Parent Council Meeting

Sept 28/21 7pm (Virtually)

Attending the meeting virtually was Tracy Kuchma, Tracey Philips, Lynn Philp, Crystal MacDonald, Jenna Squires, Krista Rogers, Katie Groshaw, Lindsay Cowan, Rebecca Klumpenhouwer, Devar Drummond, Katie Weed. Mary Ann Bowman, Jessilyn Uhrig, Stacey Jennings, Naomi McCulloch, and Nicole Hymers.

Stacey welcomed everyone to our first meeting of the new school year. It was great to see so many new faces! We welcomed Tracey Phillips to our MCPS family as our new Vice Principal. The meeting minutes from the last meeting were sent out via email prior to tonight’s meeting for everyone to review. Minutes were accepted by Nicole Hymers, and second by Krista Rogers.

New school year means Nominations for Parent Council. Tracey Kuchma will handle the nomination process. The 2021/2022 Parent Council:

Chair – Stacey Jennings

Vice Chair – Mary Ann Bowman

Secretary – Nicole Hymers

Treasurer/ Fundraising – Lindsay Cowan

Town Contact – Dorothy Pike – Tracey will reach out to Dorothy and see if she wishes to remain the town contact, as well the parent council will make a list of other possibilities as we can have more than one.

Rebecca Klumpenhouwer – Secretary (will fill in when Nicole is unavailable)

Thank you to all the parents that accepted the positions they were nominated for. We look forward to a great year ahead!

Financial Report;

There hasn’t been too much activity in the bank account since the end of school,

Balance $ 15 983.28 (from last meeting)

Grad donations - $200.00

Play ground repairs -$ 688.00

New balance $ 15095.28

The insurance bill is to come out in October, and the track still needs repaired. Stacey has reached out to a couple companies that sounded eager to quote the job, but we have not heard back from them. We will continue to source out companies to quote the job.

Fundraising;

Yes! As of now, we can fundraise. We will be cautious and mindful of our community as we fundraise this year, as we all are still dealing with effects of Covid. We will stick with one fundraiser this fall, our very successful Meat Orders, and see how the rest of the year plays out. Due to Covid rules, there will be no parents allowed in the school, so a good alternative will be to host the pick-up day at the arena. We will look into if they will allow us to sort and pick up at the Harriston arena. Another alternative would be to put tents up in the middle space of the parking lot at school but that would be weather pending. Lindsay will work on getting the forms mailed to us and then we will set the date. We will fundraise for the track repairs and drainage, sports equipment, and the possibility of more repairs or replacement needed for the playground (there is a time line that is coming due on some of the equipment)

As we don’t know what the year will bring, at this time we will hold off on accepting Teachers Wish List.

Motioned by Stacey to accept the Meat order fundraiser, second by Nicole.

Principal Report;

Tracey is very happy to say that the staff and students are excited to be back in person. This year we have 12 remote students (60 last year)

We wish Mrs. Burgess a very happy retirement!

Returning to school from remote teaching is Mr. Ellis, and Mrs., McTiernan

New to the MCPS family is

Mme Fritzgerald – Inter Core French

Mrs. Sumner – primary planning

Ms. Simmons – Kindergarten

Ms. Leyland \_- EA

Ms. Brown – EA

We have a new walk way around the school that allows better flow when students arrive. The new walk way goes around the gym to the yard.

Recess is divided this year- half the students eat lunch while the other half is outside, and then they switch. They seem to work really well, and even after Covid protocols, Tracey would be in favour of continuing this routine.

Breakfast program may not be the same as it once was, but Tracey is happy to announce that through the Seed program, each teacher has an emergency kit that they can give out to students that may need a snack.

Gratitude from our office coordinator, Mrs. Aitken, as she has had parents calling in to say their students would not be at school, instead of her having to call home looking for them. When parents call into the school, it makes for a lot less unnecessary work. Thank you!

Dropping off and picking up students; Parents are reminded to use the church parking lot if they are parking their car – not Lawrence Street-Lawrence Street is for walkers. The police did visit the street as it was over crowed and unsafe. A reminder was also sent out last week to remind parents of this.

Reminder to send a water bottle to school with students as the water fountains are not available to use. The office does have emergency water bottles available but we would like to see re useable water bottles sent instead of plastic ones being used.

High fives for all staff and students for wearing their masks and following the rules in the school! Great job everyone! Tracey would like to thank everyone for being positive, they are seeing great things coming from the classrooms!

Equity and Inclusion is what the school board will continue to push throughout the school year. MCPS will work hard to include everyone!

School Report;

Again, Naomi is happy to announce that the teachers are thrilled to be back in front of the students in person! Naomi had her first class back into the library this week, and loved seeing the kids’ reactions to being back.

Virtual open house will be coming in the next coming weeks – an email notice will be sent out.

Terry Fox Run – Sept 29/21

Reconciliation Day – Wear orange day – Sept 30/21

Round Table;

Parent council could look at having an equity/Inclusion representative in the future.

We will look into what other options we could source out for fundraisers; Vegan/Kosher etc.

Made Good company has a fundraiser that we will look into for next time. Link will be sent to Lindsay Cowan to research.

Next meeting will be held Nov 30th at 7 pm virtually.