

Little Rouge Public School Council

MINUTES – October 5, 2015

- 1) Opening
 - a) Welcome - **in attendance: Kim, Veronica, Rameetha, Haran, Gail, Sunitha, Tyler, Sarah, Diane, Laura, Eva, Tim, Ayesha, Wajeaha, Helen, Amy, Kim, Nancy, David, Nadine, Erin**
 - b) Approval of Agenda and meeting minutes

- 2) School Council Activities
 - a) Constitution - review and potential revisions – **postponed to next meeting**
 - b) Meeting dates - Nov.2/15, Jan. 11/16, Feb. 8/16, Apr. 4/16, May 2/16, June 6/16 **(if required)**
 - c) Treasurer's Report - Investment in Education
 - **\$2,841 received to date which is higher than the amount received after the 1st request last school year**
 - **Council to consider sending out a 2nd request this year. Suggestion - consider specific amount i.e. \$50.**
 - **Nancy to confirm how many parents donated this year**
 - **Comment: This year's letter provided greater clarity on reasons for parents to contribute than last year's**
 - d) ProGrant - date of next Mathlete - **Thursday February 11- day and evening events**
 - e) Subway Fundraiser - should we continue? - **offered four last year and raised a couple hundred dollars each time**
 - **Decision taken to continue with Subway lunches - Amy & Sarah volunteered to organize, deliver and count funds raised for October and November - Nancy to collect funds from classrooms**
 - **Questions were raised re : pizza days - Pizza days organized by staff and proceeds go to the school**
 - **Additional fundraising suggestion - consider another type of fundraiser like a dance-a-thon**

- 3) School Updates (Nancy Dodds)
 - a) Student Council election and activities - spirit days, student ambassadors, etc. - **Ms. Chaudhary heading this up. Execs will be from grades 7&8 and class reps from grades 4 to 8. Elections will be held Oct. 6th. Elected students will be invited to council meetings for student voice.**
 - b) Potential Student Development Programs -
 - **Big Brother and Sister - potential program for grades 6, 7 & 8**
 - **'Game On' Program -**
 - **Program for girls run last year with a focus on self esteem/healthy eating - 14 girls participated**
 - **Program for up to 14 boys to start Oct. 15th - teachers to nominate participants**
 - **Additional program in Jan/Feb/16 - info coming**
 - **'Play Leaders' Program for grade 5&6's**
 - **Mentoring training program for grades 5/6 students interested in being mentors/'play leaders' to grades 1&2 students - training held after school, one night only and lasts 3 hours**
 - c) Theme days - Toronto Maple Leaf's home opener - **Blue Jays Day, Maple Leaf Day: kids to wear team clothes and/or colours. Future theme/spirit days to be organized by the elected Student Council.**

- 4) New Business
 - a) Physical education teacher(s) –
 - **Dedicated part time physical ed. teacher for junior, intermediate and a couple primary classes**
 - **Physical ed. responsibilities for other classes shared by other teachers**
 - **Teacher allotment for Physical ed. based on student enrolment (currently 493)**
 - **Working towards having a full time physical ed teacher as student enrolment increases; In responding to comment on whether opening of new school in 2 years will impact numbers and progress, Nancy indicated that this should not be an issue but she will investigate**

Character Trait for October: **Responsibility** - "We are accountable for all our actions. We will follow through on our commitments."

September's Character Trait was: **Respect** - "We respect ourselves and treat others with courtesy, dignity and positive regard. We honour the rights of others. We respect their belongings, the environment and the world around us."

- b) Daily Physical Activity –
 - **Timetables must reflect 20 minutes of teacher lead DPA on non gym days - activities can be outdoors and done with individual classes or as school wide activities**
 - **Teachers required to demonstrate DPA being completed on timetables to school administration**
 - c) Lunch time supervision model - Nancy explained that what is in place includes
 - **4 paid adult assistants who monitor the hallways outside of classrooms and float between classes**
 - **2-3 junior /intermediate students who monitor each JK to grade 3 class; student monitors are in pairs or threes and are there to observe with a goal of 'safety first' and not to discipline the kids; student monitors are required to report to the teachers and are provided with a guidance Booklet**
 - **1 paid board employee who monitors each Kindergarten classroom**
 - **Little Rouge using one extra paid position**
 - **Comment: student lunch monitors need more guidance; teachers need to be advised if student monitors are not behaving properly or are disciplining the students**
 - d) Crossing guard at Northvale and Country Glen intersection -
 - **Nancy spoke with Traffic Department at the City of Markham**
 - **City advised that it will do a gap study within a months time - the results of the study will determine whether a guard will be assigned**
 - e) Creation of "buddy bench" - **Decision: A buddy bench is too pricey, starts out okay but ends up becoming a student hang out and no longer is effective. It was decided to pursue the 'Play Leaders Program' as a more effective program to help mentor the younger and/or potentially shy kids.**
 - f) Reformatting of school emails -
 - **Emails cannot be read on iPhone and is inconvenient; school's Admin is working on rectifying issue**
 - **About 350 parents have signed up to receive emails**
 - g) 2016 Graduation - Council members role and recommendations – **Council to discuss closer to the graduation date**
 - h) Other - consider role for Council in outfitting sports teams -
 - **At this time it does not appear that new outfits are needed**
 - **Currently there are 25 volleyball and 15 basketball shirts that are in good condition. Cross country team is wearing black Little Rouge rocket shirts. Nancy will look into the shirts but it appears that new shirts are not needed.**
- 5) Other Updates and Information
- a) Sex Ed Curriculum- **Implementation delayed until spring 2016. Council will have to follow up with Superintendent on having a Curriculum Consultant come in to speak to the parents in the spring.**
 - b) School Year Book – **Year Book delivered in June. Nadine heads up the whole process; provided with school lists by Admin and makes every effort to ensure that all students are included in group photos if missing an individual picture.**
 - c) Nov. 2 Parent Workshop - Increasing Resiliency and Well Being in our Children - **Workshop on November council meeting date. Erin can attend and report back to the council on presentations.**
 - d) "The Good Stuff" - sharing of or insights on positive/creative ideas or activities- **Nancy asking to hear about classroom experiences that are positive. Positive information is also being shared on twitter by Tina Shire.**
- 6) Adjournment

Upcoming Dates

Oct. 12 – Thanksgiving
 Oct. 16 – Photo Day
 Oct. 19 – Federal Election (gym closed all day)
 Oct. 21 - Hep B and HPV vaccinations
 Oct. 29 - Rocket Rally
 Nov. 02 - Next Council Meeting

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