## IN PERSON AND ONLINE PARK AVENUE COUNCIL MEETING

### Thursday, January 25, 2024

### 7:00pm

#### In attendance:

Kevin Lillico Katie Cook Aaron Noordhuis Jen Wilson Karolina Blioumenfeld Natasha Arczewski

On-line attendance:

Leslie SantorelliAndrew CorryHelen BlackwoodRobyn FrancisAlanna OddleifsonLisa MasenRyan Watts

Win Combaluzier

Shauna Wenzel

Ashley Warner

Lauren Aleito Olly Grishin

Brent Weir

#### Regrets

Allison Gold Chris Weston Jess Krystal

**Teacher Representative** Jennifer Greenham Kelly Barbarich

### ITEMS

#### Welcome

- Land Acknowledgement
- Connection Activity

### **Chair Report and Update**

- Reviewed Norms
- Ice activity ice-time reserved for teams currently EG Arena 3 options survey to be sent out
  - Look at ice time in Newmarket
  - Cancel activity
  - o April ice time at EG Arena
- Dance-A-Thon February 29/24 Budget allocated \$2K Approved by Council
  - Budget prizes / entertainment / decorations
  - Primary 2 stations yoga / dance in gym
  - Junior/Intermediate 2 stations coloring/reading/board games / dance in gym
  - o Sub-Committee needed
- Winter Decorations \$1K raised towards field trips / classroom supplies
  - Sparkle & Shine Huge THANK YOU to volunteers & staff who assisted over 500 attendees We used:
    - o 250 snowflake crowns
    - o 600 cookies

Administration Crystal Mott Gillian Cousineau

Robyn Pisano Kris Maye Michelle Puddy Amber Preston Invesca Gareev Meaghan Potts

Crystal Stewart Tracie Blakslee Jeremy Blakslee Ashley Watts Julia March

- 300 cups of hot chocolate
- 100 cups of apple cider
- o 300 snowflake key chain crafts
- 1 blow up gingerbread man costume
- Over 1,100 lights!
- Opportunity for a grant for funds for next year
- Carolyn Butterworth attended thank you!

# **Treasurer's Report**

- \$16,258.39 current balance
- -\$336.47 towards Sparkle and Shine
- -\$300.00 from the Angel Fund
- +\$50.88 profit from Mabels Labels
- +\$227.00 profit from Works Burgers
- New Account Breakdown:
  - School Council General Day to day activities & events \$2,958.39
  - School Council Classroom Money for field trips / classroom supplies (\$100 per class) \$2,600.00
  - School Council Angel Fund Money to support students in need \$700.00
  - School Council Event Back Up To support overages & additional events \$3,000.00
  - School Council Playground Holding account for money raised towards the Playground -\$7,000.00

# November Minutes approved

Teacher Update – Jennifer Greenham & Kelly Barbarich

- Chess club
- Pokemon club
- Sign language club
- Youth S.P.A.C.E YRDSB initiative Phase 2 continuing to meet Grades 5-8
  - Cookie fundraiser February 14, 2024 contribute to playground Grade 6
  - Teacher Supervisor Jennifer Greenham supported students when sourcing/ordering product phone discussions/demonstrations real life experience
- Arts club happening for grades 6, 7 and 8s
- Drama club
- D&D club (Dungeons and Dragons)
- Students are initiating clubs
- Intermediate Boys & Girls Basketball
- Chess tournaments are happening Grades 1-3 and 4-8
- Upcoming Lunar New Year
- February Black History Month
- Forest of Reading will be beginning

## **CODING Presentation** – Mrs. Greenham

- Coding has been a part of the curriculum updated in curriculum as students are behind in math especially outcome of COVID
  - Curriculum Blue Bot Different levels Unplugged, Icon-based, Block-based, Textbased (not a Elementary level)
  - o Demonstration Microbit Organization is in UK \$30 each
  - 10 Chromebooks in library others students bring down from class

# **Administration Report**

- Toy and Food Drive for the holiday Season
- Playground Benches arrived not installed yet (weather permitting)
- Cell phone RIBS submitted Survey to be sent out to parents, staff & students results to be shared & reviewed at next council meeting
- Discussion about cell phones held during meeting: Some of the points made:
  - Admin rolled out unsupervised access to phones during 20 minute eating period advising students directly without any prior input from parents/guardians – concerns raised about the issue that there are many negative impacts of cell phone use, social medial use on youth - especially youth in this age group
  - Guidelines provided but students still on social media, filming/posting during school hours Concern about managing/supervising guidelines
  - Parents sign no image of minors to be posted online yet images are on social media for pictures taken at school how is this managed?
  - Concerns raised about the mental health of students overall and the negative impacts of social media on youth Concerns further raised about the unsupervised use
  - Discussion about student behaviours prior to new rules & after rule change Have behaviours changed?
  - Concerns about distractions, student knowledge about repercussions of online activity, and online bullying occurring
  - Other schools have implemented no phone policy contracts b/w parents & students w/school
  - o Concerns raised about enforcement/punishment for improper phone use
  - Noted that students didn't have access in September but given access December 1/23 students had behaviours but were adjusting
  - Discussion about students interaction and concern about lack of talking to each other/interacting during eating time – social interactions are regressing in smaller nonstructured groupings – social peer to peer pushback
  - Equity what about kids who don't have cell phones and are made fun of as a result
  - $\circ$   $\:$  If students/families need communication Can school offer a place in office to use?
- Online concerns from closed Park Avenue Parents Group brought up by Admin:
  - Mice in school pest control increased presence in Kindergarten room public health clearance November 24/23
  - Smell in Kindergarten classroom moved class to library

- Notice sent to families of students affected afterwards concern raised about timing and if this can be sent in a timelier manner
- Pest Control PCO Services green, environmentally friendly, nothing sprayed come in every 2 weeks
- Safety in School SAC concern re: location of SAC in Kindergarten Hall location due to enclosed bathroom – Kindergarten students are coming home and telling parents they are were not allowed to go into hall/use washroom due to "Hold & Secure"
- Parents concerns are for their children, do support all students right to an education
- Admin proposed reaching out to Principal of Student Services for further discussion with group
- School has staff who are trained and are supportive of students ensure safety of all students

## Subcommittee Work Time

- Notes were not taken at this time

## Next meeting; Thursday, February 29th, 2024 – 7pm