



Whitchurch Highlands Public School Council Meeting

April 6th 2017

Present:

Council Members: Brad Derry, Therese Harris, Mary Zizakovic, Michelle Sauve, Cathlin Hennze, Lorie Schoenrock, Jane Vivian, Jen Worden, Noula Halikias-Mintsoulis

Regrets: Robert Carter, Jackie Steinmiller, Amanda Van Veen Pirie

Non-Council Attendees: Sara Abdulla

Approval of January minutes: Approved by Noula Halikias-Mintsoulis and seconded by Jane Vivian

Approval of April agenda: The following additions were made to the agenda: Cathlin to discuss Council fundraising approval process and parent concerns about fundraising. Motion to approve the Agenda as amended was put forth. Approved by Jane Vivian and seconded by Cathlin Hennze

Treasurer's Report – Brad Derry in Rob's absence

- Approx. \$11,596.37 in school account
- Lice checks approved at last meeting (\$1000)
 - ✓ 3 lice checks per year
 - ✓ They are very thorough and reasonably priced
 - ✓ Already booked for next Sept
- \$500 allocated to Forest of Reading
- \$1000 allocated to grade 8 graduation

Principal's Report – Brad Derry

- In the process of completing student surveys (grades 5-8) - survey will address topics such as Mental Health, Equity, School Safety, and Math. Survey is voluntary and confidential
- Parent survey – scheduled for May 1st – 19th (Online survey) – more information coming out shortly
- Parent reviews and comments on board policies and procedures
- Staffing
 - ✓ Registrations down in enrolment but not significant
 - ✓ Mrs. Relph will be moving to Bond Lake PS
 - ✓ Projecting 241 students for next year
 - ✓ Kindergarten registrations are coming in – currently staffed for 2 kindergarten classes
 - ✓ Staffing changes in the ASD classroom
- Principal Profile – review and approval; no changes made
- Dress Code – review and approval; minor changes made to the language used

Teacher's Report – Michelle Sauve

- Mrs. Meyer and the Healthy Schools committee have received a \$400 grant to be used for a cooking program
 - ✓ You're The Chef will be starting shortly
 - ✓ All counters need to be free and clear as well as a large cabinet to store the equipment – Mary and Sarah to come in one day before lunch duty
- Jungle Sport – Apr 18th – 21st
- Wide Awake at WHPS – April 28th 5 pm – midnight
 - ✓ Grades 6, 7, and 8 – cost is \$20
 - ✓ All money raised beyond the cost of the pizza goes to charities that are researched and presented by the grade 7 students
- Jump Rope for Heart
 - ✓ Kick off assembly is May 3rd, event date is May 18th
 - ✓ Encouraging children to register and collect sponsor donations online this year
- Jr. Girls and Boys basketball teams have started playing
- Grade 7 & 8 Badminton team has started playing (Ms. Sullivan)
- Popcorn sales for Healthy Schools (\$800 raised to date)
- Primary soccer intramurals – coming soon (Ms. Sauve)

Spring Fair Update – Jane Vivian in Amanda's absence

- Thurs June 1st – 5 PM
- Amanda and Mel working together on the planning
- Cannot get the photo booth this year
- DJ – Jane to follow up with Bounce Entertainment
- Bubble soccer (for the older students) – Ms. Sauve to follow up with her contact
- If anyone has any great ideas, please come forward

New Business

- Ball diamond repairs – request to be made to the Board landscaping dept. (safety issues) – Brad
- 150th T's Update – 100 t-shirts sold (should arrive by May) \$1100 in profit
- Markham Fair Submissions
 - ✓ Jane to find out if she can take a few of the grade 5 projects from library to the Fair
 - ✓ Volunteer parents needed next week to start a craft club
 - ✓ Submission requirements in pdf form to be given to the teachers
 - ✓ Reach out to grade 7 girls to help supervise the students during the craft club
- Cathlin – discussion around parent feedback regarding fundraisers
 - ✓ There should have been a greater discussion regarding the t-shirt sales (not all Council members were included in those conversations)
 - ✓ Discussion around the increased pressure to parents to participate in school fundraising activities
 - ✓ Difference between a fundraiser and a service provided to parents
 - ✓ Order the yearbook at the beginning of the year to spread out the cost
 - ✓ Fun fair is a community event and not a fundraiser
 - ✓ We need a structured fundraising plan in June for the following year

Teacher Wish List

Motion – Council moved to approve \$2090 for the following 4 items. This motion was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Lepage - \$250.00

- ✓ Materials to create a unit promoting self-esteem and self confidence
- ✓ Materials to create STEM bins (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)

Mrs. Lepage – Presentation by Errol Lee (Caring Kids Concert) - \$700

ME Classroom (Mr. Storie) -

- ✓ Stats – 250 piece replacement balls (3 – 4 bags) @ \$34.99

Mrs. Derry – Learning commons materials available to all students - \$1000

- ✓ A makerspace is a place where students can gather to create, invent, tinker, explore and discover using a variety of tools and materials
- ✓ We are encouraging all students to come to the learning commons (library) to work in the makerspace area
- ✓ Students have been focussed on structures
- ✓ We would also like to get the students working on coding activities
- ✓ Coding is a set of words that tell a website, app, game or piece of software what to do. These instructions shape what is displayed. Coding opportunities is a valuable way to begin to teach programming to students
- ✓ An initial investment of \$1000 would allow us to purchase some of the following Makerspace Coding materials:
 - 1) Dash and Dot robots (students would use the app Scratch to get these robots to follow commands) \$254 would allow us to purchase 1 Dash/Dot Wonder Pack
 - 2) Ozobots - \$679.96 would allow the purchase of a pack of 12
 - 3) Littlebits premium kit - \$203.96
 - 4) Sphero Spark - \$127.96
 - 5) Makey, Makey Board - \$57.25 per board

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

*** Last council meeting on Thurs March 2nd was cancelled due to low attendance*

Next Council Meeting: Thursday May 4th – 7 PM