receipts, Ink Cartridge recycling, Newsletter – write a piece for the council for the school newsletter)
 - Janice Scherer agreed to do the sign again this year.
 - Eva will look after the Zehrs tapes but would like additional help to count them. Suggestion to look for volunteers off the forms that come back from the student mail out
 - WRAPC - Waterloo Regional Association of Parent Council. Jenn Wilson who is new to council this year, was the Chair at Howard Robertson Public School last year has volunteered to attend the WRAPC meeting on our behalf this year.
 - Jenn Wilson volunteered to write the pieces for the School newsletter. Committee will be assigned at next week.
- Family Skate Night –a volunteer is needed to book the arena
 - Wendy Hill volunteered to book the Family Skate Night which runs 5 – 6 pm on any night from the end of January to end of March. Wendy will make the call to see what is available.
- Fundraising initiatives – Last year we did the following: Elmira Poultry, Dance-a-thon, QSP – Magazine Fundraiser. We are of the mind that we should keep these in place for this year and see how they run.
 - QSP kick off assembly is set for October 1st, 2012. This provides magazines at a reduced cost from the stand price. We have run this for the last 5 years and it is consistently a good fundraiser. Last year we raised roughly \$6,000. This year QSP will introduce new rewards for children who sell 8 subscriptions – they will be invited to a frozen yogurt party. Forms for QSP fundraiser go home before Thanksgiving to take advantage of the family time to sell.
 - Dance-A-Thon - we raised \$5,200 through the dance-a-thon last year and students really seemed to enjoy it!!!
 - Our first ever Elmira Poultry sale was a success and we've been asked by many parents to do it again. We raised \$1,910 on a last minute campaign!
 - What are we fundraising for this year? – Kindie Shade, Playground mulch and sand, more i-Pads and a maintenance plan to protect this investment
 - Maintenance plan for the i-Pads .we will check with CATC (computers across the curriculum) to see what that will look like
 - We could use some more i-pads
 - Need trees for the kindie area
 - Need additional mulch for the play area

- Dan called around for some pricing on trees for shade for the tree area. The best price was from JCA Trees. Red Maples are the trees that were recommended in various sizes: 50 mm was \$374, 70mm was \$384 and 80mm is \$435 all plus tax and includes installation. We require 2 or 3 trees at the most. Jenn will ask her friend for a price (all in price). Wendy husband is a landscape architect and may have connections for mulch. Eva will look into shade structures (hard structures) to fit on the existing playground for now until the trees grow large enough to provide shade.

Treasurer's Report (copy of most recent statement appended)

- \$11,500 in the bank at the end of year. We never got charged for gym equipment. Strong Start and Classroom support did not come out of our account. We will automatically transfer the funds to the school on the amounts that were approved by council last year. We have been approved for \$1,000 grant for Math Night.
- We will have \$9,300 once those items above are taken out.
- We were advised that the Board will be purchasing 20 i-pads for all elementary schools (will be rolled out this year, there is no timing in place) the school could absolutely use more i-pads and would be a good idea for additional fundraising. Another important factor is Apple care program, other docking stations, and a document camera (roughly about \$100 each- Jane and Dan will demonstrate at the next council meeting).
- Jamie made a motion that council approve up to \$2,000 for the current greening consideration. Wendy seconded the motion and all members approved.
- Jamie made a recommendation that we table a motion for next months meeting that we set up an annual technology amount as part of our budget.

Adjourn

Next meeting October 9th , 2012

Proposed dates for Council meetings for the school year:

November 6th

January 15th

February 12th

April 9th

May 14th