Draft Minutes May 15, 2019, Fred Varley School Council Meeting
Fred Varley Public School, 81 Alexander Lawrie Avenue, Markham, ON L6E 0J8
T: 905-910-0034 F: 289-554-0521 Email: fvcouncil@gmail.com
Attendance: Hirosh Abeywardane, Naveen Vadlamudi, Anita Jarchow, Suki Gu, Kathy Pigatsiotopoulas, Stacey Ashmeade Staff: Dina Fabian (Principal), Janice Franklin (Vice Principal)
Students: N/A
Absent: ??

| Item | Discussion | Action Item |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Welcome | Welcome to the Fred Varley School Council (FVSC) meeting. |  |
| Approval of last meeting's minutes (Nov 28, 2018) | - $\quad$ - |  |
| Principal's message | - Shared some of the highlights of the Asian Heritage celebration that day <br> - Shared some of the things that have been going on at school recently - heritage fair for grade 7 s and 8 s , Ontario Green Presentation, Jump Rope for Heart, Montreal Trip, Family Movie Night, Student Town Halls (grades 1 - 8), 360 Kids organization working with our intermediate students, award dinner for Rianna Abrams (grade 8) for student excellence, award dinner for Mrs. Edgar and Mrs. Chan for employee excellence, book fair, spring concert, EQAO (next week), Welcome to Kindergarten evening, Junior boys' and girls' basketball, badminton, track and field, grade 1 French Immersion orientation, grade 2 French Immersion transition visit to Sam Chapman, Asian Heritage Month festivities, volunteer breakfast on June 13 <br> - Shared some of the results from the student town halls - students want to make learning more interesting through projects, hands on experiences, working with others; reflection on why some students might be excluded (either self-isolation or excluded by others) and their thoughts on what might help everyone to feel included and that they matter. The school staff will be examining this data more closely and determining how this expression of student voice can influence what we are doing in the school as a whole and in the classroom as well. <br> - Shared some of the results of the Gathering questions <br> - Question 1 - feedback on how we can reach parents with information in which they have expressed interest - focus on how we can better used technology to connect, school website as more of a focus, never an ideal method, lots of positive feedback about Gathering-style evening but suggestions as to how to reach those who could not |  |


| Item | Discussion | Action Item |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | be there <br> - Question 2 - how to build partnership between parents and educators - looking for consistency in communication (move everything to Edsby, more consistency with agendas), many looking for more communication (realization that there are many things we are doing but parents do not seem to know about them, need a better understanding of what is within the school's control, role of school and role of parent), families may need support in building communication within family so that children can be more forthcoming about what is going on at school <br> - Question 3 - on helping students and families to feel like they belong at school parents are looking for more opportunities to get to know other parents, the families of their children's friends, build a sense of community |  |
| Treasury report | - Mrs. Fabian asked for $\$ 1000$ to offset costs associated with Asian Heritage celebrations, Jump Rope for Heart, and the Gathering <br> - Anita reminded us that there is still $\$ 500$ available to support grade 8 graduation if it is needed. | Motion - Anita; <br> Seconded - Kathy; All in favour |
| Sub-Committees | i. Parenting <br> ii. Fundraising (Pizza, Popcorn, Movie Night etc.) <br> Spirit Wear <br> - Kara sent an email in advance of the meeting to say that the spirit wear is all ready to go for next fall. The $\$ 250$ that had been set aside to buy samples is not necessary right now. Next year's council can approve that expenditure. <br> Cookies <br> - Kathy reported that the most recent cookie sale went well. There is speculation that the choice of flavours and the inclusion of chocolate probably boosted sales. <br> iii. Math Night <br> - Rescheduled for Wednesday, May 22 | **** Mrs. Fabian noted that several key members of the council will be leaving their committee or executive positions due to the fact that their children will be attending Sam Chapman this year. She asked that those people leave notes and suggestions for next year's council. |
| New business/topics discussed | - The Teacher Appreciation Lunch will be on Friday, June 21. |  |
| Next meeting/Dates for | - Upcoming meeting dates |  |


| Item | Discussion | Action Item |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| meetings for year of <br> 2018-2019 | $\bullet \quad$Wed Jun 12 - Mrs. Fabian suggested that the final meeting of the year take place at <br> the restaurant, Symposium, at Major MacKenzie and Kennedy |  |
| Adjournment | • FVSC meeting adjourned around 8:00 pm |  |

