

# Legacy School Council (LSC) – Meeting Minutes

Monday November 6, 2017

Attendees: Nandita Bhatia, Susan Budinszky, Julie Mallinos, Mike Reali, Diba Bot, Nimisha Patel, Sonia Babra, Saumea Thayalan, Francine Mathai, Tricia Mohammed, Christine De Leon, Melody McVey, Terusha Naidu, Nina Teixeira, Laura Ryckman, Leeanne Hoover-Joy, Sanjay Bhatia, Simone Reali

Absent Voting Members: Sylvia Vocino, Irene Dimov, Zahra Premji, Thaya Mahesan

## **Minutes**

### **1. Distribution of October 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes**

- Members to vote on approval of the minutes thru Google Form

### **2. Treasurer's Update: Susan B.**

- No change from last meeting - ~\$12,800 available, of which \$5000 is committed to the outdoor classroom, leaving us with ~\$7800
- Susan raised the question: How do we go about determining how best to spend our available funds - other schools put together "Teacher Wish Lists" to vote on, and have a mandate to spend all the funds by end of year
- Laura Ryckman clarified that because much of the fundraising takes place in the last two months of school it is not feasible to spend those funds immediately, and recommended that we take a 12 month perspective on the spend
- Ms. McVey presented the need for tech spending; the board is making available \$6250 of match funds on technology this year, with the first match deadline of Nov 30. (there are 2 match deadlines - fall & spring) It was pointed out that cost sharing is an excellent program that helps schools fund they tech the need
- *Teaching is going paperless especially in the Junior and Intermediate grades - this is a huge reason to have our tech at Legacy current, and in good shape!*
- Examples of where Legacy does not have enough technology in the classroom were provided
- Council viewed broken and outdated tech

- Outdoor classroom was discussed. Original plan was for council to raise \$10,000/yr, \$5000 of which would go to outdoor classroom. N.B. That happened 2 years ago and not since
- Tricia suggested getting feedback from the committees as to what funds they may need.

### **3. Administrator's Update: Laura R. & Leanne H.**

#### Aussie X

- Approx. 150 people attended family session
- This event tapped into a different group of parents and lots of new faces were seen
- Student feedback was very positive!
- In January the focus will be on mindfulness and thought process. The parent session will be split into 2 sessions to accommodate numbers as it will be inside

#### Policy for Outdoor Recess in Winter

YRDSB policy – if the temperature is above -20degrees recess will be outdoors – YRDSB supports the belief that fresh air is good

Sometimes recess will be shortened

Students need good gloves and boots.

#### Fundraising Plan

- Handout was distributed
- Funds are being reserved for the outdoor classroom
- Fundraising committee will look at new ideas

#### Plan for presenters from the school – what would the council like to hear about from the teachers

Laura put forth the following:

November - EQAO

Dec – SIPSA; Awards & Assembly

Feb - Inclusive schools and homework

Apr - Health & Wellness, dress code

May - Process for school organization in the fall and lunch timing

June – Wrap Up; Start up routine for Sept

- Council would like to hear a presentation on math and technology

#### Snack Recess

- Survey was put out to staff to see how each class was doing.

- Teacher feedback was that the new snack policy is working
- Point was brought up on how is it working in Junior and Intermediate grades.
- Laura shared that every teacher has an explicit plan in addressing how snack is delivered in their class. There is no set model in the JI classes.
- Laura urged anyone with concerns to contact her directly
- Most council members seemed eager to close this issue

### EQAO

- Results are in and will be distributed to parents of last year's grade 3 and 6 students
- N.B. For this years' Grade 6 students – they did not write in their Grade 3 year, so this will be their first time completing EQAO
- EQAO results basically indicate to staff where they need to improve or do differently
- In terms of EQAO practice, there are no booster groups offered at Legacy, Laura believes that *if teachers are teaching the Ontario Curriculum properly, they are preparing students for EQAO.*

### **4. Update on Various Committees – Nandita B.**

- A spreadsheet was circulated
- Lots of positive feedback about this initiative
- Final draft of committee members will be circulated
- Committees can independently decide on a Team Lead and when they will meet

### **5. Holiday Charity Event – discussion and vote – Nandita B.**

- Options proposed as follows:
  - I. Food bank
  - II. 360 Kids – shelter for homeless youth and families of abuse in York Region. They have lists of their needs on their website, they will also take food. Yellow Brick House - similar to what was run a few years ago, we could have a tree of wishes and post what their needs are
  - III. MSH – there is an initiative at MSH to raise money for equipment not funded by the government

IV. MSH Love Boxes as discussed at the last meeting

**Unanimous vote to support 360 kids for this year's Holiday Initiative – details to be handled by Charity Committee**

#### 6. School Lunches Update – Julie M.

- Pasta Day is in the works!
- Program will run on Thursdays and the food will be provided by Mother's Deli – Mother's Deli meets and exceeds all Healthy Schools criteria
- 4 options will be available:
  - Mac & Cheese
  - Penne with butter
  - Penne with tomato sauce
  - Penne with meatballs
- Our cost \$3.25 for non-meat options; \$3.50 for meat
- *Cost to parents to be determined by Lunch Committee*
- **Sonia suggested directing the profits to tech spending, Sonia raised a motion to do so. Motion was approved.**

#### 7. Workshops on Mindfulness – Saumea T.

- Saumea presented information from a Mindfulness workshop she attended
- schools can apply for grants to hold workshops in the classroom - TDSB does it; facilitator would come in and chat with the teachers
- Laura commented that perhaps next year we can use spring PRO Grant funds and a committee/planning in place to enable a hard start in September 2018

#### 8. School Council Forum – presentation – Susan B.

This was deferred until next meeting.

#### 9. Open Forum - Diba R., Victoria C

- Diba talked about the Speak up Grant for grades 7 to 12. A parent has volunteered to help out with filling out the application for this so that our school could apply.

- Victoria discussed how there was a pilot project in Ontario for ABA Therapy in the community class. Maybe we could look into bringing it to our school.

**Next Meeting: Monday December 04, 2017**

Minutes Taken By: Julie Mallinos