

MEETING MINUTES PARENT COUNCIL



DATE:

Mar. 5/2024

TIME:

6:30 pm

RECORDER

Letitia McDougall

IN ATTENDANCE

Tiffany Piccolo, Federico Leyes, Lindsey Fleming, Stephanie Ryan, Stacey Magill, Patrizia Eltalawy, Op Brar, Matthew Stevens, Laurel Norrish, Diane Sardi, Gurdial Kalla, Julie Oates, Letitia McDougall

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the February meeting were read and approved.

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

- \$12 000 in the Outdoor Classroom fund
- Would like to re-allocate to the Library - APPROVED

TREASURER REPORT

The most recent budget spreadsheet was circulated and reviewed.



Council Funds
March 5 2024.pdf

Requests brought forward:

1. Mrs. Normore would like two portable flip scoreboards devices – Matt Stevens ordered via Amazon and has generously donated to the school. Thank you, Matt!
2. Ms. Coulombe requesting to replace some recess equipment - \$300 is allocated towards junior recess equipment. This has previously been voted on and approved.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Principal Amanda Coulombe and Vice Principal Vincent Allan presented their report. It included:

- There is an Intermediate social event scheduled for Friday
- Can Parent Council support a Snack Shack for the dance on March 27? – YES

- Please review and update any outstanding required volunteer forms and Vulnerable Sector checks

HOT LUNCH UPDATE

- Profit from Boston Pizza is \$364
- We are experiencing a loss on Gluten Free Pizza but that was to be expected

FUNDRAISING

- Nestle is no longer willing to donate chocolate to the school to sell for fundraising.
- April 20th paper shredding event 8:30 – 12:30 \$1305 was raised last year
 - Social Media posting
 - Flyer has been updated
 - Ann Shanahan is sponsoring it again. Zero cost to parent council
 - Matt to talk to Uhaul and get a truck at a reduced rate
 - Town to put on their website
 - Jenn Edwards ask to share
 - Share at the library and with the high school

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE

- NoneDEI Committee – Parents and grade 7 and 8 students – come up with ideas of events to discuss different cultures and a wider understanding of different cultures.
 - More posters are up in the school now
 - The school is being more inclusive now of all students around different holidays.
 - Would be great if a teacher sponsored it and works well when you have strong students to help support it.
 - Empowerment Day is coming up soon. – Get inspired and motivated. – Usually grades 5/6/7/8 would attend this. May 2 at Sleeman Centre. Free to attend. 5,200 students attend. Schools are responsible for the transportation.
 - If Brisbane was attending we could offset the cost of the bus.
- Resources are curated at the board and teachers use them in the classrooms and on announcements, suggestions for bulletin boards. – This seems to be new to Upper Grand.
 - Months of recognition – It's not consistent and it's a learning still.
 - Is there an interest in having diverse groups come to the school to teach.
 - Vince to send the months list from the school board for DEI.
 - Parent council to determine what months we can support and how.

OTHER EVENTS

- Diane spoke about screen / gaming mental health impacts – not internet safety but how to manage screen time. Educating parents around what happens to the brain during screen time
- Could be a parent information night, provide some snacks
- Could advertise with other schools in the area like Ross R MacKay, Brisbane
- We will look at dates on the calendar on when we can host an evening
- Diane will also look at booking Tribal Vision through Prologue in May – approximately \$1000
- April is Shiekh heritage month

- Parent Council will provide some options for a bulletin board information spread to Mr. Allen and Ms. Coulombe
- Tiffany asked if a notice could go out from the school to the families about Heather Morton and her battle with Stage 4 Colon Cancer
- Haven't heard anything on the Pro Grant – was re-submitted for consideration (parent education on children's finances); Tiffany will follow up with ProGrant again
- Haven't heard anything from the Best Buy Grant
- Compost bins were removed but they left all the compost and other garbage there for all the kindies to explore – Mr. Allan cleaned up as much as he could
- Fence by basketball nets / Rainbow Hall is all broken down and needs repair – Mr. Allen will look into it
- The upstairs washroom stalls were sanded down due to graffiti, will be painted in the summer
- The intermediate boy's washroom also had some graffiti in it – was caught
- Mr. Allen to find out if the freezer is also able to be relocated to Room 13 where Parent Council now runs Hot Lunch Days
- The students really enjoyed FOCUS ON NATURE and a discussion ensued on how we could continue to provide that program to future students. The initiative can be supported by Parent Council either by camera donation drive or assisting to cover some of the costs associated with the program

NEXT MEETING

9 April 2024 | 6:30 pm in the School Library.