

MINUTES

Billy Green School Council

Date | time November 22, 2018 6:30PM | *Meeting called to order by* Jordan Hageman

In Attendance

Jordan Hageman, Trish Gibson, Ross Gibson, Sherry Beduk, , Brandon Berketa, Derek Cherie, Brad Clark and Cam Galindo

Regrets: Jennifer Taylor, Jessica Gibson, Lucille Radcliffe, Abir AbouAlwan, Jen Taylor, Adam Prendergast, Palmonia Gordon, Farnaz Mirza, Megan Prudhomme

Approval of Minutes

Motion, Approved and Seconded

Warm welcome to newly elected councilor, Mr. Brad Clark, and School Trustee, Mr. Cam Galindo

Principal's Report: Mr. Berketa

Holiday Assemblies:

Scheduled for December 10, 2018 beginning at 10am. Grades will be divided into k-3, and 4-8 for assembly

Continuous Learning and Improvement:

- School improvement plan consists of 2 components: positive culture and well being and student learning and achievement.
- Staff will analyze middle years development instrument (survey data from kids gr 4-8 collected in Spring 2018). Continued effort focused on maintaining a calm, safe , orderly and inclusive environment.
- New board survey focuses on child's experiences and interactions both at home, school and in the community.
- Gr 3-8-focussing on PD on Math. On Dec 7 the entire PA day focus for entire school will be on math learning.

School enrollment pressures:

- Currently at 571 enrollment. School was built for about 300 students.
- New residents to Green Mountain Rd/First Rd west area beginning in Sept. 2019 will be requested to go to Taplytown school.
- Current students in that area will be grandfathered in and able to stay as well as siblings starting.
- Hoping to see a decrease in numbers as Gr 8 students graduate.
- School has additional itinerant support for second language learners.
- School is in need of more LRT and Admin support given the increase in enrollment.

Teachers Report: Mr. D. Cherriere

- Teachers were grateful for the \$100 offered to each of the home room teachers to enhance classroom supplies.
- Some teachers felt that they were left out and asked if they could also receive the \$100 support. These include gym teachers-Mr. Forrest, Mrs. Miller-Boyce, music department and French department.
- Given that there was not enough council members present for meeting, an email will be sent out to vote to add these teachers to the list of recipients of this funding.
- Gabby-From the French department has discussed ideas for carnival this year. She would like to take kids in Gr 4-8 skating. She would like to ask council for funding to pay for the cost of bussing to Bayfront park and the cost of skate rentals for kids who need it.
- Trish suggested looking into going skating at Valley park on a free skate day e.g. Tuesdays, so that cost of bussing can be eliminated. There is no skate rental at this location, so it was suggested that teachers survey their class to inquire about how many students may need skates, and then council can vote to supply funding for the cost of these skates.

Treasurer Report: Lucille Radcliffe

- Total amount in account is \$10, 870
- There will be about 2400-2800 withdrawn for teachers \$100 amount.

Fundraising Report: Trish Gibson

- School has had 4 successful fundraisers since September:
- Last Saturday was the Christmas Bazaar which raised ~\$1400. Last year the school raised \$2100.
- There was some confusion around donations of items for silent auction this year which resulted in Trish and Ross purchasing large ticket items to auction off just above cost=minimal funds raised for this.
- Lot's of support/donations for bake sale again.
- Not a huge turnout from Billy Green families at event again this year.
- Discussed possible options for next year: Can we add additional events/activities to bazaar that may draw more interest with families? Mr Berketa reported success with a previous school hosting during the day time with lots' of craft vendors. Students had opportunity to go and "shop" for family members during event.
- Fundscript fundraiser has started. Initially the wrong invitation code was given to families on flyers but this is now corrected on the website. The new code to use is: WXFCFK
- Halloween walk raised \$2052.15. Gabby offered to pay for pizza's for classrooms that raised the most amount of money. This year 4 classes were awarded pizza parties.
- Popcorn sales will start again after the Christmas holiday.

Ongoing Business

Teacher Request for new Technology;

- Concerns have been identified that there's not enough technology to support the classrooms.
- Teachers had a wish list for what they need to benefit student learning. Laptops were the biggest request on this wish list.

- Mr. Berketa explained that if we don't purchase technology through board approved vendors then they won't service or update the computers. In some cases purchases with "school generated funds" under \$1000 can be completed without board approval.
- Primary division does have some computers owned by school and Gr 4-8 classrooms have a kit of 6 IPADS leased by board.
- Each teacher also has their own IPAD. Teachers are concerned that some activities require use of keyboard e.g. typing essays etc, which is difficult with IPAD's alone.
- Classrooms are also equipped with apple TV and projectors and library has a smart board.
- School doesn't receive additional funding for desktop computers and laptops.
- Classrooms each have 2 desktops but most are reaching "end of life" and can't operate new software. Mr. Berketa has budgeted to replace 10-12 desktop computers over the next year.
- Teachers are looking for other options to help to supplement this.
- Trish has collected data from different sales going on locally and online and compared costs of chromebooks vs. laptops. Vision electronics is providing the best deal and offered to give Lenovo Idea Pad at their cost \$399.
- A discussion took place around the various options provided. It was identified that Chromebooks are fairly maintenance free and more sustainable over time. Preferred choice-N42 Chromebook-best cost found-263.99 at Tiger Direct.
- Also looked at cost of Bluetooth keyboards-2 options-Ultraslim mini-\$16.99 and Mini 19-14.99.
- Mr. Berketa would like to check with teachers around the need for keyboards before voting on this item. It was identified that some teachers spoke about purchasing their own keyboards through the \$100 classroom fund.
- Mr. Berketa will look into board policy more closely around how much can be purchased with school generated fund. He should get a firm decision within the month.
- Ideally, council would like to support the cost of 4 laptops that can be in a "kit", that can rotate between classrooms as needs exist.
- If board does not approve for this to be purchased, then council will have to rethink this request.
- Council members expressed frustrations that members work hard to raise money for the school, that can not be spent to support school needs due to board policies.
- If board approves, council would like to motion and vote on spending up to \$3000 on technology for the school.

Playground enhancement review:

- Jordon reviewed plan as presented by Bidenstock with Brad Clark and Cam Galindo. It was explained that Jordon has met with Doug Conley and was planning on submitting proposal but had to be withdrawn due to timing issues with upcoming gym expansions, and Terrapure's stipulation that funds had to be used within the year.
- Mr. Galindo expressed that he was impressed with all the work Billy Green school council is doing. We are the first school to invite him to a meeting and he plans on attending meetings of the other 11 schools in his district. His job will be to advocate for what we are doing. He would like to attend at least 1 meeting per year and be invited to come and support different school events. His term starts officially on Dec. 1, 2018.
- Mr. Clark also offered his support for initiatives Billy Green is working on. He expects that he will be on the trust through Terrapure and will offer his support once our grant application is submitted.

- Issues regarding pooling of water in kindergarten areas were discussed. Mr. Galindo, Mr. Clark and the superintendent plan on doing a tour together and will look at this issue and determine who is responsible for helping to resolve this issue –city vs. school board.

New Business

n/a

Next Meeting:

Jan. 31, 2019-6:30- School Library

Future Meeting Dates:

Feb 21/19, Apr 25/19, May 30/19

Meeting Adjourned