

Minutes for School Council – Wednesday, June 12, 2019

Present – Stacy Ashmeade, Anita Jarchow, Maggie Mak-Chong, Eliza Hong, Fion Lee-Madan, Hirosh Abeywardane, Naveen Vadlamudi

Administrators –Dina Fabian, Janice Franklin

1. Financial Report
  - a. Not immediately available, Forest of Reading money has been taken out
2. Principal's Report
  - a. Math night – great success, positive feedback, lower turnout than expected, likely due to change in date; presence of Public Health was really nice; Mr. Bernstein shared information with parents about how to teach math
  - b. Other things going on – Class Placements, report cards, graduation on June 26, Fire Department coming on June 21, Underserved and Underperforming follow-up, zoo trip for grade 1's, Sam Chapman visit for grade 2's, Grade 4 – 8 Track and Field team
  - c. We have lost 5 and a half teachers even though we have the same number of students.
  - d. We have 3 less French Immersion classes, all filled to 23 students.
  - e. There are also staffing changes due to teachers moving to other schools, one teacher has been offered a position as a consultant, also a few maternity leaves.
  - f. Plans for first meeting next year – online option for parents who may have difficulty coming (Zoom or Google Hangout), at the first meeting we will nominate and have elections in the same meeting – more welcoming first meeting ideas – school council volunteer fair, snacks, name tags and or buttons (Ask me about pizza/cookies/math night, spirit wear), iron-on t-shirt, presentation of our work at school, benefits of being on school council, funding for schools depends on strong council, someone in charge of communication (twitter, etc), get better at communicating with parents and grandparents in their own language
  - g. Pizza – need to have form ready to be sent out by Candice the day after the first meeting, can close on the last Sunday of September to start Pizza days the first Thursday of October.
  - h. Peer Mediation program – 10 – 12 of our older students will be trained as peer mediators in September
  - i. Family Fun Nights – last Wednesday of every month
3. Spirit Wear
  - a. It would be a good idea to open it from the first day of school. Check with Kara and Greg to make sure we are ready to go
  - b. Information will go in the start-up package to let everyone know.
  - c. Hirosh will contact Kara to ensure everything will be ready to go.
  - d. Hirosh will arrange an online vote if there is any money that needs to be put towards this.
4. Ideas for Next Year
  - a. Need to make better use of the web site. Is it possible to use edsby for school-wide communication.

- b. Communication board in different languages to communicate with families who may not read their emails – needs to be in front hall vestibule where people can see it – Eliza Hong offered to help with the translation.
  - c. When we tweet, include a link to school website.
  - d. Look into a What's App group for all school council interested people. Bring up in September
  - e. Facebook page for FVPS French Immersion already exists; how about for the English stream
  - f. Translator/Interpretators for school council meetings
  - g. Survey asking parents where they would like to get their information?
  - h. Chai and Chat, social opportunities
  - i. Use in-school announcements to promote school events
5. School Council Report
- a. Hirosh filled it out on behalf the council. The only real difference was that Council decided not to participate in supporting a centralized "YRDSB Trust Fund" by sharing some of the school's generated funds because the terms and guidelines are not yet transparent. This is something we might consider another year.
6. 8:03 pm meeting came to a close