

School Council Minutes – January 24, 2018 – 6 pm

Present: Cinnamon Abdallah, Jennifer Poortinga, Christine Bunz, Meaghan Smith, Chris Ryan, Ana Cabral, Lori Peebles, Amy Humphrys, Andrea Michelutti

1. Meeting began at 6:02.
2. Fresh from the Farm was a success. We raised \$2100. Thanks to all of the volunteers who helped out. Feedback was given about the quality of the produce; some of it was really good and some of it was very poor quality.
3. Dance-a-thon – Feb. 23. Kick off assembly January 30 at 9:45. Will get pledge forms then. Chris will print up the schedule and email it to us. Need 4-6 helpers throughout the day. Email Lori or Chris if interested. Theme - Retro, get ready to glow!
4. Movie Night – April 20 – 6:30 - Chris will send out a list of approved movies to each of the school council and we will pick 3 and give it back to Chris. Once we are all in agreement the one with the most votes will be shown at the movie night. More details to follow at the February meeting.
5. Family Fun Night working group – need 3 or 4 people to help plan. Chris and Meaghan so far. Lori will do a post on the School Council Facebook page.
6. Donations to WEFI – tax receipts. You can get a tax receipt if your donation is more than \$25 and if you go on the website and make a donation under WEFI. It has to be earmarked to Jean Steckle. The money would all be going to Steckle, rather than a percentage to the dance-a-thon company.
7. Items for purchase – teachers have come to Andrea about some items to purchase. \$2500 for home reading, \$1500 for guest speakers, \$500 subsidies for music trips. Many books are ruined and missing. No money was given last year for that. Rapper Dwayne Gibson came in for a presentation where he gave the message about working hard, perseverance, trying your best, etc. The students were very positively affected by this presentation. The French teachers want to bring in some guest speakers to speak about French. The Kodaly choir needs bussing to their rehearsals.
8. Facebook Page – School Council is concerned about the opinions that are being expressed on the “Parents of Jean Steckle” Facebook page. Lots of negative information. Chris will speak to the moderators to see if they can change the name to better represent the spirit of the page.

9. Principal's Report – Sometimes there is confidential staffing information that cannot be shared, due to privacy and union regulations. Staffing Updates: Megan Murray is finished her LTO and will be finished on January 25 and Erin Bell will be back in that position. Kathryn Hotham is going to be starting a leave and Ian Harrison will be coming in on February 5 to replace her. Tara Roden has taken on a new position as an LD itinerant teacher and will be leaving Steckle and Cara Kernaghan is coming in to do special education.

Much more hands on behaviour recently. Students are punching and being physical. In some cases parents have told their children that they are able to do that if they are being bothered, etc. This should not be happening. Students should be using their "WITS" (Walk Away, Ignore, Talk it out, Seek Help). Progressive discipline is used to address these issues. Suspension rates are very high this year. Admin cannot tell consequences for other students; parents need to trust that things are being handled in a progressive discipline way.

Kindergarten registration – 39 students registered so far! Registration must be done online, and the week of Feb 12-16 is when people can make an appointment to come in to complete the registration process. The Welcome to Kindergarten night will be in March – exact date to be determined.

Boundary Review decision – Gr. 7s and all students south of Huron will be going to Janet Metcalfe in September.

Lates – there has been an increase in lates. It is in the students' best interest to be here at the beginning of the school day.

Parking lot – there have recently been tragic situations in other school communities. The parking issues here at our school are very concerning and parents need to be more careful and more respectful so that a tragedy does not happen here.

10. Treasurer's report – \$26 524.96 in our fund. \$20 000 is already spoken for numerous projects. Our balance is \$6 524.96. We made over \$4000 for pizza for the winter session.  
Motion to approve  
Home reading for \$2500  
Guest speakers for \$1500  
Subsidies for Kodaly choir - \$500

Motion made by Jennifer, seconded by Chris. It was unanimously approved.

11. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.