

Parent Council Meeting

November 9, 2020

Attendees: Kristi Stead, Heather McQuat, Emily Verhoek, Nikole Green, Amy Long, Cara Dean, Crystal Reinhard, Melissa Licari, Rachel Kirkham, Melissa Kirk, Tracy Smith, Stacie Dowdall

Principal's Report

Updated COVID screening and back to school form – students who are absent or sent home with Covid like symptoms must return with a completed back to school form created by the health unit

Inclement Weather – Info from the board to come shortly and will be shared with families

Remembrance Day – Video made by all classes which will be shared and watched by all classes instead of an assembly

School Photos – There will be no retakes. All photo proofs have been sent home and are to be ordered online.

Fire Drills – Three drills have been completed for the Fall. The plan was to sound the alarm for 3 seconds but it continued to sound. The children have been told that if there is no announcement before a fire alarm, then it is not a drill.

Lockdown was discussed and procedures reviewed, but not physically practiced in order to keep socially distanced. All classes watched a video of lockdown procedures.

Learning Models – some children are switching learning models with more students returning to in class. There was a question about whether to change the funding amounts of the “Food for Thought” program to adapt to more children in the classrooms. There have been extra gift cards from the program that were offered to families whose children are learning from home – but not needed at this time. There is therefore extra money to spend on site as needed. We can also apply for more funding in the fall for this program. There are some added expenses to the program at this time with having to purchase pre-packaged items.

Parking Lot – Project is in the works now but no assigned timelines yet. The proposed/tentative plan is to access the parking lot off Wilson Street, to widen the lane where the buses drive and to create a parking lot for staff of 40-50 spaces near the annex. Dismissal is going well in the parking lot. It has been safer than previous years with children and families not having to cross the parking lot. Hoping that a new electronic sign, which can be upgraded to include space for messages, can be added to this project.

Trees

- 9 were purchased and planted in the yard. Complete. Came in just under \$2000

Financial Update

- \$3749.31 starting amount before tree purchases
- Balance is at \$ 1760.00
- No planned spending

PRO Grant

Nikole Green called the Ministry of Education. Was unable to get information about the availability of grant data. Money back from the Spring for internet safety training for families. Comment that perhaps families are uninterested in more online training in this time of online overload.

Staff Update – Cara Dean

Cara connected with Staff to inquire about needs. There was an identification of need for expense coverage for purchased supplies.

\$ 117.71 – Andrea Bell – organization bins

\$32.77 – Denise O’Brien – organizing supplies

\$44.04 – Cara Dean – recess bins

Council preferred to have school cover these expenses.

Winter Outdoor Toys

An identification of a need for seasonal outdoor supplies i.e., snow scoops and sleds in winter and hula hoops and skipping ropes in the spring.

The Legion donated sleds last year that were popular with the children.

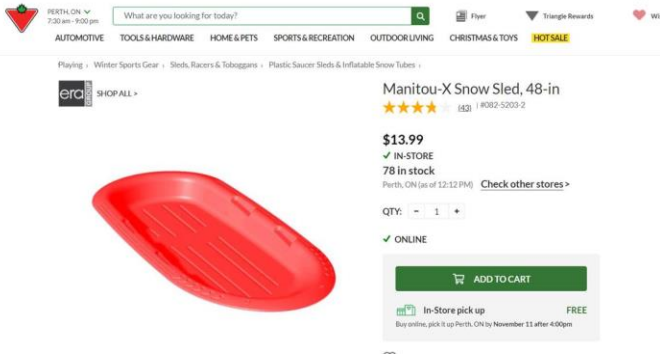
A motion by Heather and second by Kristi was approved to organize a recess bin drive. All in favour. Rachel volunteered to collect donations from parents and community members in the parking lot on a chosen date. Nikole volunteered to make a flyer to advertise the drive. We will advertise the recess bin drive in an email to parents and on the Facebook page. Cara will make a wish list of recess bin items and forward to Nikole for the flyer.

Further details: We could use the pick-up drop-off spaces after 9:30 and before 3:00, and again after 4:00. Once parents receive the donation, they need to remain untouched for 72 hours (so left untouched in a trunk or back of vehicle), then Stacie can receive them into the annex empty classroom. They will then be quarantined and sanitized again.

We CANNOT take cash donations and cannot ask for monetary donations.

Examples to include on the wish list:

Sled – needs to be pullable, and either come with a rope, or rope will need to be purchased (heavy duty, but soft and ‘splinter-free’). Likely only need 5 or 6, but would take more if we got more



Plastic scoops for digging in snow (need to be plastic/not metal, but heavy duty). Ideally 4-6 per class (16 classes).



OUNONA 5pcs Mini Clear Plastic Kitchen Scoops/Ice Scoop , for

Heavy plastic pails (one example shown below) for creating 'blocks' – to use for building in the snow. These need to be cleaned (obviously LOL). Again, ideally 4-6 per class (16 classes).



Ziggy's,
Potato Egg Salad
(5 kg)

Christmas

Spirit week – dress up days

No breakfast with Santa, no assembly and no angel tree this year due to COVID-19 protocols.

Some group brainstorming of a replacement way to celebrate Christmas as a school community. Suggestion from Heather to brainstorm 3 ideas and let the children vote. Decision to meet again before Christmas to decide on plan.

Dec 18 – last school day before Christmas break

Next Meeting: November 30, 2020 at 6:30 via Teams