

Ancaster Meadow Home and School Association

September 21, 2021

Attending Members: Colleen Kaus, Reasa Diab, Julie Burgess-Nichols, Kristi Snary, Sandra Wohl, Jessica Thomas-Troian, Adrienne Van Dam

Attending Non-Members: Kelly Dunford, Kerry Manfredi, Jennifer Flewelling, Joey Pottinger, Todd Kirkpatrick, Nicole Elder, Nicole Vincic, Andrea Colbert-DeGeit, Sherri Johnston, Mohammed Yaseen Nalla, Amy Meng, Rola Chen, Etido Umah, Karin Hewlett, Julie Wiltshire, Okiemute Numa, Ameer Rajah and Rawan Allouzi

Welcome by Reasa Diab, Acting-President. Meeting begins at 7:34p.m.

Introduction to Home & School – we are about advocacy for the students, following the OFHSA model (what is best for each student) and fundraise for the school. Past fundraisers include Pizza Mondays, Thursday lunches, Holiday bazaar, BBQs, Spring Fling and the Grade 8 Grad celebration. Have raised over \$350,000 which has all gone back into the school.

Agenda Approval:

Motion to Approve agenda: Kristi Snary

Second: Colleen Kaus

Treasurer's Report:

Closing report from last year – we had \$22,745.17. Allocated \$4,729.81 leaving just over \$18,015.36. We didn't spend a lot last year.

Our opening amount is \$20,015.36, but had a carry-over of \$2,000.00 for the Phys Ed. Dept. tents. Still rectifying that situation, which was complicated due to Covid. We have \$18,015.36 available at this time.

Motion to Approve Treasurer's Report: Jessica Thomas-Troian

Second: Joey Pottinger

Nominations/Elections, Set Meeting Dates, Membership Fees:

Nominations/Elections:

Nominations have been received for committee positions:

Secretary: Jessica Thomas-Troian

Treasurer: Kristi Snary

Anyone thinking about stepping forward need not worry – Reasa is a lifetime member, as is Sandra. There is a lot of support and this group functions as a team. You won't be left alone in the role.

Can't have the Association running if the President or Vice President roles are not filled. These Executive positions must be filled.

Question: Are role descriptors available?

President runs meetings and preps agenda.

This is our Treasurer's last year in this role as well.

Todd Kirkpatrick puts his name forward for the role of Vice President. Colleen Kaus offers support setting up MS Teams meetings. We will re-visit filling the role of President at a later date.

Todd Kirkpatrick, Kristi Snary and Jessica Thomas-Troian accept their nominations for their roles. Reasa Diab will stay on as Past President, but a new President must be found this year.

Motion to Approve Positions: Colleen Kaus

Second: Sandra Wohl

None opposed

Meeting Dates:

We follow the School Council dates and will begin Home and School at 7:30

Dates: Oct 19, Nov 16, Jan 18, Feb 15, March 22, April 19, May 25

Membership Fees:

There is a \$20 membership fee which covers membership insurance. There is also a \$100 association fee, which is necessary to keep the association running. Our Home & School group pays for the membership fees.

Membership Includes: Anyone can attend a meeting, but a member has insurance coverage at events and is a voting member of the group.

People interested in becoming paid members:

Joey Pottinger, Todd Kirkpatrick, Kristi Snary, Colleen Kaus, Julie Burgess-Nichols, Nicole Elder, Andrea Colbert-DeGeit, Sherri Johnston, Ameer Rajah, Mohammed Yaseen Nalla, Rawan Allouzi, Reasa Diab (L), Sandra Wohl (L). Will pay for 10 membership fees. Reasa and Sandra have lifetime memberships.

Motion to pay for 10 membership fees at \$20/each and the \$100 association fee:
Colleen Kaus

Second: Todd Kirkpatrick

Motion amended to include new member who wasn't able to indicate interest (Total of 11 membership fees, plus the \$100.00 association fee): Colleen Kaus

Second: Todd Kirkpatrick

None opposed.

Fundraising Updates:

Not much going on with fundraising given current circumstance, unless there are ideas for something online.

Kristi: Last year our Grade 8 grads received a \$25 gift card for Indigo. While purchasing them, the Indigo manager told me about a virtual/in-person fundraiser through Indigo.

Came across FlipGive and FundScript. We could register for one or both. Every time people purchase gift cards, a small allocation goes to our group. Each retailer involved offers a different amount of donation.

Some retailers in our Esso, Kelsey's, Indigo, Marshall's, Amazon, Best Buy, Giant Tiger and more. We could request a payout at different amounts. The other service offers two payouts a year, otherwise there is a service fee attached for the transaction.

Two parents commented that their kids' hockey teams used FlipGive and found it easy to use and successful.

Motion to use the FlipGive app: Joey Pottinger

Second: Colleen Kaus

None opposed.

Other/New Business:

1) OFHSA free webinars –

Sept 28th, Julie Cass, Finding Your Personal Equilibrium

Sept 30th, Erin Bun, Paint Nite – same person we used last year for the School Council Paint Nite. Registration required, hosted by OFHSA. Please visit:

www.ofhsa.on.ca

H&S Discretionary Fund:

Joey suggests we begin year with \$200.00 in the H&S discretionary fund in case needs arise.

Motion to set aside \$200.00 for H&S Discretionary Fund: Joey Pottinger

Second: Mohammed Nalla

None opposed.

Grade 8 Grad:

If all goes well and we're back to normal, we host a Grade 8 Grad dinner and dance at the Marquis Gardens. Don't use the whole amount, but prices may have gone up.

Haven't been able to host the event due to Covid. Instead we sent a Congratulations card with confetti and a \$25 Indigo gift card. Hopefully we can host the in-person event this year.

Motion to allocate \$5000 for Grade 8 Grad: Kristi Snary

Second: Andrea De Geit

None opposed.

Question: What is the primary mode of communication used by the group?

Primarily, we communicate through email, and through School Messenger and the School website.

Reasa, Todd and Colleen will work closely together. They will send out the agendas together. There is a Home and School FB page, which I encourage you to follow. There is also the Parents of Ancaster Meadow Facebook group (a closed group), which posts general info and updates (sporting events, Pizza Mondays, and other general info).

If anyone has questions, please don't hesitate to ask us.

Question: How is this info communicated to families new to Ancaster Meadow so they know how to access this info?

Meeting minutes will be posted on the school's website.

Suggestion: Perhaps info about the meetings and groups available could be communicated to the school community to get the word out to more families.

We will take that forward for action.

Motion to Adjourn Meeting: Sandra Wohl

Second: Kristi Snary and Colleen Kaus

None opposed.

Reasa: Thank you to everyone for coming out and thanks to those who have stepped into roles in the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday October 19th, 7:30p.m. (directly following the School Council meeting).