

Parent Council Minutes

Monday Sept 23rd, 2019, 6:30pm

Attendance: Tanya Peden, Tracy Smith, Melissa Licari, Kim McGrimmon, Nikole Green, Cara Dean, Stacie Dowdall, Amy Neron

Regrets: Heather McQuat

Approval of past minutes from May 2019 Meeting

Action-Kim Approved the minutes, seconded by Nikole

Approval of Agenda-

Action- Cara approved the agenda

Items to discuss:

1. Elections of positions
 - a. Chair- Tanya Peden
 - b. Secretary- Nikole Green & Tracy Smith
 - c. Treasurer- Financial Report from Brianna Brownlee will be obtained each meeting moving forward 2019- 2020
 - d. Teacher Rep- Cara Dean
 - e. Community Rep- Vacant, will discuss and see if there is community interest moving forward
2. Principal's report
 - a. Student numbers and staffing- 350 current enrollment (projected 380) no staffing changes at this time, still hiring increase of .25 to assist office admin, .5 pm science prep position is currently posted/contract.
 - b. Renewal of School Council Liability Insurance- 140.00 + 8% tax/ per school year
ACTION- will proceed with renewal to cover any council activity
 - c. Parent handbook update- Heather working on it and will be reviewed with necessary updates.
ACTION- Council will also review prior to placement on TSS website. Purpose of the handbook is to introduce/remind Stewart families what the school has to offer.
 - d. Reporting PA plans- sharing of PA day agenda for September 27, 2019
 - e. Play structure updates- Stacie emailed Plant for an update, Dean stated it would occur in October, will be joining to the current structure.
ACTION- Pictures requested, rotating timelines for the students/staggering playtime on the structures
 - f. School Nutrition Program still running smoothly
 - i. Still paying Win Halladay to make muffins- yes
 - ii. Need any further support – volunteers are always welcome
 - iii. 2019- 2020 FFT Budget- Approx \$15,000 for student nutrition is the budget for the upcoming school year. Current budget will meet expectations at this time.
 - g. Dismissal- Students who are walkers or who are designated for pick up are being released at the East end/front of the school near the black gate. Alleviates congestion at the main entrance and in the front hallway area.

- h. Bussing- Concerns with bus times, congestion at the end of the day during dismissal were briefly discussed. Please direct any additional concerns to Stacie when necessary.

3. Fundraising

a. Past fundraisers:

- i. Choc Bars - 50% profit from it, usually about \$10 000 - underway (Sept)
ACTION- Currently in process, funds are due to the school by October 1, 2019
- ii. Fresh from the farm - 40%, made about \$600 (Oct - get in Dec)
ACTION- On hold for 2019- 2020
- iii. Perth Fair- Labour Day Weekend
ACTION- \$ 1360.00, completed
- iv. Santa's Workshop (\$1500) (December)
ACTION- Teachers facilitate the sale of items through the workshop for student- not a school council event
- v. Dance a thon (\$1900) - charged \$5 per person and gave a glow stick (Feb)
ACTION- Cara is willing to take the lead again for this school year
- vi. Maple syrup (\$1500) (March)
ACTION- Tracy will take the lead of this fundraiser for this school year
- vii. Pizza (spring) \$1000 (May)
ACTION- will move to the next meeting for further discussion

b. Other thoughts or drop things?

- i. Movie night- license is required for movie night
ACTION- not proceeding with at this time

c. Plans for the funds now that our main goal was attained-

ACTION- Tanya will be creating a notice to go home to parents/families specific to fundraising options throughout the school year and fundraising goals generated funds

- i. Set aside \$2000 for tech every year to help the school maintain
- ii. Student Subsidy for programming/clubs – more research to be completed (dance, math, science, arts)
- iii. Subsidizing year end trips for classes
- iv. Sports gear, Sports Tent
- v. Scientist in School- research options for programming
- vi. Painting extra stuff onto the ground
- vii. Sports gear for recess- Legion provided each classroom with a tote full of recess/outdoor items for student use- Thank you!

4. Maker Night

ACTION- Tanya will connect with Nancy at QES to see if there is an interest moving forward

5. Science Club / Science workshops

- a) Let's Talk Science- free, teachers were required to facilitate, more assistance required in the classroom
- b) Queens Programs- cost associated with their programs. Feedback- cost was reasonable and students enjoyed the programs, less support required from teachers

ACTION- Stacie will make contact with teachers regarding their preferred workshops and get back to council

6. Trees- as mentioned last year, the school yard needs replacement of some shade trees

ACTION- Melissa will connect with a local nursery and see if they could provide information on variety of trees and planting, timelines and costs associated

ACTION- Stacie will connect with plant and see if there are any restrictions in our school yard area

7. Parking lot –

Concerns continue to be expressed by families: the parking area is too small for the school, concerns with safety specifically during pick up time, massive congestion during pick up time/end of day and during school events, flow of traffic and busses

ACTION-Stacie will continue to make contact with plant and continue to advocate for additional parking spaces, better flow, possible re-routing if possible in the bus lane

8. New items- nothing at this time to discuss

9. Next Meeting: October 28, 2019 at 6:30 pm

Minutes 05/13 2019

1. **Science Workshops**- underway
 - a. April 25th LTS- completed - any more feedback?
 - b. May 14, 17, 22: Queen's University
 - c. LTS May 24th MOVED to Thurs June 20th

2. **Science Club** - 1 week remaining - Mon May 27th, make up for snow day on April 8th
 - a. Any student/staff feedback?

3. **Bill McPherson** - Board update
 - Vice chair -
 - Chair of special advisory committee
 - One of the largest rural boards across Ontario: 26000 students - 420 employees, another 100 for contract work
 - Upcoming budget - 350 million dollars
 - School bus drivers took them to the arbitration - 9 million dollar deficit, transitioning over to one bus, one road plan - catholic, public, etc - estimated 75 bus routes affected
 - STEO - not board employees, they negotiate with the companies and STEO is contracted to find busses for the board
 - Ford gov't says no school closures during their time
 - Spec Ed - \$11 million taken away, board topped up with \$8 million this past year, have now hired outside consultants to advise on a revised plan with the possibility for congregated special needs (less integration within the classrooms) , can't do therapy
 - Budget -
 - a. kindergarden - reduced ECE funding by almost \$1 million, added 250 000 for supply
 - b. Intermediate - increased by 1 student, reduction in about 1 million
 - c. Secondary - \$9.9 reduction in staff wages
 - d. Board will give 6 million to help alleviate this reduction
 - e. School operations reduced by \$1.4 million
 - f. School transportation - \$4 million deficit,
 - g. International students -
 - h.
 - Board Identified over spent on - board is way over spent on school administration
 - Going to cut 3 systems principles (principle of curriculum, etc)
 - PDCI - hoping to do like Brockville - school, pool, arena complex, share infrastructure like parking lot, atriums etc - discuss with Shannon
 -

4. **Fundraising updates: \$32000 and change currently**
 - a. Maple Syrup - approx \$1576.58
 - b. Pizza approx \$1000 profit
 - c. Next year's plan?
 - a. Chocolate - \$10 000 in the fall
 - b. Fresh from the Farm \$600

- c. Dance-a-thon - \$1900 (\$5 donation to enter and every kid gets a glow stick)
- d. Maple Syrup - \$1500
- e. Perth Fair Gates \$1120 - yes, go
- f. Pizza - drop it?

5. **Breakfast program for 2019-2020** - Cara - concerned, great grant - \$15 000, PCCC, Food for Thought, Parent donations (500-1000)

- a. Speak with Lions Club, or posting it
- b. Come back in September

6. **Staff Appreciation** - Heather/Dean - is there a budget available?

- a. Muffins, coffee, fruit - May 31st - PA day staff appreciation
- b. 40 staff - admin/EA
 - a. 30 cups of coffee from Tim's for \$60

7. **Brian Be the Nice Kid - Heather**

- a. \$4000 not right now

8. **Maker Night - Chris**

- a. Our Maker night cost \$745.06, will you complete the forms and items required here?
- b. Money not spent must be returned -

9. **Principal's Report**

- a. Staffing - 0.5 French morning position, Lisa McKenzie surplus - 380 students projected
- b. Playground updates - are we getting sponsors from the town now using the letter?
 - a. Called Peter Bosch - manager of construction
 - Design kids chose - might not look identical, going to tender soon, had to make a few extra items to be wheelchair accessible
 - replace/remove pea stones - will save about \$30 000, pathway between sections,
 - School council to commit \$30 000 to the structure and the school will budget for the remainder because they have 2 years to pay the remainder \$10 -\$20 000 for the excavation
- c. Welcome to kindergarten - 23 out of 42 kids showed up

10. Other Business

11. **Next Meeting Date:**

- a. Monday August 26th or Monday Sept 16th?