**Moffat Creek P.S. School Council Meeting Minutes**

**DATE: \_\_Tuesday, February 6, 2018**

**In Attendance:** Sue VanWyngaarden, Jocelyn Seeley-Baechler, Jill Kalmacoff, Lidiya Ryndya, Amy, Becca Hardy, Amy Fraser, Allan MacKay

**Regrets:** Courtney Didier, Shannon Schmidt, Tracy McGrath, Sheri Green

**Teacher Report (Christine Roth):**

-intermediate girls and boys basketball is ongoing

-Carnaval week – building blocks for ice palace, crepe day, Friday events for all students – intermediates are volunteers, juniors and primaries and kindies are rotating out at different times – hot chocolate on Friday – snowshoe sign up that day too

-ski club starts tonight (Feb. 6) – every 2 weeks – grades 6-8

-Olympics excitement – spirit day on Friday, wear red and white Canada clothing

-Silver Birch and Blue Spruce reading programs have started

-Many other clubs are underway, including Pals, Slam, intermediate coding, Math, Me to We, choir, GSA club, Knitting for grades 5 and 6, Drama, Eco, Recycling, Intermediate math tutoring, Game board club, Beyblade; Chess club starting soon

-candy grams – lollipops on sale until Feb. 13th; delivered on 14th – proceeds to grade 8 trip

-out of Council’s compassion fund every student will be ensured a candy gram; council will fund (at cost)

- Grade 8s are also thinking about other forms of fundraising, including popcorn days and possibly FundScript

-primary home reading books have been purchased (mostly for levels 25 and over)

-Spread the Net – run by grade 8 girls – finished for now, may start again later

**Community Report (Barb Hewitson, YMCA):** no community report tonight from the Y

**Community Report (Courtney Didier – ANCC):** no community report tonight from ANCC

**Treasurer Report (Becca/Sue):** not much to report – at the time of the meeting, all budget requests had been submitted from each department and/or special requests. All submissions came in under their planned budget, save for one (Silver Birch books was $1.21 over budget). Please see the attached Word document for a detailed account, as of Feb. 6th, of each item – thanks to Pam for providing this document!

-pizza is still performing well and is on target to meet our projected budget

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. ***Movie Night re-cap – Jocelyn*** – huge turnout; sold out of everything except for water – popcorn went fast (we may need a new machine) – made $550!! -- -everything ran smoothly, and there was a discussion about doing another one, but it was decided to table it until next year because of Math Night in April
2. ***Carnaval Hot Chocolate – Sue –*** Friday, February 9th, 10am-2:30pm
3. ***Fun Fair – Sue*** – **Wednesday, June 13th – 4:30-7:30pm**

*-*we are changing things up this year!

-no silent auction, vendor market-place

*-*will still do kids games, bake sale, cake walk, face painting, crock-a-doodle (like in the past)

*-*making the Fair more of a fun community night – no tickets, flat fee entry – $5/person, $20/family

*-*skipping, egg tosses?? (possibilities of new activities)

*-*4 or 5 food trucks – Jocelyn and Sue looking into this

*-*dance party and possible dj (and maybe karaoke) in the music room – Sue to look into

*-*new activities - human foosball, bubble soccer – Jocelyn looking into it

-what would bring staff out to help/support? Christine and Allan looking into it

-need wristbands

-police and firefighters present (was a hit last year) – Becca to look into

1. ***Other New Business*** – Staff Appreciation - Becca – Monigrams is able to cater our Staff Appreciation Breakfast – **Monday, March 5th,** with a 9:30am dropoff and a pick up at 2:00pm

-more low-key than last year: we will be using Monigram Coffee Roasters (downtown Galt) for coffee/tea and ask parent and Council volunteers to supply a baked treat. If you are interested in baking something, please deliver it to the office/staff room by 9:30am on March 5th.

-Becca to organize Monigram order/delivery for 9:30am, pick-up at 2:00pm (need 3 or 4 people to help pay – thanks to those of you who have already reached out! – please let Becca know if you’re interested in making a donation to help pay for the coffee and tea for the 60 staff members)

**5) Amy and Allan on parking issues meeting**

-Amy has very kindly offered up her notes from the Traffic Flow meeting – please see below, at the end of the minutes

-Amy stressed how much Allan has been doing – he is a wonderful advocate for all the parents – every issue has been addressed by him – he has heard everything we have all said

-Leslie is our new ally going forward – she works for the city and the school board – she has been hired as the initiative for biking and walking to school (safe transportation to school) – she fully understands our position and is trying to accommodate everyone – she’s very sympathetic to driving to school

-parents need to be supportive, in turn, of walk to school days – we don’t know when any studies are being done, so we need to be good parents on our best behaviour – put up a reminder on the sign to drive carefully?

-Leslie understands our school is basically land-locked

-sidewalk on east side of school most likely to happen, along with a crossing guard at Myers and Branchton – parking then possible at the church on Branchton

-parking at Cornerstone Church possible?

-speed limit reduction – region says it doesn’t make a difference, bizarrely

-Leslie says one idea is to encourage no parents on the tarmac – need teacher/student walkers/helpers to walk younger kids up and down the hill

-we can encourage car pooling

-assembly to promote safe walking?

-next meeting: February 28th; region, city, school board, Leslie, Amy, Grant and at least one other parent joining

**Principal’s Report (Allan)**

* **Any email to Allan that is Council related – please put your name and “Council Member” in the subject line**

-staffing update – Mrs. Rodenburg returning the last week of February - Mrs. Carbone has been covering

-Ms. Haskins off for 6 wks starting at the end of February

-walk to school day tomorrow (Feb. 7th)

-kindie registration ongoing

-French Immersion gr. 1 getting ready to go

**DATES TO REMEMBER**:

Friday, February 9th – Carnaval Hot Chocolate – 10am start

Monday, March 5th – Staff Appreciation Day (Breakfast)

Wednesday, March 7th @ 6:30pm – Fun Fair Committee Meeting – location tbd (library?)

Wednesday, June 13th, 4:30-7:30pm – Spring Fun Fair

**NO COUNCIL MEETING IN MARCH**

Next Meeting - Tuesday, April 3rd

**We are still looking for a “social media” helper for Council – someone who is willing to update Facebook and Twitter. Contact Sue if interested.**

MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 8pm

**NEXT MEETING**

Date: **April 3, 2018**

Time: 6:30 - 8:00pm

Location: School Library

**Follow us on TWITTER: Moffat Creek Council @MoffatCouncil**

**and**

**Look for us on FACEBOOK:**

**“Moffat Creek School Families”**

**Suggested Traffic Flow Solutions – Presented January 23rd**

**Completed by Amy Fraser**

1. Sidewalk on the east side of the school along Myers Rd and up Branchton Rd to city limit or at least to Lilywood. – Mr. MacKay reported that this request has already been put forward and that there is a good possibility we will see this happen
2. Crossing guard at the corner of Branchton Rd and Myers Rd and or right in front of the school maybe? Mr. MacKay is reporting that if we have success in getting the sidewalks that there is a good chance we will get a crossing guard at that corner
3. Flashing signs indicating you are entering a school zone on both Myers Rd and Branchton Rd to try and slow traffic This was widely viewed as a something we would all like to have and will be requesting
4. 40 km/hr speed limit change Mr MacKay has already made this request at this time the region is saying no, apparently they have studies that show this does not have the desired effect of slowing traffic. In fact their studies show it does the opposite. We are requesting this again regardless.
5. Is there any way to speed up the bypass rd to help take some of the truck track off of Myers Rd We are asking
6. Can we create a small parking lot at the back of the school property (off of Dundas) for drop offs and pick ups? Mr MacKay has also been working on this. The region is not keen as the traffic moves too quickly along there we would need a slow lane created to merge in and out of traffic. This however is still being put forward
7. Would the snow plows be able to make our school a priority on snowy days and get the snow pushed as far back off the shoulders as possible and have this done before 8:00 so the snow plows are not going by as parents are trying to do drop offs? Our last snow fall the snow was removed by 7:30 am so we believe this has been addressed but parents are asked to help monitor this and call in when it becomes an issue as we have learned they seem to respond better to citizen requests
8. Can we widen the shoulder so parents vehicles can pull off the road more on the north side of the Myers (same side as the school) Mr MacKay has discussed this with the region in various forms (ie just widen what is already there or a lay by lane or a kiss and drop), extensive research has been done on this. The region has even done a computer simulation looking at various ways to do this. The computer simulation showed this not to work however this is still being looked at
9. Can we open the exit at the daycare end of the parking lot so there is another way out of the lot. Would that help with traffic flow? It was discussed but concluded this most likely won’t help so this is not being going forwarded
10. Is purchasing one of the neighbouring properties something that would be considered to create a parking lot for staff or parents? Right now there is a boarded up house on Dundas in the north west corner of school property. Mr MacKay has already brought this suggestion forward to the board. The board has even looked seriously at this option to create a parking lot there for us. It is just too expensive even if the seller would sell to us. The cost to acquire the property plus demolition of existing buildings and then the cost to build and maintain the lot is far too much so this is no but was thoroughly investigated before it was determined this would not be our solution.
11. What about asking for use of the church parking lot on Branchton for parents to pull in to and then the crossing guard gets them across Branchton Rd and on to the new sidewalk Two years ago Mr MacKay spoke to the church about this. They were open to it then. If we get both our crossing guard and our sidewalk we will bring this up with them again. The schools liability was discussed. Leslie believes she can manage that aspect. This may be our best option.
12. Would stairs down from California be considered? It was learned at our meeting that a parent has already been before city council to request a pedestrian bridge from California over Myer’s rd. That was turned down. Stairs down are something to consider but Leslie feels they would not be the only solution as they would not be maintained during the winter months. Stairs are still being requested.
13. Can we put in a bypass lane like what they did in Paris in front of the school? This was discussed in point 8

Things parents can do – walk, carpool, send kids in groups, support the regions walk to school day Feb 7th

Leslie brought some great ideas to the table – a walking school bus which is currently being done at Saginaw public school – the trail blazer program which encourages walking and biking. She fully and completely acknowledged our unique situation and understands no one will support these programs if we don’t have safe walking trails, sidewalks etc. Leslie also mentioned some schools in the region have a no parents on the tarmac rule to help make drop offs faster and accommodate more traffic in a shorter period of time.

For the Future

Can we provide a street smarts assembly at the school to help educate the kids on being safe on the walk to school (something like the babysitter program or the home safe program for 10 – 12 year olds). This may help parents feel more comfortable allowing their kids to go without supervision. Not looking down at phones, no head phones so you can clearly hear all things around you, walk with a buddy whenever possible, watch out for each other, making eye contact with drivers when crossing streets to ensure they have seen you before you step out, clearly visible clothing on rainy or foggy days explaining how hard it is for drivers to see pedestrians in those conditions etc etc etc. It would be great if it was done in skit format to make it entertaining or maybe a police representative would come speak to our kids?