

## Parent Council Meeting - Tuesday October 20th 2020

Meeting is being held virtually via zoom, in attendance are:

Shilpa Vallabh	D Tellis	Rob Urbanic
Harpreet Jhooti	Erica Eugenio	Kathy
Diane D	Sreeja Venugopal	Lisa
Chad Guyitt	Bethany	Amy Hunt-Brio
Elena T	Carrie	Michelle Macdonald

Meeting commenced @ 6:32pm

Welcome to the meeting, quick financial update - some cheques have not yet been cashed out from last years grade 8 grad trip as per Priscilla. We are down from approx \$15,000 to \$13,134.26

Principals Report: Thanks to parents, teachers and students for their support during all the changes this school year so far, we are doing well. Masks are being respected, everyone is still doing what they should. Thanks to Derrick, he is now full time in the building with us, and the last VP is now officially back to retirement - she did a great job in getting us started off this year.

The school would like to do a check-in with families regarding communication, is it enough, not enough, too much? Thanks to Rob for the survey questions. Some questions for the parents: Is there anything parents would like to see the school engaged in? Anything particular we should use the money for?

Surveys regarding switching learning models - switches happening both ways, some students will be leaving us to go online but there are a few at least that will be returning to in-person learning. First official day of the switch is November 30th. Classrooms could change, but not expecting too much change. Could teachers end up doing online as well as in-person teaching, simultaneously, as other school boards are doing? It could happen, but we haven't heard anything yet with regards to that. Will curriculums line up for students that are switching learning styles? They should be close, but likely will not be 100% exactly the same. Will there be another switch date in the future, next year perhaps? We haven't been given any further dates as of yet, it all depends on what happens with the current pandemic, funding and the UGDSB in November.

Do we need anything at school that parent council can help pay for? Requests we received from last year are unfortunately on hold as they are not COVID friendly. Can we take some money and divide it amongst the teachers so that they can use those funds to get whatever they need for their classrooms? This was done in the past, but the school never received many receipts from the teachers for expenses, so not sure whether or not they were aware of it? The board also provides funding for things like Math Up and Raz Kids. Do we need more recess equipment/gym supplies? Mr. Alton will do a check to see what's needed, he will get us an inventory list before the next meeting and he will check with the teachers to see what they could use - especially for the snowy weather. School will be switching up the zones about once per month for the kids. We are able to take donations of items that can be easily cleaned like balls for the kids to play with at recess. School has ordered about 15 more Chromebooks, but they won't be here until Jan/Feb because they are on backorder.

Halloween: Message has been sent asking JK & SK to simply dress in black and orange, and for the rest of the school - it is up to them if they would like to wear their costume. No changing

in bathrooms and must stay in costume all day. No treats to be brought in for sharing, no dance-a-thon, no parade unfortunately.

Keep doing daily self-checks for COVID, read the messages on the school and board websites.

Grad: We are wrapping up last years, no ceremony but are contacting award winners. The students have already received their pictures and diplomas. There will be a special mention for Sashi as well.

Our school is receiving \$500 for parent engagement. We will use the money to hold virtual online seminars to help parents manage their children's fear and anxieties re: COVID. Shilpa will contact a couple of people to see if they can put something together. Can we use social workers? Annie Marino is our mental health contact on the board.

Meeting concluded at 7:08pm