



Hastings Community School Parent Advisory Council – www.hastingspac.ca
Minutes - Meeting 7pm Wednesday January 20th, 2014

Members Present: See sign in sheet

Staff Present: Donna Emeno and Janis Myers

1. Guest Speaker:

Jason Lauzon – VP Templeton Secondary

- Here to answer questions about grade 7 transitions to grade 8. Opportunity to find out more about the school at an open house to parents of the grade 6 & 7 students this Thursday Jan. 23rd. Students who are leaving FI program and would like to go to Templeton would likely be placed in grade 10 French. They also have an opportunity to Spanish or Mandarin. Temp has a French Intensive program to offer to students who have studied French in Elementary school in the English stream. He is open to answering questions at any time and you can give him a call anytime at the school if you can't make the open house. Templeton's enrolment has shrunk over the last few years – they are currently at 800. Check out their website for grade 8 application process. Feb. 13 there will be an onsite at Hastings orientation for the grade 7's. They come back in April and speak specifically to students who will be going to Templeton. Aug. 27th there is an orientation/articulation at Templeton for new students and new parents. Templeton has great programming: Culinary Arts Program, Drama and Film making, STEM program (science, tech, Engineering and Math).

2. Welcome and Introductions

3. Review of minutes from Wednesday May 15th, 2013

Motion: To approve minutes from the Nov. 18, 2013

M/S/C

4. Hastings Administration Report

Donna Emeno – Principal

- Administration is meeting with Secondary (Van Tech and Templeton) schools in the area for about the grade 7 transitions. More information about articulation will be out to families soon.
- Enrolment projections – Student population will remain about the same, about 580 students but we are down in English about 20 students and up about 13 -14 students in French. There will be the same number of divisions in French Immersion but we may lose a division in English.
- Code Red drill next Tuesday January 28th. Teachers will be instructing students what to do during a full lock down. We let the students know it is a safety drill and the staff and students take it very seriously! This year the staff will implement changes to the drill from suggestions made by the VPD liaison officer last year.
- What happens in a Code Red in a classroom with a bay window? The rooms with bay windows have an inside connection to another room where the teacher and students can go.

Janis Myers

- FSAs for students in grades 4 & 7 are happening over two weeks starting the first week of February. There is an online satisfaction survey going out after the FSAs for students and parents. This is a general satisfaction survey about your school experience. It is still too early to tell how many students will be opting out this year.

- Ready, Set, learn last week with Children's Author - only 6 families attended.
- French Immersion Kindergarten Information night was recently held. About 25 families came.
- Welcome to Kindergarten sessions will be held in June.

4. President's Report – Janeen

- Sandra Simmonds (former Hastings VP) passed away suddenly on the 19th of December 2013. PAC would like to make a donation to her son, Jayden, for his future education. The money would be given as a one-time gift to the family to administer.
- Diana B suggests the PAC could afford a gift of \$500 from a miscellaneous budget line item. Parents are also able to donate as individuals. There will be an announcement made in the next newsletter regarding the PAC donation as well as an announcement for parents who wish to donate individually.

Motion: to donate \$500 of PAC funds toward Sandra Simmonds' son Jayden for his future education. ***M/S/C***

- Feb. 13 is the date for our Second Annual Bingo night. It will be a valentine's theme and on a school night so the event won't run late. Looking for about 20 prizes for the night that appropriate for both kids and adults. We will be pre-selling bingo cards and food tickets. We need volunteers for the night and Diana P is passing a sign up sheet around.
- Burger and Beer Night. Tentative date of March 7th. Venue is still undecided. Last year we made \$1400.
- Earth Week - the week of April 21nd -. Hosting a book sale in the main foyer of the school where a book rack will be set up for the week. Please hold on to your books for donations until after spring break. There will be a notice in the newsletter regarding this and when they can be brought by the school to be stored for the sale. Adult and children's books accepted –no textbooks. Also there will be a kids clothing sale, please hang onto your used clothes to donate. We will need lots of volunteers to help organize and run the sale. The exact date is not yet determined.
- Spring Fair- May 9th -an event run with the community school office and is a joint benefit fundraiser for the Community School Office and the PAC. We run a perennial plant sale, bouncy castle, face painting, & cakewalk. There was some discussion on how to attract more participants: Carnival rides, Food Trucks, Pasta dinners. Franklin uses a punch card system to pay for all the food and events
- Change of date for the next meeting because the 20th was conflicting with Meaningful Movies and was the night before a Pro –D. January's screening was about the same as every month. There were about 20 patrons.

5. Treasurer's Report – Diana B

- Currently have \$14,000 minus the \$2600 for the enrolling classroom teachers taking it down to 11,400.

6. Committee Reports

- **Stream of Dreams** – we applied for funding but were not successful in getting the grants applied for. \$3000 in funds have already been secured. We have planned to go ahead with the program and the PAC exec will put in \$3000 to secure the event and ask families to contribute \$5 per child and hope to raise the last \$3000 with this campaign. If we secure more money through grants, donations or Hastings families then it will offset the PAC contribution. The project costs \$9000. There are two more grants that are being applied for (RBC Bluewater Fund and Vancity). Sara Leckie will be the liaison between the school and Stream of Dreams.
- **Playground** – There will be an announcement in the newsletter about Playground developments

7. Fundraising Report

- Meaningful Movies. Hastings in part of the North Hastings Community Partners group; we help to host and sell the concession and get the proceeds from the sale. It also helps to promote school in the community. The next one is Feb. 20th. Need volunteers for the 20th. Volunteers need to be there from 6 – 9 pm.
- Scrooge, a dramatic reading at St. David's in December. It was a great event. Tends to be a difficult sell to people who haven't been there before. \$563 on the bake sale, there was a parishioner who donated \$300. Future events are up in the air as the current priest is leaving and it will be up to his replacement to decide if he/she wants to continue.
- Neighbourhood small grants applications are being currently accepted and we could perhaps apply for one to help with the Scrooge event if it happens this year. We usually apply for one the Spring Fair. We may apply for a grant for the Stream of Dreams but the timeline for that might be tight.

8. Other Business

- Carolyn R presented the idea of starting a French Course through Canadian Parents for French here at the school and was wondering if there is some interest. We need more than 6 parents in order to run a course.
- We are wondering if our Facebook page is useful. Right now our Facebook page is not functioning well. Katie McKenzie volunteered herself and her husband to update it.
- Family French camp put on Canadian Parents for French. There are a few around the province, it's a lot a fun and they are accepting registrations now. Check out the CPF website for more info. You have to be a member of CPF to register.

Thanks.

Motion: To adjourn at 8:42 p.m.

M/S/C