

Minutes for Millen Woods Public School Parent Council Meeting November 15, 2017

7pm Start

- Attendance sheet signed
- Review and approval of agenda - Approved by Richia, seconded by Jill
- Review and approval of October minutes - Approved by Ashley, seconded by Dan

Administration Report (Trish)

- EQAO results were reviewed, a package was provided for discussion purposes. A reminder that this is one piece of data tested over 4 days, and other data is also used for evaluation purposes. This package is available to parents upon request at the office
 - The school is able to drill down into the data provided in many ways, which enables the school to identify to the student level those who are struggling, and provide help and next steps to those students.
 - Overall, Millen Woods does well on the results compared to the board level and province level results
 - The data can also be sorted for trends, the school can review how students performed 4 years ago in Grade 3, and how those exact students performed in Grade 6 (making for an apples to apples comparison on that group of children). Looking through this data
 - 83% of the children met the standards for reading, 83% writing, 64% mathematics
 - In both reading and writing, there was a trend of improvement in percentages those who didn't meet the standard in grade 3 did meet it in grade 6. In Mathematics, it was the opposite
 - we are seeing a gap at the grade 3 level of males in all 3 areas compared to females in the past few years
 - Millen Woods will continue to focus on mathematics improvements. To that end:
 - Trish would like to hold a math night for the students to show the parents what they are doing in math, and how strategies have changed
 - Kristin Philips from the board does a TED talk in math that Trish recommends
 - Stephanie Ringwood is coming back in to review how math is taught in Mme Cadieux's class
 - French math teachers are coming together to make sure that we are using common language in all the grades/classes, and stacking the learning between the teachers/grades appropriately
 - looking at the tech club and coding as a method of encouraging math
 - EQAO is also reviewing the way in which they do the testing in the future (perhaps more electronic and interactive)
 - Rozy asked how many opted out of the EQAO testing - 4 opted out in grade 3, 6 opted out in grade 6.

- question by Andrea if there was data available on mathematics statistics French immersion vs. English (not part of the report, but the school can drill in the data and review)
- Renee asked if there was data on transitioning grade 6s from having math in French to grades 7s having it in English. Trish responded that the board made that decision based on results it had seen on decreased math scores in French immersion students compared to English between grades 7 and 9. It is a fairly recent switch
- The school received data from the safe/inclusive schools survey, and will be reviewing as a staff
 - At this time, we've not had any children answer that they've cyber bullied anyone, or ever been cyber bullied
 - Compass crew working on bullying awareness week next week,
 - Monday Scott Graham is coming in for a 45 minute presentation with the junior grades, then with the senior grades (he'll discuss useful strategies to deal with bullying); we need to discuss what different types of bullying are, and discuss it now so it can be carried forward as our children grow
 - wear pink day is coming up, details to follow
 - Sarah Westbrook will be coming in Feb to speak on bullying, and will offer a parents session as well
- The week of giving is coming in December (Munchkin Monday, Toiletry Tuesday, Wooly Wednesday, Toy Thursday, Food bank Friday)

Tech club (Trish)

- Mme Daniels, Ms Chapelle, Mr Bezos, Ms Webber have someone come in to discuss coding (Google offers workshops for teachers in Scratch)
 - Rob Daily (ex principal) creating their own games using coding, and then trying out each others games. He'll come in 4 times this year (grade 4/5)
 - Tech club (grades 4/5/6) created a slide show of Spheros in action, to be reviewed

Finance Report (Rozy)

- only change was a deposit for JungleSport

Dance-a-thon (Amy) - date Jan 25th

- Cover letter contents and timing discussed - we will raise money for Breakfast for Learning at Wilson Ave P. S. and the playground (voted and approved)
 - Amy discussed Wilson Ave public school breakfast program as our donation to another school - they provide 30 students (breakfasts), also have bins in all 23 classrooms for snacks, 300 students access the snack bins. 40 languages spoken, and they welcomed 110 refugees to the school last year.
- Envelopes will be handed out Dec 13th with a reminder in January (voted and approved)
- could we do Dance-a-thon donations online somehow? (Amy to discuss with Trish and confirm)

Fundscrip (Renee)

- Forms will be returned next week
- Volunteers needed for sorting on Monday the 27th of Nov - Jill, Sarah, Ashley, Rozy, Susan, Renee and Trish volunteered
- The order will be submitted to Fundscrip Dec 6th, for a potential pick up date of Dec 11

Movie Night (Dan)

- Date discussed, it will be a Thursday before a PD Day in April
- follow up discussion to occur in the new year

December evening social event (Richia)

- The social will be held on Dec 13th - Carolling and other events
- ideas chosen were popcorn, cookie decorating, hot chocolate, coffee
- email will go out shortly for volunteers, and confirming activities

Playground (Richia and Sarah)

- Richia, Dan and Sarah presented 6 options from a few different vendors
- Concerns raised on whether a few of the concepts could fit, and concern raised on the max budget
- Decision to have Trish take the concepts to the interim Rob Seely to review size of the larger options and confirm they will fit (not interfere with portable reserve space and drainage), and to have Trish confirm the max loan amount prior to voting on the options to ensure they are all viable
- Decision to wait and have the parent vote night a separate event in January instead of part of the December social event
- Sandra proposed a group to fundraise to local businesses

Adjournment at 9:15- Next meeting is January 17, 2018