

Home & School Meeting

November 12, 2024

In attendance: Nikol Piskuric, Mike Malysewich, Caitlin Burgess, Hillary Peach, Kristina Cote, Benjamin Garden, Mitch Orsatti, Meredith Shepherd, Renee Massia, Ryan Belowitz, Heather Reid, S.M., Michaela Hornung-Zavitz, Melanie McPhee, Rosalee Vanstaaldinen, Amanda Crossley, Sara Alves (vice-principal)

Zoom: Jaime Fallon, Heather Ricks, Natalia Gonzalez

Minutes by: Hillary Peach

Acknowledgement of Indigenous Veterans Day (Nikol)

Motion to approve previous minutes: Hillary Peach with Kristina Cote seconding

Home and School events (Nikol)

- Chalk and talk, was run in September
- Pumpkin Hike, October 25th
 - Pumpkin hike was a great success, a big thank you to all of the parent, staff and community volunteers
 - Brought in \$2876
 - Costs were \$1250: pumpkins, clubhouse, candy, pizza and glowsticks
 - Net total is \$1625: this money is earmarked for the outdoor space
- Cross country event, the H&S made a donation of \$240.50 to the event to help with the costs of bussing
 - Cross country event- made a donation for the busses 240.50
- Movie days run by the school, Dec 3 & 5 (Tues/Thurs the first week of December)
 - Older grades will be having a movie day in the gym
 - Need parent volunteers to help in the gym during the movie, must have a background check on file
 - H&S will send out an email with more details recruiting volunteers for the event
- Skate and bake, aiming for the weekend of March 22/23 (the first weekend after March break)
 - Location: Coronation arena
 - Event: raffle, bake sale, skating, games, gear on site for people to borrow and use
 - Want to book area as soon as possible as times are booking up
 - We are in contact with a coach who can help us book (required by the arena), but if anyone else has any leads please reach out
 - Need someone to act as lead on collecting items for the raffle, organize the bake sale
 - We need to ask grade 5 parents- for help as this event is meant to support the grade 5 trip and grade 5 farewell
 - Last year we gave \$800 to the end of year trip and \$250 to refreshments at the graduation
 - Last year the grade 5 students ran the bake sale
 - We can talk to grade 5 teachers to help recruit grade 5 parents
 - A flyer to go in backpacks? Email parents?
 - Are we flexible for ice times? Might already be booked in prime time so we need to consider early evening or in the morning
 - Consensus is morning is preferable- better for younger kids, can still have outdoor games
- Popcorn days
 - Popcorn sales will be over two terms
 - This year we have been doing School Cash Online, currently we sell 240 bags every popcorn day
 - We make \$1 per bag, \$1952 for popcorn sales so far
- We have \$1000 to support food insecurity- how do we want this disbursed to the school?
 - Last year a donation was made to Food4Kids, the larger parent organization that helps with families with food insecurity
 - As well a donation/top up was made into the bags that go home with children over the holidays

- It was a giftcard to Food Basics (\$800 in GCs)
 - The year before H&S donated \$1000 to Food4Kids
 - Nikol: move to spend \$1000 on food donations for Cootes kids and families
 - Concerns: why are we not able to provide support through Food4Kids?
 - Food 4 kids has a waitlist, so that is why the school is bridging the gap
 - School uses the canned goods drive and then individually supplements with food purchases to send food home with families
 - Sara estimates it could be \$80 per family per week
 - Limited in our ability to provide GCs due to alcohol sales in various grocery stores now
 - **Move to delegate responsibility to the executive committee to determine how the funding is given to the school: every in favour**
 - Stickers (**Kristina**)
 - Looking at buying roughly 500 (.34¢-.42¢ a sticker), sell for \$1 a sticker
 - Can 250 of two different styles
 - Consensus is the Cootes Charger and the Yellow Cootes Logo on a green background
 - Will probably be a few weeks turnaround
 - **Nicole moves to spend \$280 on stickers, Caitlin seconds**
 - Spirit wear
 - West End is still happy to work with us, but will need someone to act as a liaison
 - Ryan will act as a liaison
 - Forms have to go to students, but you order through their website, might be involved with picking up the order and delivering to school
 - Not clear if we have been paid by them yet
 - Mike to find out if he has paid us

Mural project

- A local artist will be onsite with the students to paint the outdoor shed
- On track to happen in Spring 2025

Outdoor Initiatives 2024/2025

- Want to donate to a capital project for the outdoor area, these are typically very expensive and are very large projects to start
 - Earl Kitchener recently had a playground put in, can reach out to get an estimate on cost
 - Other schools within HWDSB as well, can ask around for costs to get a better idea of goal
- There are eligible grants that can support equipment funding
 - Canada post community grant: \$5000
 - Even though it is a smaller grant believe it is still beneficial to submit for February 2025
 - Nikol will work with Sara (VP) to get something in place

Meeting adjourned, 7:00 PM