

JSPS School Council - September 20, 2016

In attendance: Helene Chatterten, Andrea Michelutti, Sherri Davidson, Kelly Wildi, Kelly DeCoppel, Stephanie Morris, Cinnamon Abdallah, Janet Kaweck, Jennifer Poortinga, Meaghan Smith, Chris Ryan, Jennifer Prince, Alicia Monteith, Aniko Kasos, Lori Peebles, Ana Cabral, Katrina Woerns, Lindsay Brown, Kendra Gastmeier, Christine Bunz, Jaime Demsey, Rebeca Klein

Call to order - 6:02pm - Helene Chatterton 2015/16 Chair

Welcome and Introductions:

- There was an overview of positions that need to be elected for the new school year. (See By-laws for detailed explanations of each role). Additionally there are several Sub Committee Chair positions available that will hopefully be filled this evening or moving forward. There will be a sign up list after the meeting for anyone interested in putting their name forth for one of these positions. (A Key Committee Chair we need is the Grant Committee)
- We need to elect the four key positions of Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary

Elections: A special thanks to Helene for all her hard work last year as Chair, she will continue to be involved with Council, just not in the same leadership capacity.

Kelly DeCoppel was willing to let her name stand as treasurer for the 2016-17 school year. Helene moved to accept her name as a candidate - motion passed

Stephanie Morris was willing to let her name stand as the secretary for the 2016-17 school year. Helene moved to accept her name as a candidate - motion passed

Kelly Wildi was willing to put her name forward as Chair for the 2016-17 school year - Helene moved to accept her name as a candidate - motion passed

Ana Cabral was willing to put her name forward as Vice-Chair for the 2016-17 school year. Helene moved to accept her name as a candidate - motion passed

Pending Issues: (Helene)

- The Move-a-thon is quickly approaching - it is already booked for Monday Oct 31st - This is a fundraising event, and one that has been very successful in the past
- Volunteers are needed for this day for collecting money, directing students and selling glow items
- Volunteers are asked to indicate on the sign up sheet after the meeting (Any other parents wishing to volunteer can either e-mail the parent council address or contact the office)

Principal Report: Andrea Michelutti

General Info:

- Great start up thus far
- The current enrolment is 889 students
- Over 200 of these are Kindergarten students
- They did a reorganization last Friday (When they reassess class sizes and class caps) only 1 student had to be moved to a different class

Safety:

- There is a focus this year is to help keep our students safe - there have been yellow lines added to the pickup area in the playground to allow for better drop off and pick up visibility
- There are no dogs allowed on school property to help keep all students safe
- Today the school had their first fire drill - they cleared the building in about 2 mins (Students who are anxious about the drills are notified ahead of time)
- There will be a few more fire drills, a lock down, a tornado and a bomb threat drill throughout the year

Bells:

- The school has removed warning bells this year - research shows that warning bells add anxiety for students and this extra time in the line ups provided opportunities for disagreements or conflicts. Administration is hoping this will also help reduce the number of lates, particularly among the Kindergarten students

Parking Lot attendant:

- There is a paid position available to parents - parking lot attendant - \$12.40/hour - half an hour before and after school- to help move along parents who may be parking in the wrong area - Please contact the office if you are interested. Cones will be added to some areas in the parking lot to help deter parking / pick up area.
- Andrea had By-law come out to the school last year to assess our parking/pick up area - They will ticket cars parked in the wrong areas
- Students are encouraged to walk to school

School Day:

- Thank you to parents for signing up already
- School Day has an 85% adoption rate. All field trips and payments for activities will occur on school day. All hot lunches will also ONLY occur on School Day
- Parents of Kindergarten students can ignore the planner cost posted in School Day - this will be corrected

Fundraising:

- Request from Andrea for funds raised at Move-a-thon to go towards Document cameras and projectors - These items have already been ordered for classrooms that did not currently have the technology- the cost for them was about \$8000
- U-shaped tables have also been ordered for a few classrooms that did not already have them -6 tables at \$400 a piece (\$2400 total)
- Long term goals would be to get more technology in the hands of students in individual classrooms (Chromebooks and I pads)

VP Report: Sherry Davidson

- Other events coming up to take note of are:
 - Terry Fox Day - Oct 7
 - Picture Day - Nov 2

- Grades 4-8 will be going to Laurier to watch a football game

Treasurer's Report: Kelly DeCoppel

- Sue has worked our numbers based on June - the board has not updated our account yet - right now it says we have \$17 000 - This is not accurate since we approved a lot of spending at the June meeting - we actually have closer to \$3000
- Next Meeting will focus on Fundraising - both goals and projects we will take on to maximize the results and minimize the time and effort it takes to fundraise
- Sign up for the fundraising sub-committee will be available after the meeting

Other Business:

Pizza days

- School Days will help facilitate the ordering moving forward - it has the ability to print reports that tally the total slices
- Council needs volunteers to help hand out the pizza - whether it's on a regular basis or a rotating basis or a month long only commitment - This would be a 45 - 60 mins commitment on Mondays from 1:00 - 2:00 - Ideally we would have 2-3 volunteers per day
- The concept is that there would be a Food Subcommittee to help organize and manage the volunteers - Pizza boxes are picked back up by the pizza provider - classes bring boxes back to the collection spot - so volunteers are not responsible for this
- We made as a school community about \$10 000 on Pizza lunches last year so they are a profitable service - Additionally both parents and students enjoy pizza lunches
- We would hope to set this committee up as soon as possible so that pizza lunches could begin Mid October

UPDATE: We do not HAVE to have turkey pepperoni as we had previously thought to have pizza qualify as "healthy". There are guidelines, but this isn't one. Kelly looked into what we need and there is a board requirement but it is low sodium, low fat, multi grain. Little Caesars is going to be our choice (test basis) and they have a pizza that is "board approved". It will NOT be turkey pepperoni.

Hot Dog Days -

- Public Health has recommended to discontinue the activity of preparing hotdogs - we do not have the proper facilities and the danger of hotdogs without being sliced for younger students is also an issue
- We as a school are allowed to have 10 "junk food days" in a year - any event that occurs even outside of school hours that serves "unhealthy" foods would count towards this 10 day total. Pizza does not count as unhealthy because of the whole wheat crust and turkey pepperoni.
- Pitas would fit into healthy food days as well- we could do a survey on School days using Google Forms to assess the interest in additional food days/providers. Volunteers would be needed to help make these additional food days possible.

Food Committee Chair volunteers - Rebeca Klein and Meaghan Smith have agreed to be the Food Committee Chairs. (Thank you!)

ACTION ITEM: Don't forget all volunteers must have a police check to be involved in any kind of volunteer activities. Once you have submitted a police check once you do not have to submit another one while your child is at the school.

Recycling:

SubCommittee suggestion - Recycling/green bin programs - Andy Morris is willing to investigate different options for next Meeting to present to Parent council. He has already been in touch with a contact from the region- who are will to run training sessions and supply the school with bins. There are currently 60 schools in the region who already have a green bin program in place. He will investigate further and have a proposal ready for next meeting.

Nutrition For Learning: will not be offered this year at Jean Steckle. There was a change to the - parameters of the program, there are not enough volunteers and there does not seem to be the need at the school.

Buddy Bench: - Sherry Donegan and Sue Statz will organize someone from the board to come to the school to properly install the bench

Next Meeting: Tuesday Oct 18th at 6:00pm in the library

Parent Council e-mail: jsps.schoolcouncil@gmail.com