

Parent Council Meeting
January 11, 2024

Land Acknowledgement and Anti-Racism Statement

Meeting Norms

Agenda

-coding, math, mental health this month, math manipulatives, Food and Friends, Principal's Report

Introductions

-Mr. Jewitt (in for Ms. Nolasco)

Coding and Math- Mr. Jewitt

- Students were learning to code on spreadsheets (Grade 7/8)- Google Sheets
- Using the spreadsheets to be able to find things like how many units sold, cost of an item line on a spreadsheet, finding marks in a range
- Teaming up with the 1/2 classes to put the Grade 1 and 2 surveys into a spreadsheet to create graphs so that the Grade 1 and 2s can see the results of their surveys in real life
- Discussion of coding resources in town- code.org, scratch jr., sphero, dash & dot, etc
- Mr. Jewitt writes math problems for the University of Waterloo
- Having a visitor come in who will do an hour of fun math with intermediate students from the University of Waterloo
- CEMC- problem of the week math questions
- Math competitions (looking into doing the test)
- School is using Knowledgehook, which is new this year. When you set it up you put your students in by grade level and assess them to see if they are meeting standards. If they aren't, it will show on the teacher dashboard to see where there are gaps for teachers to focus on with particular students who are struggling with various concepts.
- We all struggled to answer math problems of the week. Yay council!

Mental Health (April)

- Self-Care Bingo cards are created per division that can be done by class or be done by an individual student. Individuals or classes can put their name in for a prize that are all self-care tools such as fidgets
- There are slideshows for the teachers with descriptions of each activity that is on the bingo card
- Mental Health Month items are available in the display case

Food and Friends (Kati)

- Met with the coordinator with the county

- Shelby will be the program alternate
- Goal is to add a breakfast program to our food and friends program
- Next month, one day a week there will be a breakfast club
- Looking for volunteers to help with the program with food prep, serving, supervision, etc
- Live Free Campaign has been contacted to see how we will raise money, such as booster juice, fresh food box, muffin day. Prices haven't come up yet until she gets more information about the fundraiser, but that information will be coming soon. All the money raised will go back to the Food and Friends Program
- The daily food program will still continue, but the breakfast program will be in addition to this program (substantial warm breakfast vs daily grab and go snacks)

Principal's Report (Apri)

- School wide spirit week before the holidays
- School dance with fundraiser for the food bank. There was also a "games" room as an alternative to the dance for religious, personal, or because it was a preferred activity
- Ideally another two dances will be planned for the rest of the year (Spring and end of year). These will also allow for all grades to attend again.
- Student Council has began and will help to plan the next dance. Also discussing candygrams for Valentine's Day
- Silver Birch reading club is beginning soon. It is for Grade 3 and up as individual readers. Grades K-2 do it as a class as it is through picture books.
- Students who are not meeting Grade level expectations in math have began using small groups in the classroom to help them catch up and close gaps.
- As a school, just purchased pickleball/badminton nets as a school. Need to buy pickleball rackets.
- Math manipulatives are in the process of being ordered and each division is making lists of what they want/require. Requires a bit of time for inventory, find missing resources, etc.
- Parent Involvement Grant is available. The idea is to perhaps use it towards a presentation on bullying for families to attend at Grand Valley in partnership with another school (perhaps Laurelwoods). Will be done in conjunction with Education Week in May.