

Regency Acres Public School

School council Meeting via Zoom conference

November 03 2020

7:00pm -8:15pm

Attendees: Kerry Grossinger, Judy Sandiford, Kim Davies, Sera Weiss, Claudia Velocci, Janine Riley, Brendt Wonch, Rodney Mooy, Elena Gomar, Cheryl Bacon, Sibel Saridas, Sacha Sprague-Street, Behzad Sara, Saridas Sibel, Anahita Amiri,

Regrets: Sandy Kennedy, Rebecca Haberman, Neelu Sahrawat

Kim started the meeting at 7:03, Kerry welcomed and thanked everyone for their attendance.

Elena was asked to take minutes for the meeting.

There was a brief introduction made by each executive member for the new participants.

Kim, Sera, Claudia, Rodney, and Elena introduced themselves.

Kerry welcomed a new parent joining the council as a parent member, Sibel Saridas.

Claudia motioned to approve and Sera seconded the minutes.

Agenda Review

No review needed. Janine motioned to approve the November 3, 2020 agenda and Brendt seconded the motion.

Business discussed

Growth mindset board

- 1) Sera shared on behalf of Rebecca - a new Healthy School initiative, the creation of a "Growth mindset display board" that will be presented to create a positive culture of progress and learning.
 - Kerry shared with everyone the general concept of having a growth mindset vs. having a fixed mindset, and how it will benefit our school.
 - The main objective of this board is to teach in all the Regency community the concept and benefits of having a growth mindset.
 - It will influence in children a good change of language that may impact positively the student's academic performance.
 - This board will function as a visual reminder for everyone, and it will reinforce the new SEL (Social emotional Learning) in the curriculum. Also, it will be relevant to Mental Health focus.
- Kerry thanked Rebecca for preparing all the material

- 2) There will be a 45 min. presentation on January 28 for parents and students – presenter works for York Hills a YRDSB community partner
 - topic will be about parenting in challenging times
 - it's free
 - info shared in November newsletter – more promotion will happen closer to the event

Art project at the Library Square

- 3) Sera shared with everyone the Art project at the Library square. Made through a partnership with the Town of Aurora, this project is intended to connect our students with the community. It will bring to our Regency students a new opportunity to have a space to display individual art pieces that will be available for all the community to enjoy.
 - Kerry mentioned that she is waiting to have more details to share this information to staff and parents and expressed excitement and her support of this idea.

Council Meeting Rotation

Kerry mentioned the rotation of the council meetings between Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evening throughout the year.

Financial Report

Rodney Mooy confirmed that there is approximately \$5,000 (including the surplus carried from last year) that needs to result in what is going to be used. He said that it might be used for the purchase of technology which has been identified as need in the school

Kerry said the school will be getting topped up with some technology from the board, also shared that the teachers are asking about the purchase of technology and reading licenses. (Epic, RAZ)

Kerry mentioned the program "X movement" and the possibility of purchasing this for the school – licence for teachers and families – it's a way to include our EVS families by sharing the log in information

-provides videos and lessons for fitness, self-regulation, social emotional learning

Kerry shared that the school has received the following donations to support the snack program:

\$800.00 donation from Aurora Optimist Club

\$660.00 donation from a grant (money will be received soon)

The milk program is up and running

There is \$ 285.00 from the snack program to get the program up and running Mable Labels has raised \$140.00 and the program is up and running.

Fundraisers

Jeanine and Claudia presented the following 2 fundraisers to everyone.

1) “Fundscrip” is a gift card program that works in partnership with some major retail stores and gas stations. The way it works is that parents purchase gift cards and they use them in their everyday purchases. Advantages of this fundraiser are that it is hands free, easy to manage and a good opportunity for the school to make money with everyday family shopping. It is intended that this fundraiser will be an ongoing program like Mabel labels.

It will be encouraged to promote it during Christmas season since it can be used with rechargeable gift cards. Families can use their credit card too, but it is not encouraged in order to receive more % of the money in return. The amount of the percentage depends on each retailer. By the end of November should be up and running.

2) Tina's Grill

This restaurant is located in Aurora and is willing to start a fundraiser with Regency.

It was mentioned that is good quality food. The fundraiser will be promoted and families can take out food and some percentage will be donated to the school.

This fundraiser can be set at school cash online to make it easy for families to participate.

The average cost per family (4) is between \$80 to \$100 with an option to donate money to the school directly. It was mentioned that the owner of the restaurant is willing to set a specific popular menu for the Regency families to choose from. It was asked if there is a kid's meal available and Claudia mentioned that she will gather more information about this item.

This fundraiser could happen around the week of family day, this is still pending to be decided.

Janine mentioned that this restaurant is offering Wed nights to bring families on their Facebook page and this could be tied to our school fundraiser – a good night to have the event.

Janine said that this fundraiser idea could be used as an exciting activity for Regency families and can support this local restaurant. She asked the % of the profit with the restaurant but that information was not available.

Rodney mentioned that this fundraiser may not be ideal since the cost of the food is higher than what a family spends average in a night out, it may be a little profit for a big effort. It was not decided if the fundraiser will happen.

More work will be done to find out the details, before deciding.

Terry Fox

Kerry shared with everyone that this year Regency raised \$800.00 to support this wonderful initiative.

Donation Drive

It will need the creation of flyer or other sources to present this idea to the families.

Rodney asked if there was a chance of getting a taxable receipt. This could motivate families to participate in this fundraiser.

Claudia said that due to the unusual circumstances in this year, this could be a great idea with this different approach to gather our community.

It was discussed that this fundraiser can be anonymous and that could help the existent economic inequality in our school families, and make everyone comfortable to donate whatever amount they could possibly make.

It was mentioned that it would be ideal to make it happen before tax season on April 2021. It was mentioned that a different approach would be to have it over Christmas season because people is in general more giving. It was not decided when it will happen, however everyone showed very positive response to this fundraiser idea.

Kim, Sera, Claudia, Janine and Kerry committed to work on this initiative.

It was asked if the school cash online could be opened to grandparents and other family members in order to get a wider reach – a log in is required and a general link cannot be sent out, only those with accounts are able to purchase donations through school cash online.

School report by Kerry G.

X Movement Program

Kerry presented the X movement Classroom program as an exciting and useful tool for teachers and families that promotes fitness and wellness. She presented this program to discuss the possibility to purchase it for the school. It works with a license that gives digital access to programs and activities virtually. This could be used as a great DPA tool since it promotes fitness, self regulation and mental health. The X Movement has a cost of \$490.00 + tax. It was suggested that the purchase money could be used from the school council resources.

The vote was presented by Claudia, everyone gave their opinion and the vote was positively unanimous.

Snack club

Judy has been actively supporting this initiative and the club is up and running successfully. Thank you Judy.

Remembrance Day

There will be a virtual assembly on November 11 due to gathering restrictions. It will be presented as a slideshow.

Spirit Days

It was mentioned that spirit days in Regency bring joy to the children and the staff in general. There will be more coming to the school since they are fun and exciting for everyone.

Parent- Teacher interview

This year will have parent teacher interviews online using either zoom or google classroom. Each teacher gets to decide the digital platform they want to use. The interviews are scheduled from November the 12th to 13th.

This year will be different as the school board decided to have the interviews before the parents get the actual school progress report. This brings a new approach to have an opened conversation about the students between parents and teachers. The formal progress report card will be delivered electronically to parents on November the 20th.

JK observation day will not be happening this year, instead there will be the parent and teacher interview.

Closing notes

The next meeting will be Wednesday December 2

Kerry and Sera thanked everyone for their participation, Sera motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:15, and Rodney seconded the motion.