

The Stewart School Parent Council Agenda

Monday November 21, 2022

6:30pm via Teams

Attending: Cara Dean, Melissa Kirk, Nikole Green, Tracy Smith, Tracey Asselin, Stacie Dowdall, Lea Doxy, Emily Verhoek

Regrets:

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Roll Call
2. Principal's Report - Stacie Dowdall

- Clothing Sales; t-shirts and sweatshirts available for sale starting today. Orders need to be submitted by 4 pm on the 28th in order to process in time for Christmas.
- We welcome a new trustee. Carole Dufort started officially last week. She is making rounds of her assigned schools and will be stopping in at Stewart Thursday morning.
- We All Belong Survey; Ministry of Education requirement. Survey link sent to students' emails, but in K-6 school, it is parents that are supposed to complete it.
- School Culture survey; link sent home in my last parent email, asking about what celebrations are happening in homes. Only about ten responses so far. <https://forms.office.com/r/4H83Divjmf>
- Remembrance Day Assembly; went well. Mrs. Hollywood's class took the lead. Some other classes performed. Small group of parents attended.
- Choir at Crystal Palace; Cara Dean is taking a large group of students Saturday December 10th, at 10 am
- Volleyball; Junior Girls and Junior Boys started last week. Tournament in Smiths Falls Dec. 20th and 21st. Will share a bus with Queen Elizabeth school.
- Holiday Market; Mrs. Dobbie's classes are running this. Dec. 14, 15, 16. Students will have a chance to shop for family members. Donations can be dropped off to the office (large bin in the front entrance area)
- Book Fair; Tuesday, December 6th students will be able to visit the Book Fair to preview items and get an idea of what they might like:
 - Wednesday, and Thursday (Dec. 7th, and 8th) students will be able to visit and shop with their class from 10 – 3:00
 - If Parents wish to shop WITHOUT children (Christmas shopping?), the book fair will be open 3:00 – 3:50 on the 7th and 8th
 - If Parents want to shop WITH your child (so they can help pick out books), the book fair will be open 3:50 – 4:30 on the 7th and 8th
 - Friday, December 9th, kindergarten parents may shop before the Kindergarten Holiday Concert starting at 10 (without your child, as they will be getting ready to perform) or after the Concert with your child – we ask that you sign your child out from the classroom
- We ask that parents do NOT drop in and ask us to pull your child from class for shopping. The office is very busy, and this is disruptive to class time. Classes

also have times booked for their visits, so the book fair will be busy throughout the school day.

- Angel Tree; Each class has an 'Angel' or child to buy a gift for this Christmas. Your child (or their teacher) will communicate the specific details (i.e., girl, age 7, likes . . .). If families wish to, they may contribute a cash donation or a small gift by Friday December 2nd. Canadian Tire money/gift cards are also appreciated! No set amount, every little bit helps.
- Kindergarten Holiday Concert; Friday, December 9th at 10:30 (snow date Monday, December 12th). Doors will open at 10:00. Please do NOT arrive prior to this, as we need to complete arrival and attendance procedures. Discussion; can parents/grandparents connect with children in the gym to say hello???? Show off their work??? Will discuss with kinder team and finalize plans.
- Grade 1 – 6 Holiday Concert; Wednesday, December 21st at 1:30 (snow date Thursday, December 22). Doors will open at 1:00. Please do NOT arrive prior to this, as we need to finish recess, and do afternoon attendance procedures. Discussion: is there a limit on the number of adults who can attend? We MAY need to do this; as it could potentially be a large crowd. Question was asked about hiring a professional photographer; problematic with consents and the sharing of pictures. Better that the school/council leaves this to parents. Question asked about making a video. Stacie was looking into recording, posting to Stream, and sharing the link through children's Board emails. Restricts viewing to those able to log in with the student's information.
- Taking children home after either Christmas Concerts: If you wish to take your child home after the concert, we ask that you wait in the gym for a few minutes while classes return to their rooms. You will then be able to go to the doorway of your child's classroom and sign them out from there. Your child's teacher will sign your child out and send them to you in the hallway where you can help them pack up at their coat hook area. Discussion with council: Could parents notify the office in advance; would this help with hallway congestion? Some parents would do this, some might not. Still need to sign them out so that would create congestion in the office area. Could parents leave out of any door instead of coming back out through the front? This would work, since the students have been signed out from the classroom. No need to come back to the front. May help keep traffic moving. Have ONE adult go sign out the student instead of the group traveling down the hallway together, and meet outside.
- Parking for special events: as you are aware, we have VERY limited parking. IF we can (depending on the snow situation at that time), staff will pull ahead and park on the grass to create more space. If at all possible, please car pool or walk. Please do NOT park at the pool; they have community swim sessions throughout the day, and have limited parking due to construction. Discussion about allowing parents to park on the back paved part of the yard. Access cannot happen before 1:00 due to recess. Concern about traffic flow and the students in the annex but we could maybe have them inside for that afternoon??? Suggestion to send a map home to parents in advance so they can plan ahead.
- Spirit Days; Fridays in December: Festive Hair and Hat day on the 2, Red and Green Day on the 9, Festive Sweater Day on the 16, PJ Day on the 23

- A few presentations in the past month:
Voyager Christian Pilon
Bill Montgomery; Blanket Exercise and Medicine Wheel

3. Treasurer's Report - Nikole Green

We still have not received a cheque for the Perth Fair board. Nikole will follow up with the organizers again by email.

4. Old Business

Chocolate bar fundraiser - Tracy Smith

Tracy report on chocolate bar fundraising amounts. Sold 130 boxes of chocolate.

Profit is \$5812. The opting in for boxes of chocolate to sell worked better than previous years of asking families to opt out.

School photo feedback

Photo retakes are scheduled for Dec 14.

Parents gave feed back about likes and dislikes re: past and current

Parent involvement committee meeting summary -Kristen Roy

Kristen attended. There were 32 people in attendance, but no

A presentation from Ron Ferguson – his work plan priorities including the Student Mental Health Action Plan, The We All Belong student survey.

A second presenter speaking about de-streaming.

Next meeting is Dec 6. If interested to attend, message Kristen for the online invites.

Outdoor Classroom survey results - Emily Verhoek

Survey was sent to Ms. Dowdall today to be forwarded to the teachers. Two weeks for completion of the survey. Due Dec 2, 2022.

5. New Business

Breakfast with Santa timeline & needs

Tues Dec 13, 2022. Wheelers will donate the syrup. Metro donated juice boxes.

Will need donations of electric frying pans to borrow for making pancakes. Cooking will happen in the library which will be closed to students.

Plan to have a sign up table at the Parent Council table at the Holiday concert to invite other parents to join.

Discussion regarding the possibility of next meeting in person. Ms. Dowdall will send a survey out to Parent Council reps to vote on. Various pros and cons were discussed.

6. Date of Next Meeting: Jan 16, 2023