

# Franklin Public School – Parent Council Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2015

7-8:30 pm Library

**Facilitators:** Mark Eys

## **Attendees:**

Mark Eys, Heather Lee, Eva van den Brink, Janice Scherer, Anessa Selcage, Paul Milne, Jenn Wilson, Carmela Gentile-Faure, Cindy Martin, Ann Wong-Lettenbauer, Pauline Tomlinson, Gwen Lloyd

## **Welcome**

- Thank you all for coming out tonight and thanks for making the change of night for tonight's meeting and the one in February.

## **Adoption of Minutes**

Errors and Omissions:

- None
- Thanks, Heather, for taking minutes at our last meeting!!!

A motion was made by Janice Scherer to accept the minutes from the meeting on November 26, 2014.

The motion was seconded by Cindy Martin.

All members were in favour and the motion passed.

## **Welcome to Cathy Dowsling, Franklin Breakfast Club**

- Mark introduced Cathy Dowsling who is visiting us from the Franklin Breakfast Club. We are hoping to get a description of what happens at the club and what they need in the way of our support
  - Cathy thanked us for the support they've already received from us and the school
  - The Breakfast Club is a group of volunteers mostly from the church – pastors, retired pastors & some grandparents
  - They receive their funding from the Nutrition for Learning program through the Board of Education
  - There are 153 schools who are involved in the Nutrition for Learning program
  - The Franklin Breakfast Club receives \$1,500.00 / school year to feed 45 – 50 students (nearly 60 prior to Christmas) per day. This includes the “breakfast to go” for some of the students who come off the bus.
  - Some really need the food, others are there because of the later bell times
  - Mark asked her to elaborate on the funding
    - \$1,500.00 only lasts approx. 3 months = \$.50/kid/day

- They have secured some financial support from the Stanley Park Optimist Club. They gave the Breakfast Club some money and are planning to give more money now (in January)
  - There is no stability on the funding as it's based on the numbers they feed
  - All money donated goes to food as the church provides everything else
  - If all goes well, they have hopes of continuing right into June as long as funding is available
- Q - What are the hours?
  - A - 8:15 – 9:05am
  - Mark thanked Cathy and asked that we keep in contact either via Paul / Dan or through the Council.

## **Principals Comments: Paul / Dan**

- Paul – Paul gave a Library report sent in from Fran – she's interested in starting up a Birthday book program that would allow students to come in and pick a book on their birthday. Books would be donated from families which would require some communication to parents....perhaps we could put it on the website? The Silver Birch reading program is starting soon, Blue Spruce program has already started for the Kindies & will start for the Primary group in March....thanks for funding the program. Fran thanked Shelly for all her work on the December Book Fair. We raised approximately \$6,388.00 Fran's "wish list" has been made and already submitted to Library Services at the Board Office.
- We had the spectacular flood of 2015. Administration estimates that approximately 50 – 60 % of the school had water on the floor. Not more than a couple of inches, though. The water reached the Library and Kindie pod and almost to the Office, but not quite. The damage was caused by a burst sprinkler system in pod 4. They were pretty fast in cleaning up. In this new era of social communication, it was amazing that we only had about 10 kids that showed up for school, not knowing the school was closed.
- SCHOOL DAY – The sign out front invites parents to join. Notes were sent home with students last week. A security code will go home with the students soon. We pay a certain amount out of our school budget to use SCHOOL DAY, so we need a good number of families to sign up and use it in order to keep it. It has lots of features including e-mail communication which is CASL compliant and an online payment feature for field trips and pizza days.
- Quick note about tobogganing – it's wonderful to see all those who are having fun, but it's become a little icy over the past week, so Paul had to shut it down for a little bit
- Parking is a problem in winter so Administration is trying to promote walking and parking on side streets
- Central business of student learning – teaching math through problem solving. There will be Teachers here all day tomorrow to network and come up with new ideas.

## **Treasurer's Report: Eva**

- Treasure books fundraiser gave us a profit of approximately \$1,600.00
- Dance-a-thon sitting at a negative right now until the money is counted
- Grant money is equal to \$1,000.00

- We've spent just over \$3,100.00 for the Forest of Reading Program, Frankie costume, breakfast club & technology upgrades
- The Bank balance at the end of Dec was \$16,335.00, including \$4,000.00 that is earmarked for the library
- QSP Fundraiser - Mrs. McLean kept the money outside of the school council so that they'd have more flexibility in spending. We will take it off our agenda for right now and maybe bring it up again in June as an idea for next year
- Parent Involvement grant - \$500.00 we need to spend it on something that involves parents engaging in their children's education.
- Parent reaching out grant - \$1,000.00 – usually used for KW Counselling Seminar & Math Night
- Indigo love of reading grant - we may qualify under our cultural language barrier
- School life fund grant
- Walmart grant - \$ is a greening grant – we'll keep it on our radar
  - **Mark is going to forward the e-mail he received with all the grants in it so that everyone can read through it.**

Q – How did the Home Reading fundraiser (Christmas stockings) go?

A – The money that was raised only went towards the book bags that were purchased. They will need more support for books in the future.

## Chair's Comments: Mark

### Discussion Topics:

- **Book Fair vote (Dec 16<sup>th</sup>; see email)**
  - Mark went through the vote that was sent out by e-mail.
  - The motion that was sent out via e-mail stated that "Mark Eys moved to allocate up to \$3,400.00 for the purchase of books for the Franklin P.S. library at the discretion of Fran Brenneman".
  - 11 people responded with a "yes" vote for \$3,400.00 for library spending
- **Keyboard vote (Jan 12<sup>th</sup>; see email)**
  - Mark went through the vote that was sent out by e-mail.
  - The motion that was sent out via e-mail stated that "a maximum of \$2,300.00 be allocated for the purchase of a Roland digital piano and stand".
  - 11 people responded with a "yes" vote for \$2,300.00 for a Roland digital piano
- **Gym Equipment requests (Paul)**
  - Dan asked Karen Morton as well as Beth Fisher (who does gym for all the Kindies) for a wish list to see where our needs are
  - Karen's list totalled \$2,300.00 in items to purchase for gym classes as well as for class recess bins
  - Beth's list totalled \$700.00 – \$800.00
  - School still has a budget for gym equipment, so if council doesn't support any of this, there would still be some equipment purchased
  - Council has a rolling budget for \$1,000.00 for gym equipment
  - We could certainly support them if they decide to go over the budget

- **Action Item:** Paul will go back to Karen & Beth to get a specific number and find out how we can support them specifically
- **Campbell's Labels – Kimberly / Jenn**
  - Kimberly will take on the whole project
  - Jenn still has 2 large boxes of labels in storage just in case we get audited
  - Mark is looking for another person to help Kimberly with this project
    - **Action Item:** Mark is going to connect with Jenn about the possibility of sending something out in the planners to remind parents of the program and to see if there are any people who work in a nursing home or restaurant to get large can labels
- **Dance-a-thon (Professor Jamz) – Anessa**
  - Pledge forms go home on Monday
  - We'll count money on Feb 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:30
  - Prof. Jamz thinks we should increase our goal....it was decided that we would increase it to \$5,000.00
  - Wording for the pledge form was discussed. It was decided that it should read that "the money collected will be used to purchase a new electronic piano and provide continued support of the arts and activities programs at Franklin"
  - Kick-off is January 26<sup>th</sup> – Prof needs a screen
    - **Action Items:** Could we please put something on the sign out front and also on the website
    - **Anessa will come in to greet Prof. Jamz**
- **Franklin Greening Program Committee update (Heather, Gwen, Cindy)**
  - Heather went to the Toyota Greening program meeting
  - Basically, it doesn't make any sense for us to do anything this year as they need to do a site survey before doing anything
  - Heather left it with them that we may have more information in late spring and they can come out to do the site survey at that time so that we can draft up some plans with them
  - We would then be in good shape for the Fall so that we could attend all 4 meetings at Toyota which is mandatory to receive the grant
    - **Action Item:** Paul is going to follow-up with the board to see what needs to be done on our end
- **WRAPSC and Steering Committee: Representative needed**
  - Jenn is still getting the e-mails, until someone steps up to start attending the meetings. She just can't attend the meetings right now.
  - She will continue to monitor those e-mails and if something is important, she'll forward that information to the Council

## **New Business:**

- Additional fundraising opportunities (Canadian Diabetes Association; Good Will, see emails)
  - Canadian Diabetes Association will give us \$2.00 per bag (67L bag) with a minimum donation of 120 bags for their "clothes line" & "in-the-bag fundraiser"

- Good Will will give us \$5 per bag (for a Blue Good Will bag) with a minimum donation of 50 bags
- EQAO surveys (received from Jenn and passed along to the council members)
  - Link on the website for the survey – if you have a minute, please take time to complete it....it doesn't take long
- Lackner Wood PS – possibility of setting up a meeting to co-ordinate funding
  - Discussion regarding what could possibly be meant by what Laurie Tremble was referring to in her e-mail
    - **Action Item: Anessa will make contact with her and get more info and then bring it to the next meeting**
- Survey for new Sex Ed curriculum was discussed at a prior meeting
  - Just an FYI – the link had expired by the time it was sent out

Q – Dreambox – letters came home in December regarding Dreambox. There was such a short period of time to do anything about it. Gwen was so excited to get the info, but then found out the offer had already expired. Is there any way to revisit it?

A – Paul will look into it.

Q – What were the thoughts regarding the French content at the Christmas concerts?

A – Paul wasn't at all the concerts, but will keep it on his radar for the next ones.

Adjourn: 8:38pm

Next meeting: February 18, 2015

\*\* Enter through front doors. The Library is to the left and down the hall.