

Wednesday, November 29, 2023

Staff Attendees: Kevin Merkley, Warren Carpani, Donna Franklin, Brooke Ginsler

Parent Attendees (9): Pathmaseelan Sivanesan, Gimila Pathmaseelan, Dhanashree Ghodke, Kausar Shaikh, Sundhus Syed, Atif Syed, Kiran Syed, Amina Mansoor, Nishantha Sutharsan

### **Welcome and Land Acknowledgement**

Welcome from Co-Chair: Dhanashree

- Pamphlet were passed out to families encouraging parents to join us this evening as communication has been difficult with the Cyber Incident and so this pamphlet helped remind families

### **Approval of School Minutes**

Dhanashree made a motion was made to approve the October 12th 2023 minutes. Seconded by Pathmaseelan. All in favour. Passed.

### **School Updates**

- Delayed communication over the past two weeks because of cyber attack
- Staff introductions
- Twitter (X) update to share publicly with families what is happening in our school
  - OOAK club funds raised, artwork celebrating Diwali done with parent Kausar Shaikh, Remembrance Day and EarlyOn
- Update of extra curricular activities that are happening in the school (junior volleyball, intermediate boys basketball, Battle of the Books, Calm and Cozy Club, EFPS Primary/Junior Soccer Club (student led), Ukulele/Dance Club, Spoken Word Alliance, Ontario Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week Gallery Walk
- EFPS SIPSA goals and curriculum connections. Parents requested to see how the two parts went together. Kevin reviewed the school/Town Hall information and shared the beginnings of our plan as a school (connection between school plans, curriculum and how it affects our students)
- Parents would like to see this in detail at our February meeting

### **Leadership @ Ellen Fairclough**

- Lead Team (Mrs. Wascher/Mrs. Vivian - Mental Health and Well Being, Mrs. Franklin - Performance Plus, Mr. Andersen - Technology, Ms. Ginsler - Programming/Curriculum). Formal structure of staff members that meet once a month
- Whole School Leadership
  - Book Study - Identity Affirming Spaces, deeper discussions about whole school topics
- Mentoring - Teacher Candidates and CYW students
- Parent Volunteers - help in the library, reading with students

### **Principal Leadership Profile**

- Parents reviewed the draft Principal Leadership Profile

- Parents approved draft as this is submitted to our Superintendent of Education

### **PRO Grant**

- Money last year was used for STEAM night
- Suggestion was made to bring in a guest speaker (45 minutes) for a Town Hall in April

### **Parent Council Survey**

- Warren reviewed the results of the survey that was completed at the end of the last parent council meeting
- One of the questions was “Have you observed any barriers that prevent equitable access and participation to the school council for all community members?” Parents were asked to brainstorm possible barriers (e.g., time meeting is held)
  - Suggestion to make it clear whether or not kids are allowed to attend
  - Continue to promote awareness of parent council (flyers)
  - Suggestion to have meeting immediately after school so that parents don't have to go home following pick-up
  - Language as a barrier - could be shared that parents that speak certain languages are available to translate
  - Is it possible to have a virtual option
  - Promoting parent council on morning announcements (having students tell their parents)

### **Parent Council Funds**

- The balance in the Parent Council account was shared and discussed
- Money is not supposed to stay in the account, should be used to support our students
- Popcorn done through school cash online, unfortunately, cannot do cash
- Suggested that money (\$200) could be used to purchase gloves/mitts

Next Meeting: February 15th

- Children will be invited to join, find out languages that families can translate

Upcoming Meetings: April 26th