**School Council Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday December 7th, 2023**

**6pm start**

**Present**:Emma Arnot, Amanda Baird, Ashley Falardeau, Melanie Swinwood, Lisa Couch-Blackburn, Jen Lytle and Paul Leroy

**Regards:** Sarah Dougherty, Gary Schmid, Kyla Harry, Julia Baker, Ashley Tedford and Scott McNamara

**Principal Update/Report**

Lisa Couch-Blackburn has been standing in for Paul during his absence.

Friday, November 10 – Remembrance Day Assembly:

Students did a fantastic job, many thanks to both staff and students.

Friday, November 10 - Progress reports were sent home.

Thursday, November 23rd – Student Climate Meeting

* 4 students along with Mr. Leroy and Mme. Kelly attended a meeting which was an extension of the student climate survey at Ferrel Hall with other school groups from approximately half of the Eastern School Board.
* Students brainstormed for to solve bullying, keep a safe and comfortable school environment and much more, Pual stated it went very well.
* Another meeting will take place this spring.

Grade 4’s CCAT came in and went without any issue.

November 30 – Character Always Assembly

* A select group of students from each class who demonstrated respect and empathy were recognized and celebrated by their peers, teachers and families/guardians who could attend.
* Next meeting: November 22nd at 11am. These meetings will be held monthly, recognizing different characteristics.

**Teacher Update**

* Teachers have been focusing on the holiday concert which is taking up much of their time.
* There has been a lot of staff/student sickness.

**Importance of Sleep and Bell Times**

* We watched a 17-minute video geared towards the positive effect of the proposed changes to Elementary and Secondary School bell changes and importance of sleep and circadian rhythms.
* The council had an open conversation in regard to both positive and negative possible outcomes from the proposed changes. Some key points of the conversation included the effect on bussing, daycare, after school jobs and highlighted the importance of sleep required for all school aged groups and the beneficial outcomes gained from the proper amount of rest.
* A QR code was given to all members with the option to complete and share with family and friends, linking to a survey to voice our thoughts on the importance of sleep and bell times.

**Christmas Concert**

December 12th, 2023

* The rehearsal starts at 1pm, the evening show is at 6:30pm and both are open to the public.

**Concert Canteen**

* Email will be sent home tomorrow requesting volunteers to both run the canteen and donate nut free baked goods.
* Current baked good donations include Rice Krispie squares (Gary) baked goods (Amanda) sugar cookies (Emma) and cookies (Sarah)

**Concert vendors**

* Only one person has requested a table so far.
* Set up at 4pm, sales from 4:30-6:30
* $15 per table, vendors are requested to supply their own table, but we can supply if needed.
* Emma to send email to past vendors to gauge interest.
* We would like a minimum of 5-6 tables to proceed, the decision will be made Monday to whether we will proceed with this.

**PRO (parents reaching out) Grant**

* GTSC could receive up to $2000 to support our initiative.
* **Application deadline is December 15, 2023**
* Suggestion to host a MiniMakers STEM night.
* In the new year we would like to look into events we can host free of charge to involve students and families, such as virtual ventures. (Ashley F can give more information to anyone interested)
* The school council would like to look into “The Science of Reading” as our proposal.
* Paul is to get more information so this proposal can be made/sent before the deadline.

**Financial Update**

* To be discussed at January meeting.

**Holiday Shop (December 14th & December 15th)**

* Volunteers will be required to set up Wednesday, December 13th
* Set up will in in room 13 any time after 12:30pm
* Email will be sent out requesting parents donate gently used and or new items.
* Order of attendance may be decided by a draw, Paul to confirm.
* REMINDER: A float is required for both days.

**Fundraising**

Holiday wreaths: a total of 72 wreaths were ordered (SC profited an amazing sum of $1211.00!)

* Wreath feedback was fantastic with many compliments.

Papa Jacks: Scheduled delivery is December 11th with hopefully the same date for pick up.

* SC profited approximately $500 on this fundraiser, exact amount TBD.

Spirit Wear: Will be delivered December 15th or December 18th.

* Parents will receive pick up information when it becomes available.

**Other Discussions**

* Website: updates have been made.
* Meeting date changes: January's meeting will move to January 11th, 2023, and February's will be moved to February 8th, 2023, due to scheduled PA days.
* Trustee Carol Dufort is to attend our January meeting.
* Sheridan Gorgerat has requested to be added to January's agenda.
* Offence Declarations: Anyone who requires a VSC or updated OD form has been notified.
* Student council insurance: Mr Leroy is looking into this.
* Raffle licensing: it may not be worth proceeding with, we will continue with draws and auctions for the time being.

**Items Pinned for future meetings**

**Discussions:**

* $100 for each classroom
* Literacy Kit: How are teachers liking it?
* Lice Checks
* Bussing for swimming
* Gaga Ball
* 9 squares
* Movie nights

**Future fundraising**

* Candy grams: we passed on “candy cane” grams due to timing but would like to discuss doing “Hershey Kisses” in February.
* Little Ceasars: Orders need to be placed by the end of **February** to ensure pick up before March Break. Ashley T has information and details to be shared during January meeting.
* Movie nights: licensing information, discuss dates, costs and volunteer requirement.
* Paint night: Emma is organizing with the Civitan and Paint sisters for a spring event, she is going to request 3 images to bring to vote. Possible auction also to happen during paint night.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm