

MINUTES

Deer Park Public School

Date | time 5/11/2015 6:00 PM | *Meeting called to order by* Tricia Langill

In Attendance

Anne K, Tricia, Candace, Jodie, Erin, Tia, Randa, Aimee S, Fiona, Aimee M

Absent: Anne A, Dawn W, Debra H., Michelle, Aimee C

Passing of the April Minutes

April Minutes passed

Mail/email Sharing

No emails

Fundraising Brochures – Magazines, Cards, cookies etc.

People for Education Newsletter

Flower Fundraiser

First pick-up took place last week. Second Pick-up May 14-2015 -Profit \$ 355.15.

11 baskets left – not picked up from the first pick –up (Left tickets with Marley and she was going to give them out if they came for pick up)

Any left at this Fridays -last shift bring back to school and notify people that haven't picked up – Jodie putting reminder on Facebook /

Future:

Need bigger plants /lot of time commitment for low profit.

Look at Bradford greenhouse for flowers / Poinsettia's –Candace to look into prices / options

Chocolate fundraiser- Look at options for spring (Erin to review chocolate QSP/DFS)

Additional Updates

School Port-a-pak & Music portable /Main Office /Basketball nets/Posts – Renovations/Replacement this summer:

Six pak of portables – due to getting old – was slated for possible removal with a replace of a two pak. The board has decided to do some repairs to the 6 pak and keep it for the time being. They will also be fixing the supporting floor where the 6 pak attaches to the school. They will also be replacing all of the floor tile in all classrooms and the hall way and possibly doing some other cosmetic repairs. This work is scheduled for the summer. The Music portable is condemned – and will be replaced – with a new/used one in July. Main office – All carpeting etc. will be replaced with tile / vinyl flooring. All new furniture for Kathy and Kelly – set –up with proper admin. work stations- work scheduled for the summer- Basketball nets/poles- taking down three of the wooden backboards and replacing with 3 new wooden backboards. One basketball post was knocked down by the snowplow contractor in the winter. This will be replaced by the board with a new metal post and backboard (as per new policy). The new post will be repositioned. End result is the playground will have 2 basketball courts for students to use.

BBFK: (Building Blocks for Kindergarten)

20 allowed in the program (MAX) 22 JKs registered for this fall. We will be able to offer it to all – if we can get enough parents to participate (at least 10) we can run the BBFK program here at Deer Park – if less we may have to combine with another school – there are 50 BBFK programs running across the region in 45 different schools. Mrs. K is the regional coordinator of these programs. She is hiring a BBFK teacher and senior counselor for our program if needed.

Parent symposium Feedback: Would definitely attend the event again

Tricia and Erin participated in this event with Mrs K

Tricia attended bullying, discussed how we tend to judge. You like to point the finger and there are three things that come back to you – Another bullying tactic is very strong opinions – not wanting to listen to someone else's opinion. Seminar taught the message that we should always try to find gratitude – Fill someone's bucket. Stop being judgmental.

Erin went to mental health – very similar to bullying – gave parents tips to be happy, Positive, be grateful. Mrs K. has the power point that was given at the seminar. Also we just received the mental health posters posted around the school. If anyone would like the presentation please email Mrs K.

Healthy School: Did the FAST (Families and School Together) program about 3 years ago– might want to look at doing this it again. Can conduct the same type of program. Children play and Parents all talk. Dinner each night and enjoy other parents. Potential to approach JK/SK with younger families to build on their school life. Gillian Barker is still the coordinator. Susan Warren ran the night. Possible for next year. We will need one individual from SC to agree to help coordinate this event. This is a paid position.

Math: Presented to parents the new/different mathematical games – parents were in disagreement. Feedback was - need to get back to basics. Not sure what will take place going forward, not enough data to make proper assessment to determine how effective games are in helping with mental math.

New sound system for Gym:

Mrs K purchased a sound system from Costco for the gym. Going to test at may assembly – if we like it – School Council has agreed to pay for the system. Cost is approx. 250 + HST. Mrs K to confirm price. Possible to use Boston Pizza fundraising money to pay for system.

Parking lots and Bus Loop:

About the side loop, Parents asking - Can we use it as a Kiss and Ride? What is its purpose? – This loop was built as additional parking. It will continue to be used as additional parking (danger if used as a Kiss and Ride – kids would be walking between buses to get to the yard)/ At other schools – Kiss and Ride is separated from the bus loop totally – 2 different locations so there is no chance of one interfering with the other - safety. The loop by the additional parking close to our bus loop is not to be used to drop off kids. You can park in the loop (in identified spots) and can walk around to enter school at the front door if you are driving your child to school. The front door area will continue to be considered our Kiss and Ride area.

Graduation:

Support needed for decorating – Anne A/Jodie – Jodie to post on Facebook (Tricia, Aimee will also help) Monday afternoon on May 22nd after lunch. What is the protocol for having a dinner/dance or formal celebration? Schools/parents can organize on their own if they want to have something to formally celebrate the graduation. This year we are having cake and lemonade following the graduation ceremonies at 8 p.m. Mrs. K's daughter, Mikaila (Tutor in the Classroom) will be creating the graduate slideshow again this year.

Boston Pizza: Fundraiser with BP will continue.

School Photos

Mrs K met with Z2, Discussed options, designs etc. Retouching is avail- charge of \$10, poses – some photography companies take 2 poses of students and then crop them differently so it looks like 4 – Z2 takes 4 different poses - all sitting – School Council members wonder if we could have one standing pose for future. Z2's delivery date is usually 6 weeks prior to Christmas (private schools are all done in September which is why YRDSB schools are done in Oct./Nov.) about 75% of our parents buy pictures. Z2 has been with the board for 26 years. Some feedback from Z2 is that schools should be sure they investigate the vendor prior to signing a contract. Z2 says to be careful of the green screen being used for backdrops- doesn't always look good. Also consider using a Canadian company that does not send photos via email overseas for printing. Ask: Can we find out what the board approved photographers are? (Mrs K) Need to continue discussion for the new School year. (Poses, backdrop, different sheets, quality/crisp) Z2 may also be retiring in the next 1-2 years so we need to begin investigating to find a new one.

Track/Field day /Tuck & Freezies (May 14th RD: May 15th) (See budget update for details)

Parent Engagement:

Communication between school/parents: The Newsletter, feedback is – Not everyone gets it or knows how to get it etc. Is there a way to gain agreement from parents by signing a form and creating a DL (Distribution List) to send? Look at adding it to the new anti –spam (CASL) document sent at the beginning of the year. Need to try different ways to ensure it gets out. Also when suggesting a parent to Facebook – send the contact the name of the parents to Jodie or her replacement , that this individual wants to join. Erin/Fiona will be willing to take over for Jodie doing the Facebook updates/postings. Thanks to Jodie S for her many years of work and commitment to our DP Facebook page, School Council and school community!

Communication with New parents: Need to find a better way to communicate what happening or the lines of communication to new parents to deer park. Options may be to create an FAQ – also add the topic to the welcome to Kindergarten program. Should there be a SC member to talk to the new parents? Randa/Tricia will participate to promote SC. May 21 @ 6:30 at the Welcome to Kindergarten program night.

Communication between Teachers / Parents:

Some teachers send a monthly newsletter letter home and some do not. Feedback from parents tells us that some want to be able to talk to their kids about what they are learning at school. It's a teacher's individual choice regarding how they communicate to their parents. Mrs K cannot tell teachers how to communicate with their parents. We do know that parent communication can help to encourage parent engagement. Mrs K will take back these thoughts to discuss with the teachers.

Communication to parents (Awards) –

Would like to know if their child is going to get one. Sometimes get notified and sometimes not. Would like to brainstorm ideas as to how parents can be notified if their child is getting an award at a school monthly assembly.

Agenda Use:

What is the process for the agenda? The agenda is not used consistently. Need to communicate how this tool is used in a child's day.

Liaison between Parent /Staff:

School Council suggests that members attend staff meetings to increase engagement between Teachers and Parents. Mrs. K reminded School Council that the reason why there is a teacher on the School Council is to do exactly this. Our teacher and Mrs. K are the conduits between the SC and the staff. SC members wonder if it would help to

increase communication directly for the staff if they attended a staff meeting. Perhaps have a meet/greet with the staff once the new council is formed. SC needs to look at ways to enhance the relationship with teachers/ parents – Some Ideas: SC /Teacher meet and greet. Also Teacher appreciation / SC appreciation.

Budget Update

Overview

General \$3772.25- (flowers not paid – 830 approx. / OT 1200.00 approx. /Grad Awards \$800 approx.) =942.00 Approx.

Tuck - \$ 1574.49 order placed for 211.65 to be paid

Boston Pizza \$approx. 207.81

Playground \$3585.80 – checked in Aug – get report in September when return to school – we only paid for repairs

Track/Field Day:

Freezies to be purchased for Track / Field: Tuck for \$1 Freezies for 1/.50 depending on size (Randa to look at to purchase) Let Mrs K know so she can send out a communication. Add Flower pick-up reminder to flyer.

Cost Sharing Update:

All Technology has arrived - some already in use. Chrome books are being used by Mrs. Firth and students – Rest are in process and will be up and running for September if not sooner.

LCD projector is up and running in Mr. Weir's class.

Job Action

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Communication sent home on May 5th. Also posted on Facebook. To date: no other letters have been released by the board. When Mrs K receives the information she will pass on. Only official communications will be posted to Facebook and sent home in hard copies.

2 types of negotiations going on – Ministry and board – York region board communication remains good and strong.

Currently in phase 1 / Waiting to hear how this will proceed. You can also contact the board – Contact name : Lucinio Miguelo and you can contact him if you have additional questions that are not answered by current information posted on the YRDSB public website.

Around the School News

Tutors are back –Math focus (Gr 3/6) Mrs Etherington and Mrs K are supervisors

Dance Pak & Dance Crew clubs: (pr/jr. & Int)

Drumming (pr/jr. & Int)

Co-ed soccer

DP Track & field Day: May 14th

Student Climate Surveys have been completed.

Welcome to Kindergarten - May 21st

Art Show – open house May 22nd

Assembly 1:05 pm 29th

May 11, 2015 was Massed Band – great night!

Cooking Day #2- Huge success!

Next Meeting

No June Meeting - Co-chairs Tricia and Erin will be meeting with Mrs. K to complete the 2014-15 School Council Report to submit to the Board. This will be done in June.