

Arthur Public School Council Meeting

October 13, 2021 *VIA Google Meet*

Present:

Crystal VanGerven, Alan Gouk, Mary Cross-Mitchell, Theresa Wasmud, Danielle Lennox, Margaret Ribey, Gabrielle Blanchette, Lori Nauta, Nancy Hutchison, Candice Morrison, Bevin Fondacaro

Danielle opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and introducing herself. We then all went around and introduced ourselves and said how many children we have and what grades they are in if they are school age. Danielle then gave a run down of how parent council works, how we organize fundraisers to help with different things through out the school and we volunteer with in the school when needed.

Danielle then held elections for all the positions and gave a rundown of what the responsibilities are for those positions.

Candice nominated to keep Danielle as President. Danielle said she would stand. All agreed.

Candice nominated to keep Nancy as Vice-President. Nancy said she would stand. All agreed.

Theresa nominated to keep Candice as Secretary. Candice said she would stand. All agreed.

Margaret nominated Crystal for Treasure. Candice nominated Margaret for Treasure. Neither wanted to stand if someone else wanted the position. Theresa volunteered for Treasure. All agreed.

Candice then read the minutes from the last meeting.

Nancy motion minutes read with no errors or omissions.

Margaret seconded.

Passed.

Treasures Report:

Theresa read the treasures report. In the general account we have \$4000.18, and in the science in the classroom account we have \$1155.00.

Crystal motion report read.

Mary seconded.

Passed.

Principal/Vice-Principal Report:

Good evening and welcome. Just wanted to begin by saying what a thrill it is to be back, and to be back with kids in the building. It has been a great September, and I can't believe we are already half way through October.

Staffing update: we do have four staff returning from last year: Natalie Airdrie, John Duncan, Glenna Ruffolo, and Steve Wild. We also welcome four LTO teachers: Jen Bascom in 5/6A, Kailey Haddock in 1/2A, Jessica Norman in planning time, and Jen Self in KB. Finally, we welcome 1 new contract teacher, Kelly Connors, in KC.

We have begun the year with many of the same Covid protocols in place, including daily screening. We are regularly encouraging students to mask up, socially distance, and wash hands or sanitize. The biggest difference this year in Covid protocols is the no mask outdoors protocol.

Teachers have spent the month of September getting to know their students, promoting mental health, and completing initial assessments. Teachers will be reaching out to parents in the coming days, if they have not already, to make initial contact. This will replace the traditional meet the teacher evening we are unable to have due to Covid.

In the spring we were made aware that our South West play structure would require repairs. We recently received a quote for repairs for a total of \$6093.80. We will need to have a follow up discussion around this if the plan is to open play structures in the Spring. The South East play structure does not need repair at this time, although there are elements that will require replacement soon.

Arthur PS spirit wear is available to order online with Marchant's between October 4 and the 17th.

On Friday October 8th was Terry Fox and Play Day at Arthur PS. It was a very successful day seeing APS raise more than our target of \$2200. Students spent much of the day participating in a walk/run, and numerous different teacher-led games and activities. Thanks to Angela Hustler and Glenna Ruffolo for their organizational work, and thanks to all the staff for their organization of games and activities.

Just a reminder that APS picture day is this coming Friday October 15th.

The Food and Friends program continues to operate on the grab and go basis. This means we have nutritional snacks available to students to "grab" when they do not have sufficient lunches. Thank you to Candice for her continuing help in preparing these grab and go items. At the current time there is no indication of a movement back to the pre-Covid program.

Thank you to the school council for your continued support and we look forward to working with you again to enrich the experiences of APS students.

Teacher Requests:

Danielle and Candice with the help of Marni put out teacher requests the end of September. Crystal wants to make sure it got out to all the teachers and EA's because there is always something students can use.

Candice motion to give every teacher up to \$150.00 each.

Gabrielle seconded.

Passed.

Candice will collect them and go over them with Danielle. Alan is going to send out an email to whomever might have gotten missed.

Fundraisers:

Last year we did the plantables fundraiser and the meat with the OptiMrs. Alan is going to look into if we can do anything onsite this year even if we do it outside.

Candice brought up Tru Earth. They sent us a little package about their fundraising. It is laundry detergent and cleaning clothes. Candice will look into it further, if it is like the Mabel's Labels we do with no expiry and can keep it on going or if its like the Plantables with an expiry date.

We all would like to try a meat fundraiser this fall and try it ourselves if we can do onsite. If not, we will look at partnering with another group maybe in the spring again.

**** Update as per Alan, we can not do any fundraisers onsite this year.****

Meeting Dates:

Marni has told us that we need to hold at least 4 meetings through out the school year. Normally we would have one once a month till December then go everyother month. Last year we did about every other month as we weren't really doing anything. It was suggested that we have one next month because there was a lot to revisit and we would set meeting dates as we go.

Next meeting will then be Wednesday, November 10, 2021. Crystal suggested to hold it at 7pm instead of 6:30pm as it might be easier for parents to attend.

Lori thanked Parent Council for doing the Tim's coffee and treats on September 8, 2021. It was in honor of a sick teacher from Listowel on her birthday. She had asked for random acts of kindness.

Alan also thanked all of us and is impressed with Parent Council.

Crystal motioned the meeting closed.

Margaret seconded.

Passed.

***** Next meeting Wednesday, November 10, 2021*****

7pm

