

Laurelwoods Parent Council

Minutes of the meeting – June 14, 2018

Attendees: Kate Bryan (Council Co-Chair), Kate Dimitrakopoulos (Council Co-Chair), Darren Hale (Principal), Cassandra Bryan (Secretary), Lana Whyte, Kristin Burton, Mrs. Whittington and Mrs. Walkinshaw (Teacher Representatives)

Reading of minutes passed by Lana and Kate Bryan second the motion.

Principal Report (Darren Hale):

- Parent Council account balances will be reviewed at the first meeting next year, as not off of the numbers are in and finalized yet.
- The school will stay at the same level, with 1 more primary class and one less kindergarten class this year.
- Class sizes are good, kindergarten numbers are currently low, but that could change over the summer. Anticipate 2 classes with ECE's, numbers submitted Wednesday, Friday students will be placed in classrooms, mixed with friends, male, female and balancing any requests made.
- Christine Arnold 0.9 position is vacant
- Schedules will be determined in September
- Morley passed away, due to on going lung issues. He has been off for the year; the flag has been lowered in recognition.
- Dress code changes that will affect the students next year;
 - o Our dress code will not focus on one particular group of people
 - o Our dress code will not reinforce stereotypes
 - o Our dress code will not body-shame
 - o Our dress code prevents students from wearing clothing that exposes genitals, buttocks, and breasts; opaque clothing as covering for these areas
 - o Students bras, waist line on the underwear are not violations of the dress code
 - o Our dress code prevents students from wearing clothing that displays prejudice, racism, sexism, vulgarity, gang-related signs, obscenities, profanity, hate speech, pornography, drugs.
 - o All students should be able to attend school without fear of unnecessary discipline
 - o Students have the right to wear clothing of their choice that reflects their self-identified gender
- There will be a discussion in the fall with Parent Council to ensure we have a say and understanding of the rules.
- Climate Survey – Parent input went up from 2% to 49% completion (this survey is done every 2 years)
- All results will be posted to the website, some high lights are; students feel safe and parents feel best about safety, students feel inclusive, bullying is seen never/rarely, students feel supported, everything is moving in the right direction, and overall very positive survey.

- The school is selling water bottles with the school logo, for \$12 each, to purchase online, this is to support reducing the use of plastic.
- Discussion of Parent Council budget was completed, but finalized decisions will be made in September.

2017 – 2018 Budget

Scientist in school 1 time each class room	\$4200 (2 max per homeroom class) – Council is warming up to
Halloween Fun Night	\$861.83
Arts Day	\$2700
Classroom Supplies	\$2800 (\$200 per class)
LLC	\$ 0
Miscellaneous	\$2585.61 (\$800 for next year from Farm Fresh initiative)
Playground	\$5000 (carry over)

This Year's Account Balances:

Arts Day	\$553.05 (need \$2200 if to support again)
Classroom Supplies	\$280.90 (started at \$2800, need \$2500)
Halloween Fun Night	\$1724.19 (could take \$1000 out)
Hot Lunches	\$0 (these funds were deposited to misc)
Miscellaneous	\$2766.28
Pizza	\$6918.22
Playground	\$5000 (need to leave as is)
Popcorn	\$382.24
Scientists in school	\$1665 (if supporting 2 per class need \$4200 in account)
Spring Fling	\$1128.83
Trip Assistance	\$0
Westside Bursary	\$200 (usually donate \$300 towards this bursary)

Overall need about \$10,000 for all initiatives, have about that amount, with about \$1500 in misc, if support all the same programs in the same way as have in the past.

Teacher Report (Mrs. Walkinshaw):

- May 28th Grade 4 Habitat Trip to Island Lake
- May 28th Chime Choir- Intermediate visit Lord Dufferin Centre
- June 1st – 11th Book Fair
- June 6th Lock down drill
- June 7th Crawford Lake trip 4/5 and 5/6
- June 18th Highland Nordic Outdoor Centre for grades 1-3
- June 20th Track and Field Meet
- June 21st National Aboriginal Day
- June 26th Grade 8 Graduation
- June 27th Primary Canada Day Picnic at Amaranth Park
- June 27th SK Graduation

-Mrs. Matthews would welcome funds from Parent Council for the Yearbook.

Mrs. Whittington thanked Parent Council for their support; the kids are having a blast

Library Learning Commons Mrs. Whittington:

- We have a wonderful budget (\$1500) but have a variety of needs

Long range goals:

- Hoping to make our collection current/ up to date/ reflecting the needs and interests of OUR student population
- Provide a chance for students to make connections with every other year author visits, and guest speakers (community/ equity/ technology)
- Create a maker space, coding, and robotics collection that increase student use and STEM (Science Technology, Engineering Math) skills such as problem solving, inquiry
- Get LLC working properly, requires supplies, book supports (\$4 each), return cart (\$900-\$1500)
- Make exchange seamless, book bags for grades K-3, helps locate books, shows an increase in returned items, shows a decrease in damage to books (\$400)
- Looking for community volunteers to come in during the day and help out in the LLC, shelving, weeding, bulletin boards, etc to build community partnerships and connections

LAST YEAR:

\$700 for Lego Wall: Seen great student interest and use from K-* (recess, class time, themes), plans to double as a green screen for tech/media next year.

\$200 from Scholastics Fair, not budget money, for Lego start up, some donations

\$1000 in purchases from Scholastics fair, not budget money: books (NF/some E, audio books for 7-8)

\$600 for Forest of Reading Books/Supplies: 201 total participants, 50% of participants said the program made them enjoy reading more, 171/201 completed the program (85%), main complaint not enough copies of each book (2 each RM/SB)

\$500 used for Sigmund Brouwer author visit, saw an increase in library check outs of his novels, student purchase of his books, literacy promotion, and reluctant reader checkouts.

OVER BUDGET by about \$300

SAVINGS: managed to acquire Dash, Dot, Sphere robots through Board PD (6), as well as 2 VR sets. Looking into having the Wood Shop at Westside make our return card for a significant reduction in price (TBD), using Scholastic fair funds to make book purchases saving budget funds for other needs. Going into next year with \$900 in Scholastics money.

NEXT YEAR: Return Cart approx \$300, Book Bags for Primary approx \$400, Maker Space \$300, Forest of Reading approx. \$750, Robotics (Ozobots and CODE a PILLAR) approx \$500

Ozobots 2 packs \$120 Looking for 6, for grades 1-8

Fisher Price Code a Pillar \$60 looking for 2 JK/SK

Looking for an additional \$750

- Darren advised that School Pays for Maker Space therefore only looking for \$450.
- Looking for Maker Space material donations, such as buttons, egg cartons, paper towel tubes

Fundraising Report Kate B.:

- Family Fun Night raised a total of \$1128, \$615 from the raffle \$443 from the bake sale and \$70 from the BBQ
- Going forward the event will be only 2 hours, for example from 5-7
- The event was way less stressful for Parent Council to run, with limited number of volunteers
- Darren is going to reach out to High School students to look at getting them to make proposals for Halloween Fun night
- Holding the book fair to coincide with Halloween Fun night and the June family fun night, was a success, looking to do again next year.

Hot Lunches

- Happy with the success of them
- Looking to have 1 per month next year, with Breakfast Club receiving the funds from the hot lunch in February.

Popcorn

- Also want to have 1 popcorn day per month, the last one for this year will be June 25th, putting a max 2 bags per student

Pizza

- Will continue with this as well, looking to change Pizza days to Thursday when PA DAY on the Friday

Breakfast Club Kate B.:

- Lots of funds still in the account, looking to start immediately next year, and reminding of the rules again to the students to ensure they are aware they need to eat their lunches prior to getting more food from breakfast club

Other Items:

- Discussed the success of the stickers being sent home to remind of upcoming events, some of us do get/ see the stickers others don't.
- Cassandra asked who in the family is suppose to get school information to bring home in multi child families, as she is finding she is getting multiples of some things. Darren is going to ensure it is only the youngest child getting the paperwork again for next year.
- Parent Council presented Lana Whyte with a farewell gift, as Duncan is graduating grade 8, Lana has been an important member of parent council for many years and will be missed.
- A gift will be purchased for Mrs. Gard as she is retiring. Looking to get some idea from the teachers, as to what to get her, it has been mentioned that she volunteers at the hospital and tutors children.

The next meeting will be September 12, with Bill MacKenzie.

Meeting Adjourned

