

# Markville Council Meeting Minutes

March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 -7:15

**Welcome** -Naline and Ravi

**Approval of Minutes** –Michael

-minutes were approved from last meeting

**School Council Reports** – Tiffany -SAC

-Tiffany spoke on behalf of SAC, discussed past and current events -semi formal –before March break , currently planning Talent show, applications for next year (end of April, beginning of May), currently planning carnival for end of June

**School Climate Survey** –Michael

-results from most recent survey -189 Markville parents responded (13% of Markville population)

-76% say school is welcoming, 16% say school is unwelcoming

-87% of parents say their child is interested in learning at Markville 10% disagree

-68% are satisfied with opportunities they have to support the school improvement planning process, 12% disagree, 20% don't know

-69% say the school keeps them well informed about what their child is learning

-Question asked if parents agree that, "Overall I think this is a good school" 92% agree, 5% disagree, 3% don't know

-Math question -asked if the school provides opportunities to learn math together only 37% agreed, does the school provide resources to support math learning at home -39% agreed

-My child likes who he/she is as a person -87% agree, 10% disagree, 3% don't know

-the staff cares about my child's well-being -77% agree, 8% disagree, 14% unsure

-64% say they know where to get support for mental health, 19% disagree, 17% don't know

-59% of parents report their child always, often, or sometimes feels nervous or anxious

-85% of respondents feel diversity is respected

-59% know how to report discrimination at the school, 41% are unsure

-58% are aware of board's equity plan, 42% are unaware

-parents find their child's marks are the greatest barrier to their success at school

-parents feel that barrier to participate in school activity is cost and method (school cash online)

-92% say their child feels safe 7% disagree

-54% say they are satisfied with steps taken to address bullying, 38% don't know

### **Discussion about results –**

FYI-There is a link on the Markville website called "Report it" where students or parents can complete anonymous reports on safety issues or bullying, that will be shared with the school

Parent comments –school cash online –does school board know how many parents prefer to use? –parents confused about which activity to pay for – would be helpful to know which course or activity, which are required, optional, is confusing –if email could include more information –this activity is related to course (Michael responded –some items can be catered, and emailed to only particular groups, but school will try to add to description course and grade). **This has been checked; the email includes the name of the activity, the due date and the fee associated with it. If the activity is associated with a course, it is indicated on the email. The email does not indicate whether the activity is mandatory or not; however, the students are informed by their teacher/coach whether they should be attending or not. Most field trips are followed by a paper copy indicating all the details, including course code, date and time.**

-comments about adapting e-bulletin –to try to put important events in more concise way, could try adding tryouts so parents are more aware. Currently announcements are made, then posted outside of the office, and also on

television screens so students have several opportunities to see. **Work in progress.**

-discussion about the time of announcements –suggested to be at beginning of period rather than the end **This is being considered for next year.**

-parents would like to see announcements on twitter, or website so they can help remind their children (school will consider this)

-discussion about importance of staff reflecting community (particularly in the office) –make an effort to hire staff to speak primary language of community-although often the school does not have control over this

### **Pro Grant -Patricia**

Pro Grant is Parents Reaching Out grant –the purpose is to identify barriers to parent engagement and develop solutions, and to support student achievement

-last year was guest speaker –Kolari

-PRO grant could be used for things such as, parent workshops, information sessions, mental health and well-being, newcomer families, etc.

-June 5<sup>th</sup> is deadline to apply for next year

Suggestions discussed at meeting - parent comment about school communicates marks, but not as many opportunities to learn how to support learning at home –math as example, this was also reflected on the survey

-an idea was to show families how to access information, where to go when students need help, develop independence, asking right questions, not just about tracking learning skills, could also include technological resources and resources in the community

-we will discuss in May meeting –if anyone has suggestions, email Patricia [patricia.obadia@yrdsb.ca](mailto:patricia.obadia@yrdsb.ca)

### **Edsby and Parent teacher Interviews –Michael**

-families will receive email tomorrow to book appointment for interview, or contact teacher or school

## **Principals report –Patricia**

Patricia discussed some of the events happening through the past few months –competitions and contests, University and College Visits, trips, OSSLT -April 10<sup>th</sup>, Midterm reports April 25<sup>th</sup>

-course verification forms for next year in the next couple weeks, timetabling is happening now for next year –please check selections carefully

## **Parent Q&A –parents**

### **Upcoming Dates**

April 18<sup>th</sup> 6-9pm –Town hall meeting at Markville

March 28<sup>th</sup>–Parent engagement night before interviews about University  
5:30-6:30 Topic: University and College information

May 28<sup>th</sup> –next council meeting