**New Dundee Public School - School Council Meeting**

**November 20, 2018**

**Attendance:** Mrs. Hagey-Nichols, Mr. Heer, Rebecca B, Noel J, Marina D, Julie B, Terry Y

Regrets: Angie H, Anita C, Meghan C, Dave M, Brittany L

1. **Follow-up from past meeting**

* Laura has so far not had success in securing funds from the Board to repair the mats that serve as safety padding in the gym. Laura has proceeded with having this done. It is expected to be ~$3000.
* Terry said that the Optimists (New Dundee, Petersburg) may be able to help support this cost. **Terry will check and let us know**.

1. **School Council financial report**

* Balance is currently $3,990.25.
* We have confirmation that PRO grants have been cancelled so won’t be receiving that $1000 this year.
* There is a Best Buy school grant program that we might be able to access to support activities that promote STEM. <https://www.bestbuy.ca/en-CA/school-tech-grants.aspx> **Marina will investigate.**

1. **Principal’s report**

* A Kindness Tree has been created on a school bulletin board for staff and students to post notes that recognize kind acts in the school. There will be a series of 3 assemblies over the school year to reinforce this message. The first is happening on Nov 30th.
* Report cards were sent home last week. Parent interviews went well.
* Students are encouraged to wear their favourite jersey on Fri. Nov. 30th for Jersey Day.
* Holiday Concert on Dec. 13th at 7:00 p.m. at Bethel church. Doors open 6:30. Rehearsal that morning is open for families to attend as well.
* A “Week of Giving” is happening during the first week of December again this year. Each day of the week there will be a theme for collecting community donations. Information is being sent home.
* Principal Hagey-Nichols was away from the school for two weeks earlier this month due to an illness.
* Gr. 1’s are in a 5-week CanSkate program in Waterloo.
* Primary classes are receiving Healthy Beginnings program from staff from Langs Farm community health centre. Once a week from November to January they are learning about heart health, bone health, and healthy eating.
* The school has a number of Spheros for use in classroom learning of coding. Scott McKenzie provided instruction to staff at the November 16th P.D. day.
* The school is looking into repainting a new mural on the wall at the school entrance.
* Staff wish list for school council support:
  + More Chromebooks (The Board’s goal is to have 1/student. We are at about 75% there right now.) **Laura will confirm how many would be required/requested.**
* School pinnies for students to wear at track meets. **Laura will investigate costs.**
* There was a question whether the school plans to host another outdoor winter activities day for French Carnaval. **Laura will find out.**

1. **Confirm activities for 2018/19 school year activity discussion**

***Christmas Concert***

* As there is no rental fee for using the space at the church, we won’t proceed with the raffle for front row seating.
* The school has asked whether Natalie would able to supply decorated cookies for the students again. We also have quite a lot of leftover cookies in the freezer from meet the teacher night.

***Bag2School***

* Bag2School collection of used clothing and other textiles is running again this year. Collection in mid-January and end of May. **Promote date and send bags home before Christmas.**
* We should promote this to the community at large – post on school sign, in post office, and share with the Victoria Day planning committee. **Terry will speak with Gord Perrin.**

***Dance-a-thon***

* Set to go February 14th. Coordination to happen in January.

***Movie Night***

* Friday, February 22nd - the week of Family Day. **Promote date on School Day.**
* Sell popcorn and candy. Suggest people bring water bottles.
* We will select the movie and work out details at the January meeting. **Laura will bring list of available movies to the January meeting.**

***Math Night***

* Cancelled this year due to date conflict and loss of PRO grant.
* Will consider running it again in future years, but maybe just every other year.
* There was interest to still have a math/STEM related activity this year – perhaps something related to coding, Spheros and/or Robotics? **Laura will check with Mr. MacKenzie for ideas. Rebecca will check with Karen Kokkelink.**

***Community/Family Engagement Activity***

* A suggestion to have a spring-time (outdoor?) event, perhaps in connection with Earth Day. Friday, April 26th may be a good option.
* Could school council host a joint event/activity with the school Eco Club and/or Me to We team? **Laura will explore this idea with staff.**
* The school’s birthday is that week as well – have cake or cookies?
* If there is a spring fund raiser, could align it with this date (in advance of Mother’s Day).

***Fundraising***

* Dance-a-thon is our main fundraiser again this year. It’s an easy event that the kids love.
* Treasures, Bag2School, and Mabel’s Labels combined are expected to bring in another $1200 or so.
* Likely looking at one other small fundraiser this year.
* One option: Sales of “Big Box of Cards” - 30 greeting cards for $30 ($11/box profit). Sell in the spring? **Look into this further and decide early in the new year.**
* Could also consider selling mother’s day hanging baskets or bulbs in the springtime.
* To consider for next year:
  + Products with kids’ artwork fundraiser – BuddingArtists.com (in time for Christmas gifts?)
  + Sell poinsettias

1. **Next Meeting**

* No meeting in December. Next meeting is January 15, 2019.

**Meeting adjourned** at 8:15