**KCI Parent Council Meeting**

**Monday, February 24, 2020 7:00 PM**

**KCI Library**

***Present: Dennis Haid, Cindy Desbiens, Tracy Jackson, Vivian Fuchs, Dwight Aplevich, Angelica Allen, Melissa Jichici, Martina Belanger, Ingrid Bachmann, Richard Reive, Cher Mamuza, Christine Carmody, Pamela Mulloy- regreta- Melanie Wawryk***

1. Welcome & Congratulations to new principal, Dennis Haid
2. Farm to Cafeteria Grant - Joel Kreutzkamp & Alex Sieling
* Requesting approval for a grant to supply a salad bar in our cafeteria, with foods supplied by local farmers and by our KCI Green House
	+ List of local vendors includes Oak Manor Farms, Hacienda Sarria Market Garden, Elmira’s Own
* Grant is $10,000; would be used for equipment and other start-up costs
* Business plan is based on the smoothie bar that is currently offered in the caf
* Goal: run 2x/wk, beginning with 1x/mo
* It will be student-run, an effort to reduce our carbon-footprint, and care for and sustain our environment
* Reminder: all profit from smoothie bar goes to Nutrition for Learning (at KCI)
* Protein would be offered (mostly vegetarian, such as beans, grains, eggs; and/or meat options possibly; cheese is an expensive option but being considered)
* Approval has been received from Waterloo Region Public Health & Safety for our kitchen space
* Local chefs and nutritionist will be invited in to speak and mentor the students
* Contributes to our curriculum in Family Studies, Green Trade and Hospitality & Culinary Services
* Looking into the best choice for container, such as compostable containers
* Plan to provide the salad bar on days where the leftovers could be provided to Nutrition for Learning the following day, and not wasted
* Goal is for the Salad Bar to be completely self-sustaining by the time the grant funding runs out
* Cost of salad: $3 for small, $5 for large base salad, +$2 for meat
* Want to include preserving methods, such as pickling, canning
* Will continue to consult with students and use feedback for revising/updating the menu options
* Budget will be closely monitored with teacher experience
* Stamp card: Buy 5 salads/smoothies, Get 1 salad/smoothie free, which can be purchased by students, and which can be given free to students in need
* Coolness Factor of salads was addressed, agreement appears to be for salads as vegetarianism becoming popular
* Letter needs to be sent in by mid-March to show approval and support by Parent Council
* Cindy has offered to write the letter
1. Update from Co-Premier – Olivia Sargla
* Coffee House, this Wednesday 6-8pm @KCI Aud.
	+ Tickets $2
	+ KCI performers (instrumentalists, vocalists) have been rehearsing, auditioned
	+ 10 performers selected, including “The Red Output" band
	+ Free drinks (e.g., coffee)
* Horizons Leadership Conference @ SJAM last Thursday
	+ Gr. 9 and 10 students
	+ Raidy Bunch is KCI’s Jr Leadership initiative
* Valentine's Day
	+ Decorated the caf
	+ Karaoke competition and popcorn at lunch
	+ Card-making stations
* Carnation Sales $1.50/each
	+ Money fundraised for St. Mary’s Cardiac Centre
	+ Organized by Bluevale Collegiate
	+ KCI sold approximately 200 carnations
* Athletes of the Month: Jonah Struyck (basketball), Addison Mahoney (volleyball)
* Raiders of the Month: Peter Andrews (drama, Raidy Bunch, etc), Miranda Veroba (Head of DECA)
* Black History Month
	+ Sold Jamaican Patties - Very successful
	+ African Carnival in Front Foyer
* WRDSB Leadership Dance at Huron Heights March 5th, 6-8pm
	+ For current Leadership course students and the Raidy Bunch
	+ Informal, dress in KCI colours
* Congratulations to Olivia Sargla for her scholarship to University of Guelph

IV. Skill Trades, Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program - David Pope, OYAP coordinator for WRDSB

* Mr. Pope spoke to us about Apprenticeships and his role as coordinator
* Apprenticeship combines hands-on with in-class learning
	+ 10% of your time in school, 90% of your time on the job training
* 144 apprenticeable trades in Ontario
* Skills-related events in the community promote trades and provide students with an awareness of different trades and hands-on experiences
	+ attempting to promote trades to women where they are under-represented, such as with *Build A Dream, Jill of All Trades (*Conestoga College)and *TNT* days
	+ promoting to Indigenous Youth (e.g., at *WRDSB PowWow*)
	+ Skills Ontario Competitions
	+ Skills Ontario Presentations for elementary (gr. 7&8) and secondary schools
* WRDSB Specialty Skilled Trades Programs: a few students are selected for Electrical training and are hired to work for the summer
* Jacob Hespeler has a Home Build program: students and teacher build a house from the blueprints; students can be accepted from other schools
* Several new programs in the works
	+ Liuna construction (framer) apprenticeship program
	+ SOY (plumbers and electricians) hire and supply work to non-unionized worksites
	+ Ontario Masonry Program and Pipe Fitters Union looking to begin apprenticeships with secondary students
* All pathways (e.g., apprenticeship, college, university, workforce) are valid, students should be encouraged to choose the path that is best for them
* **To participate in OYAP program:**
	+ Must be in co-op
	+ Must have 16+ credits
	+ Must be 16+ years old
	+ Must be enrolled in school full-time
* OYAP Benefits:
	+ Can try out a “restricted” job legally
	+ Start an apprenticeship while in high school
	+ Free safety equipment and training (e.g., Working at Heights Training)
	+ Preferential treatment in college (started college education earlier)
	+ Head-start to your career
	+ May find your future employer
	+ May be paid while on co-op
	+ Tax credits available for employers as an incentive to take on an apprentice
* Be aware: some government changes planned (e.g., changes to names of the Ministries), mostly for the best
* Trade shortage expected to reach 12 million by 2025, and so government is promoting skilled trades as well
* Conestoga College has their Open House March 7th

V. WRAPSC Report (see attachment to minutes) - Christine Carmody

* Greg Weiler (ETFO) and Rob Gascho (OSSTF) spoke on behalf of the teacher unions, the contract negotiations and the strikes
* Michael Weinert (Coordinating Superintendent) answered questions from the WRDSB perspective
* Barbara Ward (Mental Health Lead)
	+ Consensus amongst parents to begin curriculum earlier (e.g., Grade 6) re: dangers of vaping, sex trafficking
* Explore Your Future Career Expo April 8th @ Bingemans

VI. PIC-Grant Initiative: Ripple Tree - Parent Presentation March 5, 2020

* Our grant has been approved
* See details on School-Day, Eventbrite
* Student presentation March 11, 11:30am-1:30pm
	+ 25 grade 10 and 11 students will be included
* Info will be provided to feeder schools to invite future KCI parents
* PRO-Grant has been approved
	+ will be used towards KW Counselling
	+ Parent-info session planned for April/May

VI. Principal’s Report - Dennis Haid

* Black History Month in February
	+ African Heritage Club
	+ Displays in front foyer of famous black people
	+ Promoted on Google Classroom
	+ Visit from member of the Board to the African Heritage Club
	+ Fri. Feb 7th Beating the Odds Conference
		- Celebrating African heritage
	+ Selling of Jamaican patties
	+ Feb. 27th Guest Speaker: Aminka Belvitt founder of Wofemtech
		- Motivation in innovation, pride in heritage and as a woman
	+ Mar. 5th showing the film “Hidden Figures”
	+ Teachers, Miss Pinnock and Mr. Ashley, just returned from a university-sponsored trip to Ghana, Africa
* Smooth 2nd semester start-up with Denise Graves as new Office Manager, and new Principal, new VP (Tim Gilmore) until March Break
* Course Selection has begun
	+ Clean-up/catch-up today until Feb. 26th
	+ Enrollment projections will be used to plan classes for next year
	+ Growing numbers of students; portables may be needed for next year
* Labour Update
	+ See KCI website (upper left) for on-going updates, and “Week at a Glance”
	+ Stressful for everyone, both sides
	+ Everyone is trying to do the best for the students

VII. Other Business

* Christine has offered to write another letter to Minister Lecce; we voted to accept her offer

Meeting closed at 8:34pm

Next meeting: April 27, 2020 - Green Industries with Mike Jones