**St. Andrew’s Public School-School Council Meeting**

**December 6, 2017, 6:00pm in Library**

* Welcome/Attendance
	+ In attendance: Amanda, Tatania, Nicole, Melissa, Paula, Emma, Lynn, Bailey, Sheryl
	+ Regrets: Cathy, Jodie, Riina, Kelly
* Approval of Minutes
	+ Approved
* Principal’s Report (Mrs. Stroud)
	+ Boundary changes come into effect next year, and changes to grade structures at St. Andrew’s and Highland PS
		- St. Andrew’s is losing grade 6, and Highland is gaining grade 6
			* St. Andrew’s will likely lose 3 staff members, but they have options to go to Highland where they may need staff, or have the option to apply for other jobs available within the WRDSB. If staff don’t have intermediate qualifications, they will have to leave St. Andrew’s
		- EA, Guidance, other support staff will likely be impacted as well, as student numbers decrease
	+ Looking into starting a St. Andrew’s Leadership Camp for all grade 7 students in Fall 2018
		- Hope to build community, fellowship, and friendships before school year starts
		- Year-end trip would then be at the end of grade 8, not grade 7
		- Likely will be looking for some funding support from Bingo and/or fundraising
		- Hope to have a place selected and cost to parents (grade 6’s) in January to provide lots of time as there will be a cost associated with the camp
		- Some data from the survey to support the need for this idea:
			* Student relationships: only 50% feel like they treat each other kindly
	+ Ottawa and Montreal are being considered for the Grade 8 end of year trip
	+ Renovations in Guidance and meeting areas over the Summer of 2018, and some additional accessibility renovations planned in a couple of years to meet government required accessibility standards
	+ ‘Sight Base Days’ Meetings: occasional teachers come in to free up regular teachers to work with consultants, experts, etc.
		- Huge benefits, lots of exciting learning
		- Fluency in mathematics (understanding not just how to do something or memorizing, but also understand a “why?” are we doing it
		- Growth Mindset: how to encourage it in the classroom, but also how to assess it
	+ Staffing updates: Mrs. Bendus is on leave to have her baby, Mrs. Isnor is in 8-6 comes from Centennial in Waterloo, Laura Williams left and Alex Maffin started in 7-5
		- Exploring the option of having the Grotto come and set up a rock climbing wall for a week. Expensive, but a great opportunity (can cover ½ cost from Bingo funds). $4,000.00 is the total amount, which works out to approximately $16/student. Each students has physical education 5 days/week, so potentially 5 different opportunities to climb. Mr. Martin looking into this option to determine if it’s worth it, and all students will be engaged
* Staff Report (Mme Prior)
	+ ‘Sight Base Days’ Meetings
		- Fixed Growth Mindset questionnaires being introduced into the classroom shows progress in students, and then following up with critical thinking and lessons around growth mindset
			* Brainstorming ideas of how to deal with challenges
	+ Student Council Updates
		- Salvation Army wish trees collecting funds, gifts, etc. Pairing classes to meet community needs
		- January/February Student Council theme will be ‘Fight the Blues’; tough time of year for all after the Holiday break before Family Day
	+ Morning announcements can be accessed by navigating to the website and clicking on ‘Morning Announcements’. This is a great way to stay informed about events, tryouts and special days as there are lots of things happening over the next while. A few examples:
		- Door decorating contest using recycled and upcycled materials (i.e. repurposing); lots of fun for students and winners get Spirit points
		- Beach Day, Ugly Sweater Day, PJ Day, Snowflake Day (wear blue or silver)
		- Winter Trivia starting
		- Movie on Wednesday, December 20th: students can ‘buy out’ of class for $2 or a non-perishable food item to view a movie
		- Dec 22nd is a school dance; alternative rooms available for students who don’t wish to attend for art or to watch a movie
		- Wave Team event Friday, their initiative is Mindful Wellness for the next while
		- Yoga-Drop in yoga is on Wednesday December 13th, second break
		- Math night may be combined with Wellness Night in February for Mental Health awareness, also possible course selection for Grade 8’s
		- Ski and snowboard information will be coming out soon
		- Cane’s Arcade: students are building arcade games out of cardboard and other materials
		- Boys volleyball team lost in semi-finals, girls volleyball team won!
		- Basketball tryouts start this week for both boys and girls. For those who don’t wish to tryout or don’t make the teams, there will be an opportunity to join ‘club’ basketball to work on their skills
	+ Need more parents trained for Bingo
		- December 19th need a spot filled 6:30-9:30; training is on December 13th for those who are interested in volunteering
* Fundraising (Melissa)
	+ Christmas Store recap: rough funds raised is $340.00 to be used to offset the cost of year-end electives
	+ Melissa has agreed to take this on for the next couple of years with staff and council support
		- Some brainstorming ideas for next year:
			* Ask for donations earlier
			* Open in the gym or cafeteria for the whole morning, or, last two blocks to give all students an opportunity to attend the store (some of the earlier classrooms bought a lot of the “good stuff”)
			* Option to keep the store open after school for families to attend
			* Staff could potentially help if all students were attending (more volunteers to check kids out, wrap, etc.)
			* Making it into more of a “Holiday Bazar” including baked goods, items, silent auction, raffle, etc.
	+ Candy Grams (possibly run by student council?)
	+ Fundscript runs all year. Gift card fundraiser
	+ Next fundraiser is planned for the Spring (either MacMillans or Elmira Poultry)
* Budget Update
	+ Account balance is $1,437.35
	+ Outstanding incoming funds from Christmas Store
	+ +$13 QSP: magazine subscription benefits from previous year fundraiser
* New Items
	+ No new items

**Next meeting: January 17th, 2018 at 6:00pm**