

School Council Minutes - September 27, 2017

Attendance: Andrea Michelutti, Amy Humphrys, Disa Hansen, Lori Peebles, Jenn Poortings, Ana Cabral, Christine Bunz, Meaghan Smith, Chris Ryan, Kristin Racicot, Cinnamon Abdallah, Amber Wooldridge

Election for School Council Positions:

Chair - Chris Ryan

Treasurer - Ana Cabral

Vice chair - Meghan Smith

Secretary - to take minutes - Lori Peebles

Principal Report

School population right now is 915 students

39 classes this year

Largest elementary school in region

Empty room - will be used for kindergarten

Excellent student behaviour - students have conflicts, rough in play, not bullying

3 Programs starting this year:

LEADS for junior grades- leaders to solve problems, 20 - 40 to be leaders for primary students.

WITS - primary students - Walk away, Ignore, Talk it out, Seek help

Beyond the Hurt - with Red Cross - social emotional needs - empower students, yes that happened to me but it won't define who I am.

Sharing EQAO results on Friday's School Day message.

Gr 3's are above board level in reading and writing and math

Gr 6's are below in math, all of the province is lower in grade 6 math

Which questions did they do poorly in and where can they move - really struggled in multi-level questions

As a school focusing on math instruction, math fluency

Number facts and how numbers work - number strings

School culture goal - every parent and student wants to get in and be proud of the school

Senior art class from Bluevale will be helping to put quotes on wall and putting our mascot on the wall

Frames, clocks, to make it more homey

Leadership coach for math - Maria Lotimer - she will answer questions, will be here every week for the next 10-15 weeks, to guide and support us

She saw - happy kids, smiling, want to be here

She didn't see - student voice, mascot

Boundary Review Study - capacity is 766 students, have 12 portables, nowhere to grow
3 options

One - do nothing,

Two - phase out grade 7 & 8's,

Three - families living south of huron will go to new school and be bused.

Next meeting is Tuesday, October 10th. Public meeting will be at the end of October.

Will potentially reduce the population by about 100 students

Committees:

Fundraising
Grants
Greening Projects
Volunteer Coordinator

We appreciate any support we can get.

We are about 90 percent on School Day - we are hoping for more.

Messages on website, School Day or Twitter

Random Question - Police check for trips for Board employee - is it necessary - no, send an email to admin to say that you have signed your offence declaration completed.

Parents must have a police check to go on a field trip.

Entry and Exit Procedures - new procedures have made a huge difference, nobody is going over the kindergartens. Grades 5 -8 enter through the back, safer for 1's and 3's not having to battle older kids. Looking at changing the lines to go out instead of side to side.

Has been faster and is better since the beginning of the year.

Concerns of parents about starting fundraising before the first council meeting - needed to be done, so we didn't miss out.

Dance A Thon - we will have one

This year will only raise money for things that we need. We won't have a lot of money sitting without intention to spend it.

Next Meetings:

October 25th, 2017

November 22nd, 2017

January 24th, 2018

February 28th, 2018

April 25th, 2018

Facebook Page - Jean Steckle School Council - the more info that's out there the better it is.

School Council will work to put a page together - information only and provide articles, information to parents. Consult with admin. No student pictures, more what's going on. We are aware of who can and cannot have their photos taken.