

Willow Road Public School Parent Council Meeting

Minutes – April 18, 2019

- **Welcome & introductions:** @ 3:45PM: Steve Viveiros (Principal), Kristin Alie (Vice-Principal), Josh Kearns-Smith (Chair), Kim Richer (Co-Chair), Hong Nguyen (Treasurer), James Gollinger (Secretary; sends regrets), Donna Haskett (parent), Perpeual Akua (regrets)
- **Acceptance of Agenda:**
Motion - Josh, Second - Donna
- **Acceptance of Minutes:**
Motion – Josh, Second - Donna
- **Principal's Report:**
 - Steve has been getting questions about changes from new provincial government policies and funding:
 - next 2 months will be focused on transitioning to next year
 - changes will not affect the functionality of the school in any way
 - this month's theme is Mental Health:
 - Steve and Kristin attended a lecture on Mental Health
 - kids are bombarded with information due to technological developments and can't let go of the social structures created
 - kids are more and more worried about how they're perceived by peers
 - often there is a struggle with experiencing failure for the first time
 - Ms DeCorso, Ms White, Ms Chadder are off as of now but will be back
 - planting day:

- new trees out back; students got to go and watch the process
 - mulched the front, general garden maintenance
 - it would be nice to get parents out for a clean up
-
- **Treasure's Report:** No change since last meeting. There is currently a balance of \$1300 in our account.
-
- **Updates:**
 - Fundraising Map has been released; no updates
 - 50th anniversary
 - we'd like to get some extra food that we can hand out to people that need it
 - water bottles have been taken back to Culligan; we have a \$70 credit.
 - Shreya will do a Sand Mandala
 - opening ceremonies, tours of the school and slide show planned
 - BBQ and food trucks will be on site
 - Students got a medal at the Chess Tournament in Puslinch
 - Diversity Day:
 - Donna has booked tables and chairs are booked from UGDSB
 - Nancy Perkins, Shreya Shinde, Susan Pitman and My Linh Huynh have volunteered to help
 - we'll setup a volunteer sign-up sheet to track tasks
 - Donna has working groups set up:
 - Fashion Show and Dancing: Susan, Shreya, Perpetual and Siforan
 - Food Pickup and Volunteer Food Prep: Josh

- Food tables: Nancy
- Pre-show attractions: Donna
- Signage: Donna, Hoang
- Volunteer Co-ordination: Karrie Cumming and Kim
- Fan-Dancing and Balloon animals: Immigrant Services
- we'll do pre-orders for food again
- Donna is setting up a sub-committee to handle this outside of meetings
- we'd like to reach out to Indigenous communities to participate
- Translation Project:
 - final list of documents needs to be confirmed by end of next meeting
 - Kindergarten Registration, Communication Letter, Welcome Brochure, Pizza Orders are a few suggestions
 - Diversity Day info should also be translated as soon as possible
- Principal Leadership:
 - Council has focused and parent/child/school engagement this year
 - Additional goals have been encouraging people to feel they are heard and welcome at the school
 - Difficulties include high needs students and behavioral challenges as well as low income families
 - If the principal were to change we would like to see an open-minded, flexible, approachable team player with good listening skill who will take the initiative in learning about the unique socio-economic community dynamics at our school

- We are using the PRO grant to reach out to parents with language barriers and give them information regarding the functioning of the school and where they can get additional resources
 - All feedback must be in by Tuesday; otherwise it'll be sent as is
-
- **Next meeting date/Meeting Close: May 16, 2019, 3:30PM @ Willow Road PS**