

Arthur Public School Council Meeting

March 30, 2022 *VIA Google Meet*

Present:

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

Danielle opened the meeting by thanking everyone for logging on.

Candice read the minutes from the February meeting.

Theresa motioned minutes read.

Crystal seconded.

Passed.

Treasures Report:

Theresa read the treasures report. She asked about access to the trip account funds that we originally put in. Danielle asked about the expectations of use of the Parent Involvement Grant that we need to use before June. Alan to get back to us on all of this.

Allison motioned report read.

Crystal seconded.

Passed.

Principal/Vice-Principal Report:

It's been great these past couple of weeks getting to see the faces and interactions of our students amidst the removal of various COVID restrictions. We are keeping in mind the importance of moving forward with caution.

COVID-19 Updates:

- We encourage everyone, staff, students, and families to self-screen before coming to school each day (<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>)
- Masks are no longer required for students, staff and visitors in schools, school board offices and on student transportation.
- NOTE: Some staff and students may choose to continue wearing masks and it's important that everyone understand that this is a personal decision and should be respected.
- Removal of elementary cohorting/zoning at recess: Students no longer need to cohort on the yard and can now play and learn together across cohorts. With this being said, we will continue with our zones; however, all three classes outside can mix.
- Field Trips: Trips requiring transportation continue to be on hold. This is due to the significant pressures still on our Occasional teacher lists and availability of buses.

Staff Updates: Janeen Meagher will be returning 0.8 from her leave of absence on April 4, 2022. Janeen will be joining Ms. M, Ms. Self and KB. Ms. Self will continue teaching KB two mornings each week.

Food and Friends Updates: Our program is up and running again with bins of fresh fruits, veggies, and dried goods available for our students to access. Grand River Agricultural Society has donated a thousand dollars to our Food and Friends Program.

Candice asked that since the removal of the cohorts if all the grade 4's can play together since they are separate sections of the playground. Alan is looking to see if they can. Crystal asked about getting more balls for recess because some classes don't have many left. Alan was already working on that and maybe have a conversation about them getting more and taking care of what they have.

Correspondence: Get a thank you cards done up for Arthur 2nd look and for the Grand River Agricultural Society.

Old Business:

Meat:

Candice did the math on what she had put in for the order and we made \$ 3 609.00. The delivery will be April 7th around noon. Pickup for parents will be from 3-5pm. Candice has a pop-up tent to protect from the weather and so does Danielle. Allison, Margaret, Danielle, Candice, Crystal, Nancy, Alan, Theresa, and Lori said that they can help. Alan asked Lori if the school had a canopy that we could use as well, Lori wasn't sure so Alan is going to check and see. Margaret is going to bring tarps incase the ground is wet. Candice will look for the A frame sign and we also have the parent council boards we can use for signage.

Playground:

The previous quote was around \$6 100.00, but since the trucking and some other prices have come up the new quote is \$ 8 117.95. We passed around emails before the meeting and everyone was not really happy with that price but we had already said yes, we would fix it. We started talking about the new committee that we want to form for the fundraising of new playgrounds. Candice said that her and Danielle and whoever wants to join with their kids, will be going to picnic and play at some playgrounds with in the UGDSB over the summer, to see what everyone else has and what the kids/us might like, because it is hard to see what the kids would enjoy from a brochure. Crystal wants to know if local companies could do the excavating. Alan said they have to be board approved because of liability, so she asked what they would need to get that. Between a few of us we have looked into a lot of different grant options and we think we could get most of them, one being an accessibility grant because we have a few students with needs, Alan said that even if we didn't have those students' accessibility issues it is still really not an option to have a playground without. Candice then asked if an evening or Saturday morning would be easier for the new committee to meet, at least for the first meeting to get things started. Saturday morning was best and she has offered to host it at her house.

Margaret motioned to NOT fix the playground.

Nancy seconded.

Passed.

Margaret motioned for the meat fundraiser money to still go into the playground maintenance account.

Theresa seconded.

Passed.

Cookies and Maple Syrup:

Danielle asked if it would be easier if we do both fundraisers together and then there would only be one pick-up date. Everyone suggested it would be easier to just fundraise all at once and to have one pick-up date. Nancy told us that the cookies will come in just like meat and we will need to sort them. You order straight through their website with a special link and then they give us a cheque for what we made. We make a \$5 profit on each box sold. They come in frozen and so if we do pick-up in May then it might be too warm, Candice asked if we could at least use the gym to sort and then handout to parents outside of the school. Alan said that, that shouldn't be a problem. Candice will email both the maple syrup people and Terra Cotta cookies and get them set up. The dates would be out to parents April 12th back in April 26th. Delivery will be May 12th.

Pizza and Milk:

Marni has reached out to Tito's pizza, they just need to do the nutritional form and get school staff to help.

Everyday Hero:

Danielle suggested we nominate Candy Hill. All agree. Danielle said to send any nice comments her way and she would get them organized.

New Business:

Alan said that they might start to have some walking trips now that things have opened up a bit. Mary asked about grade 8 grad. Alan said they were looking into it and will let those parents know what it looks like next week. Kindergarten grade hasn't come up yet. Candice asked about having our year end BBQ. Alan will look into that as well.

Next meeting will be at the OPTI-MRS park on Wednesday, May 4th.

Candice will get coffee/juice and Timbits.

Margaret motioned to close the meeting.

Nancy seconded.

Closed.

***** Next meeting Wednesday, May 4th, 2022*****

6:30pm

******At the OPTI-MRS park******