

Dr. Davey School Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Date: January 16, 2017

Time: 3:30pm – 4:30 pm

Attendees: Suzanne Giovannetti, Lisa Watt, Tanya Ritchie, Gerry Smith, Thomas Ro, Shannon Clutton, Kelly Scott (City of Hamilton)

Regrets: Nicola Carter, Liz Lucas

Business Arising

- Budget – opening budget - \$3202.48

Old Business/ Updates

- **Outdoor Signage Update**
 - It will be installed along Wilson Street, two people from facilities came and the school has indicated where the sign will be.
 - Good sight line, visibility important. Two signs: school sign on top, and the Beasley sign on the bottom.
 - It will be done by the end of the school year.
- **Constitutions/ by-laws**
 - Tanya got in touch with Margaret from Parent Involvement Committee. Still waiting to hear back from Margaret.
 - Likely have to set up sub-committee to set up by-laws.

New Business

- **Active Sustainable School Transportation:** Kelly Scott from City of Hamilton presented
 - Travel survey filled out by teachers on how students travel to and from school done before the holiday break. (an option to also conduct a family survey).
 - The ASST Process as follows:
 - 1. Assembling of a team: student representation: other schools have representation from each grade.
 - 2. Assessing the conditions; walk-about; representatives from school and city. Looking at the school site, how different modes of transportation are intersecting,
 - 3. Action plans.
 - 4. Implementations- 12 to 18 months; building awareness, shifting behaviours – messaging; public works dept can help with enhancement with infrastructure
 - 5. Monitoring, re-evaluating. Doing another survey to evaluate at that point.

- City will support and direct us to resources. Green venture: fresh air and mapping might be of interest to the school. Green venture is looking for more school to do that program.
- Follow up: Possible dates for the walk-about: Feb 6, 13, or 27. Open to partners. A letter can be sent to parents to invite them to the walk-about and perhaps a family survey; Kelly will review sample letters and send along.
- Some of the parent concerns: Wilson street sidewalk is narrow, safety issue; possibility of exploring what or which is a safer route; doing a map.
- Kelly will look into whether the Strategic road safety committee, that does school zone reviews, will be reviewing our school zone soon.
- An hour and a half for the walk-about and planning; space to do it. Partners: Landsdale & Beasley, invite councilor, and trustee, non-profit organizations, police liaison, crossing guard,
- Options to include students: participate in data collection, data entry, come on them walk-about; as part of the curriculum, students can be asked to map how they get to school normally, map-out the route and add open-ended questions, such as, what do you enjoy? Like to see changed etc., write letters to ward councilors to ask for change, inviting bike presentation,
- smart commute school board (how staff come to school), role modeling

Fundraising:

- **Popcorn Date**
 - Jan 20 –
 - Feb 3 –
 - Feb 17 –
 - March 2 -
 - March 30 –
- **Hot dog and pizza:** last Friday of the month, start in February –
 - Feb 24: hot dog
 - March 31: Pizza
 - April: hot dog
 - May: Pizza
 - June: hot dog
- **Spring Fling:**
 - April 22: 10am to 2pm. Principal will book gym, 2 classrooms 156 & 158, and the kitchen
 - Pending approval for booking

Principal's report

- E-mail information in regards to the accommodation review

- Jan 11, 2017 – a lot of participation in the public meeting; most from Hess, Earl Kitchener, 6 different tables with interpreters; representatives from different communities. It is intended to be a data collection meeting. People wanted to not have any school closed.
 - Trustee White is willing to meet with the schools since the meeting ended immaturely due to fire alarm.
 - Gerry will e-mail trustee White, cc. Tanya to discuss a meeting date for our school even though it does not at this point directly affect our school.
- Opportunities to build leadership skills for intermediate grades: Overnight trip, planning to make it an ongoing activity for the school.
- Syrian Refugee update
 - Did not receive the anticipated number of Syrian refugees. Not much impact on the school population.
- School profiles/ demographics
 - Under 500, 490+ students, it is affecting staffing.
 - Change in the movements of families, not a lot of transient families as it used to be.
 - More stable families moving in it seems.
 - Traditionally Jan and February are the times there are a lot of movement in the school population, it has not been the case this January.
- Homework policy
 - Get a grade for homework in the past.
 - Homework is not used as evaluative purposes now, it can be used for review or practice purposes.
 - It is up to the teachers whether they decide to give out homework or not.
 - This will be discussed with the teachers in the staff meeting, and the teachers will let parents know.
 - Parents have opportunity to request teachers to send home practices.
- Outdoor garden
 - Will not interfere with signage.
 - Will be able to move forward once have more information about budgeting.
- Hydro One update
 - Horizon came in to give a presentation to kids about electricity safety.
 - March break will likely set up the fence for hydro one.
 - Move ahead with Street parking, confirm with Councillor Farr.

Other issues arising:

- Shannon will e-mail information about a sexual program delivered by the Pregnancy Support Services of Hamilton to Mr. Smith. Mr. Smith will seek approval from Board.

Highlights of meeting and next steps:

- Confirm ASST walk-about.

Next Meeting

- Feb 13, 2017, 3:30pm.