**KCI Parent Council Meeting**

**Monday, January 20, 2020 7:00 PM**

**KCI Library**

Present:

|  |  |  |
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| Cathy Vollmer-Ashley *Principal* | Richard Reive- *Teacher Rep* | Jennifer Fairhill- *VP* |
| Dennis Haid- *VP* | Jane Schultz-Jansen-*Guidance* | Cindy Kenning- *Guidance* |
| Nick Biffis- *Guidance* | Tracy Jackson- Co-*Chair* | Cindy Desbiens- *Co-Chair* |
| Melissa Jichici- *Secretary* | Charlie Reist- *Co-Premier* | Olivia Sargla- *Co-Premier* |
| Vivian Fuchs | Alysse Hastie | Dwight Aplevich |
| Angelica Allen | Cher Mamuza | Ingrid Bachmann |
| Diane Harnock | Margaret Walton-Roberts | Marnie Gerster |
| Pamela Mulloy | Vanessa Huard | Judy Zielke |
| Martina Belanger | Jennifer Fournier | Catherine and Murray McKay |
| Rosalie Griffett | Brenda Bissell | Lisa Keeping |
| Barb Schlosser Hill | Laura Charteris | Christine Carmody- Regrets |

1. Update from Co-Premiers – Olivia Sargla & Charlie Reist
   * Raiders of December: Michelle (Raidy Bunch) & Ella (put up chairs daily)
   * Movember raised over $1800 through sales of popcorn, smoothies, etc.
     + Mr. Roberts raised the most
   * Community Dinner
     + Student-run volunteer dinner
     + Student Musicians performed
     + Prizes and goody bags for each person
   * Share the Warmth Campaign Dec. 2-19
     + Collected mitts, hats, money
     + Donated to House of Friendship over $720 as well as hats and mitts
   * Winter Classic - new this year
     + KCI vs. Bluevale Girls’ hockey
     + Spirit Day (Red, Yellow Black)
   * Stress relief week
     + Every day there is a de-stress activity
       1. Colour in the caf & Fuzzy Sock Day (today)
       2. Free hugs with Rodney, photos (Tuesday)
       3. Bubble Wrap squares hidden around the school to pop (Wednesday)
       4. Thursday Sweats and Slippers Day
       5. Friday is 1st day of Semester 1 exams- EXAMS RUN Jan 24-30, 2020
          1. All begin at 9:00 am
   * KCI Alumni, John Bennett who played basketball for KCI, then co-coached at KCI, and is now Coordinator of Player Development for the Raptors, brought in the Raptors trophy and championship ring for students to see, and had the opportunity to have their photo taken with the trophy

II. Course Selection - Guidance (Nick Biffis, Jane Schultz-Jansen and Cindy Kenning)

* How to select courses for next year:
  + During MSIP Feb. 12-21, each grade (beginning with grade 9’s) meets with the guidance counselors in the caf to go over the general process and have any questions answered
  + Students bring home info to discuss before coming back to school with the courses selected
    - see the My Way link on KCI’s homepage; login with students PAL password to make course selection/changes online
    - Be sure to **SAVE** with every course selected
  + Course Selection Parental Consent Form will be sent home with your child the same day as the cafeteria MSIP selection process where changes can (and should) be made on paper, if necessary
* Which courses to select:
  + Credit Counselling Summary page will also be coming home with your child showing all the courses completed (with grades), and which courses are still required to graduate; notes from guidance counselors can also be found on this page
  + Course Calendar will be coming home with your child as well (link can also be found on the KCI Guidance website)
  + Changes can be made on My Way until Feb. 26th
  + Check Guidance Google Classroom in May for information re: summer courses/programs, including co-op
  + When applying to university, students will receive a PIN to apply online (students who have taken a gap year will apply through a part of the website that does not require a PIN)
  + College has a similar online application process
  + Students (even after a gap year) are welcome to the KCI Guidance Office for additional support/information for applying to post-secondary
* If there are problems:
  + See guidance counselors for any changes after Feb. 26th
    - Students should fill in a pink slip to make an appointment
    - Appointments can be held during MSIP, during lunch, after school, or during a spare
    - Simple questions can also be sent via email
    - Students are encouraged to follow the “Guidance Google Classroom” (Junior/Senior) for updates and information
    - Changes will only be made with parental consent/approval
* See the parent site to view the slideshow that was presented tonight
* The Guidance Office provides many additional supports including mental health, time management, goal setting, study strategy, post-secondary planning supports and more.
* Feel free to email the guidance office for any additional information

III. EQAO Math & OSSLT Results - Dennis Haid (VP) and Jen Fairhall (VP)

* No EQAO math results this year will be a part of the Grade 9 math grades
* Typically done over 2 days, 2 80-minute periods
* Goal for WRDSB: to increase the percentage of students achieving the provincial standard by 8%
* Over the last several years, KCI has achieved the same or better than the WRDSB/province results
* KCI is working to help more students achieve success
  + Absenteeism is one of the contributing factors preventing higher achievement rates
* OSSLT runs on the same date across the province
* Measures whether students are meeting the minimum standard for literacy across all subjects up to the end of Grade 9
  + Must have completed Grade 9 English credit to write the Literacy test
  + OSSLT success is required to graduate
  + March 31, 2020 this year
  + Alternate school day schedule
    - Students sorted by name, locations announced the morning of the test (at 8:10 am)
    - No school for students not taking the test; The entire staff is involved in the literacy test (supervising, etc.)
  + Extra 15 minutes is available for all students, if needed; up to double time for accommodated students
  + Breaks are scheduled between 75 minutes + 15 minutes of testing (2 booklets/testing times)
  + Other accommodations for students with an IEP are available:
    - Google Read and Write
    - Small group setting
    - Scribing
    - Large print booklets
    - Computer support (assistive technology)
  + Accommodations available without an IEP:
    - Headphones (with or without calming music/white noise)
    - Teacher directed prompts for students with severe attention problems
    - Setting (preferential seating/individual or small group settings)
  + Success results are on par or slightly better than the board/province, including the Fast Forward students who come into Grade 9 typically at a Grade 4-6 Literacy level
  + We have a lower deferral rate than the board and the province, but slightly higher non-success rate for previously eligible students (those who have already taken the OSSLT and did not succeed)
  + Those who have been unsuccessful twice are recommended to a specialized literacy course; students successful in the course would gain a Grade 12 English credit and would no longer need to retake the test

IV. WRAPSC Report - Angelica Allen

* Explore Your Future Career Fair, April 8th 4:30-8 pm @ Bingemans’
  + Free
  + Recommended for students grade 8-10
* Centre in the Square
  + Free presentations available for students by musicians
* Barbara Ward, Mental Health Specialist for WRDSB seeking input re: Human Trafficking, Cannabis & Vaping, Mental Health curriculum being planned
  + - WRDSB is lookng to have this material implemented in the curriculum
    - Our council recommended providing the Human Trafficking material to younger students (10-15 years of age)
    - Vaping/smoking: Seems to be occurring in the washrooms and change rooms at KCI; CVA suggests we already have many resources for Health/Phys Ed classes but students only require one credit of Health/Phys Ed
    - Consequences are given when students are caught
      * some random checks done;
      * custodians will report anything they see;
      * teachers are using the students washrooms to deter vaping there
    - Our recommendation:
      * The younger the information is provided (what is in vaping, why it is problematic), the better
      * Students and guest speakers speaking out (e.g., telling about negative experiences) could be more meaningful
      * Suggestion to have the researchers ask students at various ages to determine what students are actually exposed to and when
    - Please send any additional comments or suggestions to Angelica Allen

V. Other Business

* Increase in Recycling bins on each floor
  + Student input is needed to determine where they would be best placed

VI. Principal’s Report

* On-going construction will continue:
  + Windows replaced 2nd floor at the front of the school and the entire West side of the school
  + Commitment to work around the “inside of the E” of the school with windows and blinds
  + All stairwells will be painted this summer
* Labour Dispute
  + No talks in the works; stay informed - we must be careful to ensure the best for our children
* CVA officially announces her retirement
  + CVA has enjoyed her time at KCI, the staff, the parent community, and especially the students
  + CVA is looking forward to retirement and this new part of her life journey
    - We celebrate CVA, her contributions, and wish her only the best in her retirement
  + New principal to be determined tonight, announced tomorrow

Meeting closed at 8:37 pm

Next meeting: February 24, 2020 re: trade programs