

Stewart Avenue Public School - School Council Minutes September Meeting

Date: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 @ 6:30PM

Location: School Library

Attendance: Carol Coyle (Principal), Anne MacInnes (Vice-Principal), April Glasgow-Cheney, Lisa Gubitz, Taylor Flietstra

Regrets - Curtis Flietstra, Eian Campbell, Brittany Austin

1. Welcomes and introductions to School Council
2. Discussion about elected committee member positions. Lisa Gubitz volunteered to act as Treasurer for the school year. Taylor Flietstra indicated that Curtis Flietstra would likely assume a position as well. All members sitting in attendance agreed to be voting members of the committee.
3. Carol Coyle shared the Principal's Report. The school year started with a PD Day this year making it a different start to the school year. For this coming school year, the content of our PD Days will be shared with the school community so that families are aware of the content staff are learning about. This coming PD Day will focus on staff learning about literacy and the literacy supports available in the school. The school was under construction over the summer. Four primary classrooms got updated cabinetry, sinks and counters. Four intermediate classrooms had HVAC systems upgraded and installed to include A/C which will be operational in November. There was a question about Stewart Ave P.S. water conditions, as it will occasionally have brown water and Carol shared the process when that happens and that it has happened less frequently since some pipes were replaced in the parking lot area a couple of years ago. There are 24 homerooms with 2 specialized classrooms this year. There are currently approximately 540 students enrolled. There are a number of new staff this year; 4 new EAs, 2 French teachers, 1 DECE, 3 new homeroom teachers and a new library clerk. Stewart has conducted 3 fire drills in the last two weeks, with a lockdown drill happening next week. Picture Day was last week. Stewart is using a new company Pegasus this year and is open to feedback. Many clubs and activities are getting started now as well.
4. Treasurer Report - When our last year budget carries over, there should be \$19757.85 in School Council funds. Last year, \$27833.52 was made by selling pizza, which was the only School Council Fundraiser. The option to pay for pizza in blocks of time using School Day was successful. A suggestion was made to send out more reminders leading up to pizza orders closing.
5. Request for Funds - The following requests were made for School Council Funds:
 - \$3000.00 for Walkie Talkies
 - \$200.00 for basketball nets - (nylon ones - a once a year purchase)
 - \$1000.00 for Grade 8 Celebration in June 2024
 - \$350.00 Eco Club Gardening Items
 - \$2800.00 for Anti-Black Racism Presentations Gr 4-8
 - \$300.00 Sewing Club materials
 - \$2000.00 for Nutrition for Learning

-\$100.00 for Nutrition for Learning cooler bags

-\$800.00 for busing for a drama trip Gr 2-4

-\$1500.00 for school team jerseys

TOTAL - \$12050.00

Continue to keep \$500 for mascot upkeep and \$500 for grounds upkeep

Put to a vote - 3 members in favour and it was passed to spend funds on those items.

6. Taylor Flietstra has volunteered to organize pizza days moving forward. Lisa Gubitz has also volunteered to help. Carol has a number of names who have also volunteered to help. Looking to have it start the week after Thanksgiving. Carol will reach out to Double Double as it is under new management to see if they are still willing to work with the school. A request was made to check for the last health inspection status.
7. Discussion around how to engage more families in School Council and school events. A suggestion was made about hosting a family movie night and hot dog days. These events are wonderful but need more people to help run them. The school is taking on selling cookies and popcorn again like it did last year. The Council is looking for more members, for elected positions and also casual members who can help at special events only.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting date: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 @ 6:30PM