

Legacy P.S. School Council

Meeting Minutes: meeting held in Legacy P.S. Library

January 11, 2016

Present

Laura Ryckman, Jeff Demacio, Michelle Probert, Dayo Babalola, Mike Michalos, Adela Pinnock, Nimisha Patel, Irene Dimov, Teddy Kardaras, Saumea Thayalan, Nandita Bhatia, Simone Reali, Francine Mathai, Shelley Chopra, Sonia Babra, Marjorie Sacco, Sylvia Vocino

Minutes: Adela Pinnock

1. Welcome and Review Previous Minutes

Approval of last meeting minutes

2. Treasurer Update

\$11,084.00 available. We have not spent any money. No other updates.

3. LPS Principal Leadership Profile

Nandita and Irene sat down to look at the feedback from last meeting. The most important points were Communication Skills, Mentoring & Leadership, Overall Knowledge, Technology and Innovation, Recognizing and positively promoting cultural diversity, conflict resolution.

Approved by Michelle, Irene, Nandita, Adela, Teddy, Sonia

4. LPS Bylaws and Constitution- we will come back to this next meeting. Sanjay absent.

5. Holiday Initiative- once again our holiday initiative was very successful. We had a total of 724 food items. Last day an announcement was made to recognize all the work the kids did. Markham food bank came to pick up all the items and they were extremely pleased about the success of our food collection.

6. School council forum- Nandita and Irene attended the YRDSB School council forum. One of the most important things that was learned was the role of the school council. A hand out was provided with the key points that we should look at to improve our school council. Laura will let us know the date for the spring forum. PEAC, parent engagement advisory committee. They would like to work with school councils all over the district so perhaps we can invite them to one of our meetings.
7. Fundraiser- we would like to set up a committee to work on some fundraising ideas. Dance-a-thon last year raised \$7000, read-a-thon raised \$9800. Fun Fairs traditionally raise approx. \$2800.
8. Principal update- 2 significant staffing changes. Mr Carlisle is off on sick leave. Mrs. Naidu is back to cover for Ms. Rands while he is on sick leave until she has her baby.

Mathletes- January 21st, daytime session for the kids and evening session for kids with their parents. This will hopefully create excitement about math. The grade 6 students will be coaching the students during the day.

Technology- In the past 2 years we made use of \$6250 worth of technology funds. This year the amount went down to \$4300. Jeff is asking if we can match that amount.

Overnight trips- grade 6 going to Pinecrest and grade 8 to Ottawa. Laura would like us to help one child in each grade with \$500 total to cover the cost of their trip. Families in need will approach Laura and then a decision is made as to who receives the funds.

School Revitalization- the school is 10 years old this year. Painting has occurred, LCD projectors will be mounted in classrooms, the gym floor will have the lines redone. Some windows will be replaced in the near future. The upstairs will eventually be done but there was no budget for it.

Outdoor Space- we are still looking to revitalize the space in the back and create a space for kids to sit and talk or read a book or just do anything that is not sport oriented. We have plenty of spaces for basketball, baseball, soccer, etc. Laura would like to at least start with some seating and shade and is thinking perhaps \$5,000 is a good place to start.

We will start a committee to work with Laura and Jeff- Francine, Simone, Nimisha, Nandita, Sylvia offered to be part of it. We need to start small and build on it every year.

Health and Safety- once a year school goes through a process of an inspection for any tiny detail that might pose a health and safety issue. We had some things come up that were fixed right away and then we had a timeline for finishing the rest. The inspection was in November and we are almost finished all the items on the list.

School Improvement Plan- there are always achievable goals for the school to look at. Plans are made for what resources, teacher support, etc. is required to carry out the plan. The board has not yet provided what their plan template is but the school has gone ahead and made their own plan in the mean time.

9. Forest of Reading- Ms. Bloom did a little video to inform us on the Forest of reading program. A program where groups of kids read 4 or 5 book over a 4 month period and then vote for their favourite. All classes come down every week to discuss with Ms. Bloom books they read and what they did and did not like. The cost of the program is \$1500-\$2000 for all the books they need. Ms. Bloom would like the school council to help with this cost.

Voted on a total of \$5800 for the following items: Technology, Grade 6 and 8 trips, forest of reading.

Michelle, Teddy, Adela, Irene, Nandita, Sonia, Marjorie, Saumea all voted in favour.

10. Faith Day committee- committee to discuss ideas around equity and inclusivity. For example, religious holidays. More information to come. If anyone is interested in joining let Ms. Sacco know.

Voted to earmark \$5000 towards the outdoor space project. Michelle, Teddy, Adela, Irene, Nandita, Sonia, Marjorie, Saumea all voted in favour.

Next meeting- February 8th, 2016