Ancaster Meadow Elementary School

School Council Minutes

January 18, 2018

**Member Attendees: Colleen Kaus, Reasa Diab, Kristi Snary, Manju Dahal, Pauline Olthof-Youn, and Karen MacPhail**

**Non-Member Attendees: Krista Genesiee, Chris Blunsdon, and Luis Patricio**

**Regrets:** Simon Goodacre, Nevin Isram

**Colleen called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m.**

**October Minutes Approval**

Reasa Diab motioned to approve Octobers meeting minutes as is. Seconded by Kristi Snary. All were in favour and the motion was carried.

**School Travel Plan – Hamilton Public Works**

**Luis Patricio** from Hamilton Public Works presented at the meeting. He is part of a project that is working with schools to help increase biking/walking to school. Ancaster Meadow has been chosen as part of the project. This will be a five step process (Setup-Assess Conditions-Action Planning-Implementation-Monitoring). Luis will work with staff and parent council to address and remove any barriers for our students biking to school. The process will begin with a “hands up” in-class school wide survey. Chris will introduce the project to staff at the next staff meeting.

**Principal’s Report by Chris Blunsdon:**

December Report

* The Holiday Bazaar was a great success. Thanks were given to all parent volunteers.
* Winter clothing drive was held and the school was able to donate winter coats and boots to help the less fortunate.
* A kinder holiday concert and whole school concert were held. Both concerts were successful, well attended and received positive feedback.
* Ancaster meadow was invited to Ancaster High for their Beauty and the Beast performance. Grades 4-8 attended.
* School Council held a December Dance and were able to give the adopted family additional support this holiday season.

Upcoming Dates

Jan - Ancaster High coming in to work with gr 8 students in preparation for option sheets. Guidance and English department. Gr 8 teachers have also been working with the math department

Jan 26 - PA Day

Feb 13 - Report Card 1 distribution

Feb 16 - Ski trip

Feb 20 - MADD Canada presentation to 7 and 8

Follow up to Nov meeting security concerns

Lighting upgrade

* LED switch over, approved and ordered
* Staying on overnight
* Parking lot has received upgrades

Security patrols

* Board has provision manned security patrols on the property at key times after hours

Security cameras

* Board is still finalizing a policy on use in schools
* No formal project to install in elementary schools
* Once the policy is approved, a case by case review for ongoing concerns if other approaches (such as increased lighting) do not work
* Simon is on a committee to receive the most up to date information

Police

* Meeting between Board superintendent and police
* Police will review their information to see if additional patrols are possible
* Police have performed a Crime Prevention Through Environment Design (CPTED) review, facilities is waiting to receive the report
* Incidents at Ancaster Meadow have been logged and our liaison officer has been informed

Bus

* Apologies to the impacted families
* We understand and share your frustration
* The service has not been appropriate
* Daily reports from the school administration to the superintendent's office
* SOSA is very aware of the concerns, agrees that it is not appropriate, has been advocating strongly for improvement
* Attridge has told the school a new driver will be in place and this is supposed to improve the situation, the school will continue to monitor
* Bus 6014 (Alligator) has been assigned a permanent driver

**New Business**:

Pro Grant Finical Literacy Update – Colleen is working with Val Harth and Mimi John to plan a Financial Literacy night for parents and their children toward the end of April. Discussion at the meeting included how to spend the pro grant funds the night of the event. More information to follow at the next meeting.

Library Windows – A concern was brought up about the cleanliness of the library windows. Chris will look into having them spray washed during the spring.

**Adjourn**: Reasa Diab motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:35. Seconded by Karen MacPhail. All were in favour and the motion was carried. Home and School meeting began.