

A.M. Cunningham

Parent Council

Minutes

Monday September 28, 2015



In attendance: Jodie Whitley, Shannon Kotecki, Tiz Penny, Lauren McLean, Sylvia Jarrett, Jacquie Reeds, Yvette Cowe, Ian Vincent, Melissa Crawford, Sarah Coles, Sonya Bender, Steve Farkas, Jessica Doherty, Rebekah Roy, Kelly MacNeill, Joanne Gibson, Christy Cowan, Amanda Rankin, Tiffany Iles, Meghan Shannon

Regrets: Chris Upshall

1. Introductions

2. Principal's Report:

- Friday – Toonies for Terry takes place after first nutrition break (11.10am)
 - parent volunteers requested to supervise points along the route
 - class that raises the most money will receive a treat on Monday
- Assembly – monthly assemblies throughout the year – first one takes place Thursday October 1
 - Ms Penney will issue Principal's Awards based on 3 categories
- Cross Country – scheduled for 14 October, as long as it is permitted to take place
 - if it is cancelled – contingency plan is to do an event at school – exact details TBD
- School Bus – bus company had glitches, which have been fixed
- Milk Program – beginning this week
 - parent volunteers required
- Childcare availability for school council meetings?

- inquiry from a parent to be looked into as Council establishes future meeting dates

3. Treasury Report:

- Sylvia Jarrett stepping down after many years as Council treasurer – call for volunteers to take this position
- Opening Balance: \$7869.88
 - surplus of \$539.98 for busing (will need \$260+ tax for cross country)
 - \$2000 set aside for kindergarten zone
 - \$2000 set aside for Back to School trip

4. Nominations

- Jodie Whitley and Chris Upshall – incumbent Co-Chairs
 - nominated by Joanne, seconded by Meghan
- Christy Cowan – Treasurer
 - nominated by Meghan, seconded by Tiffany
- Yvette Cowe – incumbent Secretary
 - nominated by Lauren, seconded by Joanne

5. Fundraising

- this year's fundraiser to be a "stag & doe" type night out, headed by Lauren McLean
- target date of February
- friends and family of AMC parents encouraged to come out
- looking at halls with capacity of 400 people
- sign up sheet passed around for volunteers for subcommittee
- budget previously established of \$1000 to cover upfront expenses
- Jodie provided a rundown of what sorts of things School Council funds are used for
- additional fundraising provided by Samko toy sale, where parents shop and have their receipt stamped for AMC, and a portion of proceeds come to our school. AMC has already signed up again for this year for the Samko toy sale. Parents will see flyers come home closer to the time of the sale. The sale takes place annually near Christmas at the Careport Centre (NOTE:

Samko Sale has been moved to the Warplane Heritage Building this year).

6. PRO Grant 2015-2016

- this year's Parents Reaching Out theme is The Pursuit of Happiness
 - focusing on mental health for children and adults
- thanks to efforts by Meghan Shannon and team, AMC has received the full funding of \$1000
- activities TBD
- subcommittee sign up sheet passed around
- Buddy Bench idea that has been brought forward at various times in recent years has resurfaced
 - Buddy Bench is a place for kids to go if they are outside at recess and find themselves without anyone to play with
 - acts as a signal for other children to invite them to play, or to come and sit with them
 - the Board foundation is looking at how to get a grant to obtain Buddy Benches schools that are interested. Rebekah provided a statement to the foundation to use for their application request.
 - Rebekah and Sarah expressed interest in facilitating a Buddy Bench

7. Busing

- \$260 required for busing to Cross Country should this activity go ahead
 - motion passed by Lauren, seconded by Christy & Rebekah
- Swim Team – practices taking place now at the Y for grade 3-5 – busing to meet required
 - motion passed by Lauren, seconded by Sylvia

8. Welcome Back Trip

- unable to do the trip this year due to labour action – question is what to do with the funds allocated for the welcome back trip

- busing for skating will cost \$600 for each of the 3 skating days (assuming we do this again this year)
- extra skates and helmets are on hand for those children that do not have any
 - point raised: could there be a physical activity planned for those students who do not go skating instead of watching a movie?
- more ideas: proper permanent goal posts
- kindergarten area beautification
 - not enough room for whole play structure
 - looked at other ideas including benches, or picnic tables, playhouse, smaller climbing apparatus
 - input of kindergarten teachers suggested

9. Volunteers

- volunteers in short supply and always needed
- Milk program beginning soon
 - time commitment about 10min
 - switching to first nutrition break – volunteers would need to be available about 10am
- volunteer form will be sent home per Ms Penney

10. Meet the Teacher

- will not be taking place

11. Future Meetings

- discussion re scheduling meetings for 6pm rather than 6.30
 - determined that would be too difficult, especially for working parents
- discussion whether to have meeting in October
 - decided to move to early November instead

Next Meeting: Thursday 5 November, 6.30pm

Issues Carried Forward:

- Child Care provided for meetings?
- “Pursuit of Happiness” Committee
- Fundraising Event Night Committee
- Spending Ideas
 - Soccer goal posts?
 - Benches or picnic tables for Kinder zone?
 - Play house for Kinder zone?
 - Climbing Car for Kinder Zone?
- Buddy Bench