

Parent Council October 9 2019

Commence at 6:30pm

Attendance at meeting: Farzana Chansisay, mark Martinell, Gregorio Garcia Ventura, Said Elmansori, Nasir Mehmood, Arpita Shah, Sakshi Sharma, Nour Abdulmajid, Sara Styan, Cinnamon Abdallah, Lola Shnayder Mazour, Ashley snow, Ashley Atcheson, Taryn Martin, Lalita Premasukh, Elaine Atcheson, Karen Madsen, Angela Szijarto, Shonna Giles, Julie Breen, Sangita Bijukuchhay, Jess Peer

Janet Metcalfe Library:

- 1) Welcome from Chair, (Lalita), Introduction of the very large and wonderful members of council. *Attendance was taken, see above*
- 2) Janet Hale(Principal) read the rules and regulations of parent council :
- 3) Janet Hale went through the list of members asking who would like to be a voting member of council.(see list)
- 4) Start Strong: Farzana asked for volunteers to help run a program where children reach their potential in reading. Volunteers go to 2 days of training. We need volunteers for 1 or 2 days a week (half hour - 2 hours) for 10 weeks. You work one on one with a child in kindergarten and/or grade 1. This would be for the winter/spring as training has happened for the fall. Please contact Farzana (Parent volunteer) or Diane Timmings (staff member) if you can help.
- 5) Fundraising update: ( Jess Peer )Gift card information went home this week  
Popcorn coming soon.  
Fun Fair in May: Games, Rides, face painting, fun night will need volunteers. Council will come up with a theme ...something about the world being represented here.  
Book Fair: would like to plan 2. Maybe next year. Would like to tie it in to another event that brings people into the school. Parent interviews is a great time to do that.  
December concert is Primary and April concert is for Junior / Intermediate Wed April 22 and evening 23. Start the bookfair the week before and end the evening of April 23.Start April 16 preview.  
Last year we did dance-a-thon, not doing that this year. Council asked what the school would like: Money for Home Reading. Lillita has asked the local builder if they would contribute money towards home reading.
- 6) Graduation:(Janet Hale) **Wed. June 24th**. We will ask for volunteers. Nour's family will put up a screen up for pictures of the graduates.
- 7) Safe Caring and Inclusive schools.(Anglea Szijarto SERT) Staff and students sit on this committee. Water bottles were sold to raise money to have a speaker in for Anti-bullying week. The students are brainstorming more ideas for anti-bullying.
- 8) ESL - (Shonna Giles ESL teacher) explained the 2 types of support at the elementary level, classroom support and tutorial, small group support. High school ESL (Forest Heights School) support is a 5 level process with the intention of a student being fully immersed by grade 12 to enter academic college and university level courses. Teachers

have asked for community members to come, lunch and learn sessions to educate the staff on their culture and traditions. (2 pamphlets handed out. Trying to find on line but printed copy will be provided)

- 9) Teacher update:(Julie Breen- kindergarten teacher)  
Sports: Soccer just finished, volleyball to start soon  
Terry Fox all out running around the field  
Field trips eg. Butterfly,  
HERO GEM Just finished Hope: Gratitude is our next one : Socktober- give back.  
Collecting socks for homeless shelters  
Sara Westbrook Resilience assembly  
Home Reading has started.  
Flags of all countries of where students were born  
Eric Walters is coming in April 24  
Photo day (and a fire drill) today, Oct 9/19  
Humane Society first week of Oct.  
Twitter account
- 10) Our first goal will be Home Reading. Home reading will cost about \$8,000 more. We are fundraising and applying for grants.A write-up will be sent home so each family will know this and what the fundraising goal is. A visual will be made to show our progress. Another idea is to have a used book sale to raise money and left over books can be donated to the school. Last year we spent about \$3,000. It paid for 3 different speakers. \$1800 and \$2100 to classroom wishlist. There is about \$2,000 left over. The treasurer not in attendance to report. A bit of a disconnect between the change over of council. Going forward the council would like open and shared communication. Google Doc is platform suggested.
- 11) Next meeting - Connections for learning: How are we spreading the money -needs to be equitable. It would be an application put forward by teachers and voted by parent council.
- 12) EQAO data: (Karen Madsen VP) It is based on one year. It is our base-line. The data is only the students who went to Janet Metcalfe last year in grade 3 and 6, it does not include the Jean Steckle grade 7's.  
Math is our focus. Staff is currently creating our goals for improvement. *WIN - What I Need* is a gap closing strategy we are implementing. Teachers are giving small group instruction to help students with what they need to succeed.
- 13) Question about Enrichment: Support :( Angela Szijarto - SERT) *Enrichment Referral Process explained*
- 14) Principals Report: (Janet Hale) Halloween: Last year we played it safe by being low key. For this year the community has asked that the children be allowed to wear costumes, Children can choose to wear black and orange or not to wear a costume. There may be an Intermediate dance.

We have 5 student teachers, from Wilfrid Laurier University every Tuesday and Wednesday for the year plus they will be here for a few weeks to complete their placement throughout the year.

Drills: 5 Mandatory drills

Voting Day. Our gym will used Oct 21 As a voting poll station

High school information days and evening. Watch School Day and web-site.

15) Other business: All are happy!! Suggestion box in office.

Adjourned: 8:00pm