

Franklin Public School – Parent Council Meeting Minutes

November 24, 2015

7-8:30 pm Library

Facilitators: Mark Eys

Attendees: Mark Eys, Shelley Strub, Jenn Wilson, Robyn Harrison, Anessa Selcage, Eva van den Brink, Paul Milne, Jo-Anne Soye, Hilary Toller, Ann Wong-Lettenbauer, Pauline Tomlinson, Kimberley Janzen, Monica Chopra, Jewelle Wyatt

Regrets: Katelin Pfaff, Janice Scherer, Trish Morgan, Heather Reidel, Maria Turner, Heather Lee, James VanderLaan.

Welcome

Thank you to all for coming. We have appreciated the support over the past month especially with regard to fundraising etc.

Adoption of Minutes

Errors & Omissions:

- none

MOTION: A motion was made by Anessa Selcage to accept the minutes from the meeting on October 27, 2015.

The motion was seconded by Eva van den Brink

The motion passed

Adoption of Agenda

Guest: Shelley Strub re: Book Fair

The Book Fair Dec 2, 3, and 4th...there are already 13 volunteers.

Discussion – for proceeds of the fair – how do we wish to utilize the funds raised?

Through merchandise, cash or a combination of both. If the choice is the combination of both, Fran Brenneman, wishes to get a few things for her celebration books.

Merchandise is preferable because the amount is generally higher and books can be difficult to get catalogued. Left with understanding that generally combination is best, but Eva will follow up with Fran.

Principal's Comments: Paul / Jo-Anne

- There have been some staffing changes:
 - Jillian Burkhardt has gone on mat leave and her replacement is Neil Callaghan.

- Jo-Anne Soye is leaving as temporary VP. Penny Miller is returning from her leave. The council would like to acknowledge that Jo-Anne has been exceptionally helpful, the kids have loved you, and you'll definitely be missed.
- 2nd secretary – Jackie – is leaving to go to secondary school position – her last day is this Friday. Her replacement, Sue Liking, is coming from Steckle in Waterloo.
- We are currently looking for a French Teacher – Sharan Widsten has begun her mat leave
- Data projectors – the school is going ahead with data projectors in the classrooms. There is electrical and networking work to be done, meaning that children will have to be out, and likely in the library, during this time. Expected completion is before Christmas. Some classrooms are also receiving smart boards.
- Progress reports. Several groups within the school board system lack provincial agreements still which is affecting the progress report fulfillment. Once this is solved, progress reports will be sent
- There is a tentative provincial agreement with teachers. The local agreement for Waterloo is still being bargained locally – dates for these talks are slated for December
- The ECEs still do not have a contract, and negotiations are ongoing centrally.
- The EAs were without a tentative agreement, however, their union group has reached tentative agreement
- The WRDSB website does have a link to see where labour negotiations are at.
- Remembrance Day assembly went very well. A few veterans were invited and the children were fabulous in their appreciation for the event. The children also made wreaths (from a variety of materials) and gave to vets and they are displayed at Sunnyside. One veteran in attendance turned 90 on the assembly day. The Remembrance Day pictures in the hallways were very nicely displayed.
- Kindergarten stage for the outdoor space. We don't have an actual quote yet, however, it's expected to be about \$5 to \$6K. The school will go ahead and OK this purchase in anticipation that the school council will retroactively support it. Design of stage is unique. It's built around a tree, with room for growth, with log seats and stump stools. There is a grant with TD Friends of the Environment of which \$2800 is allocated to the stage. School is positioned to handle the cost regardless. (Note - Mark – evergreen grant – putting in another application in this week...only for trees...not for the kindergarten area - \$3000).
- Friday – first PA day – talked about learning goals and school improvement planning – board improvement website – focus this year isn't really changing but now we are focusing on learning goals and how do we use for descriptive feedback...overall goal from board hasn't changed...problem solve wording is new – take a look at the site – lots of “links”
- Poinsettias – nutrition for learning – sales were great!

- Question regarding parking for Paul – at the church. Seems that some of the space is causing some confusion/trouble for both parents/church users. Paul will look into gaining some further access to additional parking spots. Discussion also touched on the buses...and several are arriving 10/15 minutes late. We only have 15 minutes of Teacher supervision. If we have concerns re: buses and their schedule, there is no problem calling transportation services.

Treasurer's Report: Eva

- Same as last month
- No activities or monies in / expenses out...
- \$1,900.00 in the account to use at this point
- \$5,100 in reserve for ongoing commitments
- Anticipated profit for QSP is \$3000

Chair's Comments: Mark

Discussion Topics:

- **Fundraising Targets**
 - **Dance a thon**
 - March 3 2016 – Thursday, Kick off is Feb 18 at 1:20 pm
 - Need to set the financial target for this fundraiser
 - Thoughts?
 - Kindergarten area...
 - Home Reading program
 - Older grades – have in class library...
 - White board material
 - Coin club
 - Book fair – classroom libraries...if holding back books – would like this to go there...
 - Greening area – outside the library...
 - Buddy bench
 - Question – if you don't donate – can you still dance
Answer – absolutely! Will try and clarify this wording.
 - Finger beams discussion
 - MOTION: Robyn Harrison made a motion to purchase Finger Beams for up to \$300.
The motion was seconded by Jenn Wilson
Motion passed.

- MOTION: Eva van den Brink made a motion to give \$1200 to home reading. The motion was seconded by Jewelle Wyatt
Motion passed.
- MOTION: Kimberley Janzen made a motion to give \$300 to the coin club. The motion was seconded by Robyn Harrison
Motion passed
- Grants are coming, but discussion was that things were MUCH more expensive than planned. There is a concern that the money needed to spend “next year” will be even greater. (Could range from \$2K to \$9K maximum). Do we need to add something different to our fundraising? Something that might stimulate different needs/wants etc.
 - For greening - what the remaining items needed in the fall / spring – greening committee – what can we with different things...or maybe
- Collect ideas for alternative fundraising and we’ll discuss in January.
- **Potential Speakers**
 - Discussion regarding Binary Tattoo, CMV (Chris Vollum) and Susan Watt – they both speak to parents / children regarding social media
 - Binary Tattoo is approximately \$1000
 - Susan Watt \$300
 - CMV \$920ish
 - Susan Watt – actually taught at Franklin for IT. She is very familiar with what is being taught and would be able to tailor her presentation. She talks about what to be aware of and will show you how to stay on top of it – that is how to evaluate and to know what is safe or not, so when something new comes we have tools. She just speaks with the parents – not to the children directly. Parent reaching out grant could cover this. Perhaps then Trish Morgan could do something for the kids?
 - Should show us what kids are using – positives and dangers and what we need as parents
 - Discussion was that January/February would be good timing as many children will get electronics at Christmas
 - If we offered some “child care supervision”...grade 6 volunteers to help?
- **Franklin Greening Program (Gwen, Heather L., Jenn, Robyn, Heather R., Katelin)**
 - Jenn to connect with Krista re sessions...
 - Stage from Principals comments above.
 - Grants – see information above re grants.
- **Public Tennis courts (Mark)**
 - Anessa sent a letter personally
 - School Council sent a letter

- Lots of actions afterwards, with Dave Schnider, local councilman
 - Overall – the tennis courts are very expensive to fix – about \$80K to 90K and there are 3 in the city that need this overall. Budget for this year is \$63K per year for the entire city.
 - Tricky point – the border between school and city – runs right through the tennis court...they have filled the pot holes but it's is still a shamble – likely to be ongoing....we'll be the pebble in the shoe 😊
 - Need to raise taxes 100% in order to deal with infrastructure...
- **Family Night sub-committee (Anessa, Eva, Gwen, Ann)**
 - Movie night is the event of choice!
 - Thursday January 28 2016. (Friday is a PD day).
 - Movie TBD and times TBD
 - Jo-Anne will need to check with the school and the calendar of events
 - Looking for volunteers
 - Look to local businesses for donations...
 - Activities at Movie Night: painting, popcorn sales...
 - General budget – under \$500 – should be already covered.
 - **Campbell's Labels (Kimberley)**
 - Labels don't expire
 - Going to place an order...
 - Would appreciate any feedback from the teachers on the quality of the equipment
 - Gwen to send email to Jo-Anne / Paul to send info home to new students – e.g. JK/SK.

New Business:

- Fran is bringing in a group – for “comicing” with the kids – great fun – no cost – they have comics that they sell – but we won't promote

Adjourn:

Next meeting:

There is no meeting in December.

Next meeting is Tuesday January 12th

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

Dates for speaker – 11th or 18th of February ...7 pm in the evening – Jo-Anne to give her option and to follow up re potential liability issue for child minding...

Adjourned 8:47 pm