

Flamborough Centre School Council

Meeting Wednesday, September 20, 2017

Added Note: motion approved (all in favour) for a spirit event on February 19th Bulldogs game in conjunction with Mary Hopkins

1) Welcome, Introductions and Attendance:

Attendance: Vera Prpa, Suzie Larochelle, Leanne Barlow, Janice Kwasney, Hilary Millington, Lianne Broughton, Harriet Ekperigin, Shelley Armstrong, Carrie MacLean, Leah Young, Kellie Battenham, Dianne Boucher, Alison Morris, Erin Bilan, Carola Baker, Marnie Hazlett

Regrets: Vanessa Findlay, Vanessa Janko, Suzanne Crick

May 2017 minutes – approved by Harriet Ekperigin and Leanne Barlow

2) Overview of Council's role and function

Suzie provided an overview:

- School council is the link between the parents and the principal.
- We focus on student learning in the best interests of all students.
- We make recommendations to the principal and school board on matters that impact the school (calendar, curriculum, EQAO, policies, etc)
- We fundraise to help in areas such as technology, music, physical education, recess equipment, etc.

3) Principal's Report

Introduction of myself: This is my second year at FC. I was previously the Vice-Principal of Bellmoore for 3 ½ years and I have been teaching with HWDSB for the last 20 years, in a variety of capacities (Library, Grade 4, Grade 5 Grade 7-8, Health and Phys. Ed.). I was born, raised and educated in Hamilton and currently reside on the Stoney Creek Mountain. Education; I hold a Bachelor of Arts from McMaster University along with a Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Education and a Masters of Education from the University of Windsor. I don't have any children of my own but do have three nephews who are a huge part of my life – family is very important to me.

Vision: To create a safe and positive environment where all children are provided with an education that meets their diverse learning needs and allows them to reach their full potential!

Mission: Educating students to become lifelong learners and contributing citizens in a challenging, changing multi-cultural world.

My Commitments:

- To ensure there is open and honest communication between and among staff, students, parents, the community and HWDSB.
- To promote a school environment where collaboration and teamwork are valued.
- To be accessible to students, staff and parents.
- To be transparent in my decision making – all decisions made are with the best interests of students in mind.
- To develop/maintain a code of conduct that ensures a safe and orderly school environment.
- To recognize and celebrate the achievements of the Flamborough Centre community.
- To role-model for students, staff and community human-kindness, compassion and a love of learning!

Students:

Leaders, learners, athletic, artists, helpers, kind advocates, polite, welcoming and respectful

Staff: Amazing, hard-working, knowledgeable, passionate, value the important relationship between home and school (it takes a village), family

Staffing Updates:

Ms. Babb (Office Administrator) has taken a role at the Ed. Centre for this school year and will be returning in September of 2018. Until her replacement, Mrs. Wojtasik, is able to begin in November, we have Mrs. Porritt and Mrs. Steven are joining us in the office.

As you are all aware Mr. MacLean is currently on a year leave. Mr. Zagorac is with us again in the library, as well as teaching some primary music & physical education. We also welcome Mr. Gourlay to our Gr. 2/3 class.

School:

JK-Gr. 8 Population of 254 students

Currently 13.4 teachers, 2 Educational Assistants, 1 Early Childhood Educator, 2 Office Administrators (each working half time), 1 Principal

Organization of our 10 classes: JK/SK; 1; 2/3; 4/5; 6, 6, 7, 7, 8, 8

Reorganization:

As a result of unanticipated increases to student enrolment and in order to comply with provincial class size requirements, we will be having to make some adjustments to our school

classroom organizations. This is a fairly common occurrence that is taking place in many elementary schools throughout HWDSB. Specifically, at our school we have gained 1.2 teachers and will be opening a class in the junior/intermediate division. . As a result of reorganization, Mr. Ruttan will now be with us for three days a week, instead of two and all students in grades 6-8 will be receiving instrumental music.

The process of opening a class involves changes to our school's timetable as well as changing the homeroom of some students. We will make this transition as smoothly as possible at the end of next week. The end result will be smaller class sizes for each of our middle school classrooms.

As we did in the spring, the staff at Flamborough Centre will take every consideration into account as we discuss student moves. Our mandate is to have the least disruption to program as possible, and to ensure that student learning, friendships and access to support continue at all times. Changes to classes or schedules will not occur prior to Friday September 29, 2017, at which point any official changes will go into effect.

As we move through this process and specific details are known, I will ensure that it is communicated to those impacted.

Volunteer Policy Update:

A change in practice as of last year - regular and continuous Non-Staff Volunteers will provide, for review, a new Vulnerable Sector Screening every three years – an Offence Declaration will be completed annually until the VSS is due again in the third year. The Vulnerable Sector Screening is the property of the Volunteer. A break in volunteer service of one year or more or beginning as a Volunteer in a new school will require a new Vulnerable Sector Screening to be presented for review. The VSS needs to be on file for all volunteer drivers as well.

**Need Your Help: Terry Fox Run September 26, 2017 from 12:40 pm – 2:20 pm (Assembly & Run)
Staffing Updates and School Organization 2017-2018**

4) Council Nominations/Executive Appointments

- Suzie Larochelle and Leah Young – accepted role of chair of council (will co-chair)
- Carrie Maclean – accepted role of Treasurer; Lianne Broughton accepted role of co-treasurer
- Janice Kwasney and Leanne Barlow – accepted role of secretary (will co-secretary)

5) Other programs and initiatives

- 6th Annual Parent Engagement Night (Pro Grant, speaker, date) – have not heard back yet regarding approval of grant application but hopefully soon

6) Fundraisers (handout) – see below

Please look the following over for the October 2017 meeting and bring any new ideas you have so that we can discuss them in October. Also, please give some thought to being part of fundraising sub-committees.

2016-17 Fundraisers and Profit:

- Pizza (year round): \$4537
- Keurig (out in Oct-delivery Dec): \$367
- Dieleman Fundraising Sales (out in Oct-delivery Dec): \$699
- Little Ceasars Pizza Kit (out in March-delivery April): \$205
- Basket raffle (May Open House): \$500
- Boston Pizza (April): \$445
- Spring Flowers (out in April-delivery May): \$788

2015-16 Fundraisers and Profit:

- Pizza (year round): \$4015
- Keurig (2x fall/Feb): \$1120
- Steeped Tea: \$140
- Little Caesar's Pizza Kit (with Mary Hopkins): \$225
- Basket raffle (May Open House): \$625
- Spring Flowers (Open House – with Mary Hopkins): \$680

2014-15 Fundraisers and Profit (others):

- Elmira (fall): \$455
- Poinsettias: \$145
- Bulldogs (Spirit Night – Jan/Feb): \$290
- MacGregors (May long weekend): \$575

7) Other business?

8) 2017/2018 Proposed Council Meeting Dates

- Oct 25/17, Nov 29/17, Jan 31/18, Feb 28/18, March 28/18 (if needed), April 25/18, May 23/18

9) Close Meeting