

Robert Munsch Public School

Parent Council Meeting

Thursday, November 6th, 2014

In attendance: Sian McLean, Amy Leonard, Tamara Gillingham, Pamela Agawa, Heather Vaz, Jonathan Mitchell, Sarah Loeffler, Crystal Mott, Jennifer Bolton, Kristina Iantria, Elaine Hunter, Sarah Black, Julie Freeman, Greg Collins, Michael Neve, Jan Vesna

Icebreaker/TRIBE activity

- Intro – ‘draw a pig’- get to know you activity facilitated by Elaine and Sian

Adoption of Minutes from October Meeting

- Will aim to have minutes out the week before meetings so people have a chance to review
- Tamara motioned to pass minutes; Jan seconded the motion – October minutes passed
- Intro of new parents/revised intros of all members

Admin Report

- School improvement plan begun with staff – to be brought to council in December
- 4 main areas – values, beliefs, expectations, non-negotiables – Mr. Collins shared a PowerPoint presentation to outline these main areas
- Learning/teaching area – Reading/writing focus, review of EQAO results (from MAPS), look at student learning needs and teacher needs
- Positive Climates area – looking at becoming eco-school certified, healthy snack program (1 day per week), parent engagement – survey to get data back re: what do families need (survey to go out next week during progress reports/interviews; looking at possibility of engagement nights? Survey can be completed in hard copy or online - healthy schools, safe and supportive schools
- Principal feedback survey (on Blog) quick survey – anonymous
- Dogs on the property – reminder sent –keep dogs off the property because some students are afraid and others are allergic
- Crossing guard update – requested one from town in the spring – monitoring traffic patterns
- Lots of families walking to school – yay!
- Sidewalk being built on the south side – hoping to have it in before winter; checking re: winter maintenance of sidewalks – slippery pebbled walkway issue coming into the school – can we address this?
- Arts performances ideas – The Money Tree (December 4th) and Memorable Munsch (March 24th) = can council support this to subsidize cost to families? Kristina and Heather motion/second for us to subsidize \$875.35 to bring cost down for families – motion passed
- Bike racks are in – yay!

- Discussion re: kindies getting in to the school on time – looking at different options – still a work in progress

Treasurer report

- \$10000 from MAPS in one account
- Money in from pizza - \$8897 - \$200 donation from community (Seniors' Centre) to go towards program; no money has gone out yet – Kristina will send a thank you note on behalf of council for the donation

Fundraising updates

Pizza Lunch

- Pizza lunch underway – starts tomorrow (Nov. 5)
- Need a committee to help Sarah B. – super time consuming
- January 16th is a PA day – error on the form – will be Thursday (15th) that week instead
- Sarah B. still working on coordinating a volunteer list going forward
- Need at least 3 parents on Fridays – one per floor plus a 'runner'
- Next round of orders to go out on January 12th - will create sub-committee at January meeting

Kids Kitchen

- Kids Kitchen – will deliver to Mt Albert; need a minimum of 30 orders per day – director is currently away – compared to Lunch Lady – prices are similar; offers gluten free; Kids Kitchen ordering online much easier than Lunch Lady and offers a la carte options – average price is about \$4.50 per entree – for full meal – about \$6 – wide variety of selection – Sarah L. Waiting to find out if we get a percentage; THEY hand it out (no parents needed) – let's do a survey – to see how many people would be interested and how often; minimum order per kid is \$4 – can we revisit in December? Sarah L. Will take care of this (getting info, etc.) – how do parents get notified if we don't make the minimum?

Poinsettias

- Poinsettias – orders due on the 18th – will know amounts on the 19th (December 2nd – Tuesday is delivery and pick up day) – looking for volunteers for the day – Jen M. And Tamara will coordinate. Can we get pictures of them to show parents? Didn't coordinate with MAPS parent council – they're upset since we're ahead of them and will likely get more orders because of the timing. MAPS council was upset because the poinsettia fundraiser was a fundraiser that had taken place at MAPS previously (with parents from RMPS council having been involved when at MAPS) and there was no communication between the councils to determine if both schools would be running the fundraiser. MAPS council is wanting to see more coordination – will need to figure this out going forward

Miko-Samko

- Miko Samko – (Sian) 3 two week blocks we can choose from between now and the holidays – when you go shopping during those 2 weeks you get your receipt stamped – we get the original receipt and we get a percentage (10%) of total sales – November 26th – December 7th – Sian will type up letter & confirm, Elaine will pick up 400 flyers – need to go out next week if possible

2015 ideas

- AVGEN gift cards – if only for the holidays – MAPS should do it (but they're already booked up to January) should we park this and revisit for 2015 holiday season?
- Movie night at the school – pjs, popcorn, big screen – good for families (can't charge for the movie but maybe for snacks?)
- Read-a-thon (for literacy month)- sponsor the child for reading – get tickets for prizes (i.e. principal for the day, etc.) – does each kid that participates get something (like a bookmark) – reading time vs. Number of books; Mrs. Mott can promote during library time
- Can receive tax receipts for over \$25 donation
- Dance-a-thon – if we use same company, very little start up; put a minimum donation or no? Every one participates regardless – could we do a family dance day?
- Fun fair? Lots of work – look at it for the spring?
- Chapters sale – January (end) for literacy week – Jan will look into this

Fundraising allocation committee

- Healthy Living/Outdoor activities – how to spend donation from MAPS parent council; Jonathan and Sarah L., Heather and _____ To chair committee – can we look at an outdoor play space vs. An actual play structure. . . Eco School committee – use of natural products (logs, rocks, etc.) – want to be able to go back to community to say – thank you for the money, this is what we're using it for (earmark some of it set aside to go towards an eventual play ground) – Greg will work with teachers on eco schools as well to generate ideas
- Campbell's Soup labels – bring them in to be put towards sports equipment – can a reminder be sent about this through Email? Blog? Other (many parents didn't seem to know about it)

New Topics

- New-to-you book exchange (like at MAPS in previous years) – at MAPS and RMPS – any donations go to an outside charity – during literacy week – Mrs. Birtles looking forward to helping coordinate it
- Scholastic book fair during parent interviews Thursday night and Friday (classes will be visiting as well)
- Holiday concert? Sponsor a family? Food drive? – grade 3s working on something along these lines. . . MAPS doing a toy drive to support families at partnered YRDSB school

Next meeting: Thursday December 4th

