

Mary Honeywell Elementary School Parent Council Meeting

April 11th, 2019

PARTICIPANTS

Denise St. Jules	Robert Crampton
Angelina Nikkel	Pete Vuertjes
Sarah Misseri	Delin Hayton
Martin Nieves	Stacey Bedford
Kristen Guptill	David O'Neill
Kerry Green	Audrey Buache
Harprit Boiteux	Chandonette Johnson-Arovolo
Liz Popovich-Graham	
Mark Diamond	

MINUTES

Welcome (Robert) – start time 6:33pm

Approval of Agenda - Approval of Minutes (Robert)

- Minutes were approved

Fundraising (Sarah M)

- Teacher rep for Boston Pizza – Ms. Brydon is the rep. Will take place on April 17th. There will be three seatings for reservations – 4, 530, 7. Reminders to start on Facebook page and in weekly email in April.

Upcoming events (Robert & Sarah & David)

- Movie Night- Next movie night April 26th. Spiderman in the SpideyVerse has been selected.
- Fun Day –There will be Food Trucks vs. BBQ. Many of the same events will be in place: Inflatables Batting Cages, Balloon Twisting, Touch a Truck, Face Painting.
 - Insurance Company if we can be added as an additional insurer on their policy. – **They will give the additional insurance policy. Contract has been signed.**
- Community Garage Sale – On track for June 1st.
- Leaving Grade 6 dance – June 6th from 6:30pm – 8:30pm for Grade 6s only. Wendy organizing.
- Cleaning the Capital Day – request made for the school to participate. Teachers have been asked for a volunteer.
 - Considering an additional weekend day to help clean up the yard for parents and kids.

Relocation information from Council Website to the School website

- Martin indicated that there are issues with loading the council documents on their website.
 - Concerns about not having an archive for review purposes
- **Motion to move all documents to the school website where they are accessible to all and keep the council website - passed**

Principal's Update (Pete & Denise)

- We are losing 3 teachers next year – 1 English primary, 1 EFI primary, and prep association with that. Also .26 of needs allocation. Pete and Denis have talked to everyone they have to in order to see what can be done to keep the teachers. Currently we have 645 children and the board is projecting us down to 608. Pete and Denise feel the number will be closer to 621.
- EA allocation has not been decided yet. Decisions will be made near the middle of May.
- Our school survey – every few years the students complete the survey re: safety, well being and bullying at school. This is happening April 23rd and May 10th; information is coming during week in review. Forms of non-consent are available should parents wish.
- Spring scholastic book fair coming. Funds will go to the Maker's space. May 3rd is set up. Kids can view on the 6th and 7th. Purchases on the 8th and 9th. Volunteers are welcome if they can.
- Health Expo on May 8th - more details to come in the week of review.
- Teachers were thankful for the money that council donated. Funds were allocated as follows
 - \$500 for the Autism program for outdoor equipment
 - \$1500 for Kinders
 - Custodian reached out for line painting quote for the sensory path.
 - The rest will be spent on more outdoor activities
- Maker's space – visits to 4-6 schools. Work orders to convert the change rooms to Math/science resource rooms and Art/Music resource room learning.
- SRO – Josh has confirmed that he will be at the Fun Day
- Staff has decided to hold a lip sych/band competition. Teachers vs Students. Date to follow.
- Run Club has started – 4 times a week. In advance of Ottawa race weekend.

Round Table:

- Discussion around violence in the school and how it is affecting other classmates.
- Council members expressed a strong desire to be made aware when there is a violent or potentially traumatic incident in their children's classroom (especially when there is a serious recurring issue).
- It was noted that parents are made aware when the school does a practice run of "Lockdown" procedures, because the event may raise difficult emotions, fear etc among the children. However, when incidents of actual violence occur in the classroom by a classmate, only the parents of the child and the direct victim if there is one, are made aware, even though all the children who witnessed the incident may have been troubled or traumatized by it e.g. witnessing a child being violent toward a teacher or another classmate. This leaves parents unaware of potentially difficult emotions and situations that their children may be experiencing on a daily basis.
- Council asked to have speakers come into the school to talk to kids and to parents about how to deal with difficult incidents, aggressive behavior and violence that occur at school.
 - Pete and Denise will look into dates for the kid assembly
 - Kristen to look into dates/speakers for the adult assembly
- **Council asked Pete and Denise to look into how to better inform / notify parents whose children are exposed to violent / aggressive incidents (especially recurring incidents) in the classroom.**
 - **Pete and Denise will give the issue consideration, speak to the board and get back to Council.**
- Parents whose kids are transferring to they are looking for volunteers for the school

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM.