

Cootes Paradise Home & School Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Date: Wednesday, March 27th, 2018, 7-8:30pm

Location: Library

Present: Marissa Sawatzky, Joanne Tansley, Lara Borys, Heather Harvey, Molly Griffioen, Erin Lepischak, Michelle Balcers, Danny Fede, Louise VanderPut.

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

2.0 Review of Agenda

2.1 Additions to the agenda

2.2 Approval of Agenda. Joanne Tansley motions to approve the agenda

3.0 Principal's Report

- Nutrition policy reminder - treats, cupcakes and cakes can not be sent in for birthdays; discussion around whether anything should be sent home with children at all.
- Kindergarten registration is open - please register (it affects numbers for next year)
- Design the agenda contest starts soon for grade 4 students - done at home and submitted. Vote is taken for next year's cover.
- Playground maintenance - meeting will take place with site supervisor to discuss ice. Reminder to not use Kindergarten play area for dogs - will look to lock gates open after hours to make it less attractive for people to bring dogs. Will also look into no idling signs to improve air quality around school.
- Grade 5 farewell; Westdale Auditorium June 26th (awaiting approval). Celebration afterwards in front yard here.
- Cootes Paradise is closed to out of catchment; Dalewood is also closed to out of catchment, so out of catchment grade 5s are reminded to register at their home school
- Profiling volunteer excellence - look for information in April newsletter.
- EQAO: May 22, 23, 24; 28, 29, 30. Please do not book appointments or holidays for your grade 3 students during this time.
- Evacuation drill will take place next week. Similar to a fire drill. 3 Fire drills still to come this year.
- Eco team message: asking for community support for waste reduction. Will bring back plastic recycling at the school. Hoping for volunteer support: roles may include bringing compost home, sorting plastics, or other. Please contact the school and leave a message for Mme Trepanier or Mlle Rodrigue.
- Annual learning plan focus: positive culture and well being & student learning and achievement. 71% of grade 1 students are reading at or above provincial standard (this is above the board target goal). Grade 3 EQAO research and planning with staff found that students are lacking in the "thinking and understanding" questions. Staff had been focussed on knowledge and understanding in math, will now look to support students. PD will happen to support staff. Will look to have a parent EQAO session in the fall.
- Please forward any information that helps in making classroom placements for the well being of students (not specific teacher requests) to Danny Fede (dfede@hwdsb.on.ca)

4.0 Teacher's Report - deferred to next meeting (Mlle. Tiringier not present)

5.0 School Council Update

- Next meeting is April 10. Parent Involvement Committee will be joining.
- School Council was awarded \$1000 for parent reaching out (PRO) grant. Will look to have a guest speaker on social media and children.

5.1 Arts Council Update (Lara Borys)

- Artists have visited classes - 4 groups have been visited. One more group will still be scheduled.
- Ms Wang has put together a feedback survey so we can look for areas of improvement.
- Cootes Draws June 6 (raindate June 13th). Musicians and artists have been booked.
- Printmaking baskets have been ordered for kindergarten classes. Need a few more supplies to ensure there is enough for all classes. These have been ordered.
- Thanks to Marleen Van den Broek and Lara Borys for all their volunteer efforts this year and in the past. Both are "retiring." Please consider volunteering for Arts Council next year.

6.0 Treasurer's Report (Heather Harvey)

- All outreach money has been spent (\$200 to Westdale SS holiday support, \$800 to Laurier elementary to support an end of year trip)
- \$3000 raised from Move and Groove a Thon
- Carousel Players art performance was supported, excellent feedback from staff and students.
- Next meeting will set the budget for next year. Please think about budget items; a formal process for collecting information will be communicated soon.

7.0 Class Rep Report

- nothing to report

8.0 Upcoming fundraising

8.1 Silent Auction

- Friday April 5th from 7-9 pm in the gym
- Come enjoy music and food; bid on one of over 100 donated items
- There are over 20 class canvases that will be open for bidding
- Sir Wilfred Laurier students will have a table at the auction where all money raised from those items will go towards supporting their end of year school trip.

9.0 Past Events

9.1 Read-a-thon

- Popular event; collectively 200 539 minutes of reading. Thanks to Veronica Reimer for compiling the information

9.2 Family Skate

- Positive feedback, easy to organize
- Will look into doing again next year

9.3 Staff Appreciation Lunch

- Thanks to everyone who donated, much appreciated by the staff. Two thank you cards were received from staff.

9.4 Move-and-Groove-a-thon

- Raised about \$3000; popular event with students. Thank you letters were received from Mrs. Dumitru's class.

10.0 Current/Upcoming Initiatives

10.1 Tastebuds Snack Program

- Running smoothly

10.2 Lunch Clubs

- 170 students are in lunch clubs - 300 forms were handed in. Students are chosen by lottery.

10.3 Grade 5 Farewell

- Grade 5 farewell will be held at the school. We are looking for grade 4 parents to volunteer to bring treats and organize the reception

10.4 Pizza/Sub lunches

- Sub and Pizza lunches are running again. Ideas about lunch program for next year can be sent to Beth Hawke (beth.hawke@gmail.com)

11.0 Open Discussion

- Home and School Executive positions - we are looking for volunteers for next year. Please consider volunteering next year.

12.0 Adjourn