

Rockway School Council

November 8th, 2017

Present: Julianne Amaral, Michelle Rudolph, Desiree Hinsperger, Ashley Gardner, Shanna Hartman, Amanda Davis, Leslie Ingram, Suzanne Akimov, Mako Karke, Ngce Bich Nguyen, Vicki McLellan, Krista Faw

Regrets: Christine Lacelle

1. Welcome and Introductions - Bobbie made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Approved by Ashley and seconded by Michelle.

2. Principal Report and School Updates

- Math Updates: Dream Box, EQAO

Bobbie shared the EQAO results from the most recent tests compared to previous years. It is important to dive deeper into the results in order to get the full picture (small sample size, large ESL population at Rockway)

Grades 1-5 are using DreamBox program to build their math skills in an individualized way. Marian Small has a number of websites to help parents understand the way math is taught now. Bobbie will look into adding some learning videos to the Rockway School website.

Interestingly, girls performed at a lower level than boys and even their attitudes toward math are more negative. Staff is working on some strategies to hopefully change these results.

Problem solving - the problems presented now are multi-step and the goal is that students can find multiple strategies to find answers and explore the efficiency of the strategies.

- Literacy Updates - there are many students at Rockway who are part of a literacy pilot project using Lexia (an online program)

- SCIS - Results from last year's survey are in. The team is getting together next week and looking at the results and then they will share with School Council.

- Staff Updates: Julianne is leaving her position at Rockway on Friday and is moving to be the Secretary of Superintendents at the WRDSB. Our new secretary will be Jenny Starr. Alexandra Snyder did start her maternity leave last week and Megan Clifford will be covering while she is off. Jen Fedy will also be going on maternity leave in the near future. Mr. Roberts will also be leaving Rockway as he has been hired as a teacher for the WRDSB as an Occasional Teacher. A new EA will be hired to replace him here.

- Bobbie shared an article re: Rude vs. Mean vs. Bullying

- Bobbie also shared the Rockway Staff Agreement for 2017-2018 and it is posted in the hallway outside of the office.

3. Staff Report (Amanda and Alison) - One of the ways that staff is working to practice math skills is in real-life situations - for example counting the garlic that is planted.

- Grade 6 camp happened last week. There were so many wonderful experiences and the group came together to have some great team building. A lot of kids experienced a lot of “firsts”. Bobbie shared that she is committed to having this as a yearly Grade 6 experience.

4. Fundraising by School Council

- Barr Chocolates - We so far have orders that will equal a profit of \$288. If there are any straggling orders please get them in ASAP. There may be a possibility of extending the campaign. Shanna will contact the company and let us know.

- Jersey Mike's - Julianne received an e-mail from the manager at Jersey Mike's and over \$500 was raised.

- Currently funds raised will be going to support the Breakfast Club. More money is needed to support this program (School Council agreed last year that this is a valuable program which should be continued!)

5. Volunteer Opportunities

- Turkey Lunch (December 8th) - Suzanne is looking into vegetarian and halal options for stuffing and gravy. Suzanne will be in charge of the parent volunteers. Leslie Ingram, Tracy Ducharme and Amanda Davis will be organizing much of the food prior to the Turkey Lunch. If you plan to volunteer please make arrangements for smaller children as they cannot be here while you are working. A permission form has been sent home with every student for the Turkey Lunch – these should be returned ASAP. The primary choir will also be performing. There will also be some special guests also in attendance that day.

- There are still volunteers needed to help with Pizza Lunches and Tuck Shop.

6. Closing Remarks

- Ashley made a motion to close the meeting and Shanna seconded it.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 13th, 2017 at 6pm