

School Council - Minutes – November 5, 2018

In attendance: Greg Van Geffen, Naomi Foster, Linda Wojton, Briana Brooks, Kristi Keery Bishop, Kathy Eastwood, Tara Woodburn, Simon Carroll, Gillian Petersen, Sara Brown, Karyn Bailey, Alex Muggah, Magda Garda, Adrienne Osfolk, Claire Rivlin, Jesse Blake

Regrets:

1. Welcome
 - a. Special welcome to Trustee Greg van Geffen (and explained that the new incoming trustee is Paul Tut)
 - b. Special welcome to Briana Brooks, Community rep from Umbrella, on site manager
2. Approval of October Minutes – read through by Tara. MOTION: Approved by Sara Brown, Seconded by Karyn Bailey. Carried unanimously.
3. Approval of November Agenda – MOTION: approved by Sara Brown, seconded by Gillian Petersen. Carried unanimously.
4. Principal's Report –
 - a. Report on ongoing coat drive for Lake Ave school, collecting until Nov 19.
 - b. Upcoming Remembrance day assembly Nov 12 at 11:15.
 - c. Grade 4 students currently undergoing CCAT testing – slightly different test than previous years.
 - d. Previously talked about partnerships with Wentworth Lodge – since last meeting Follow up on cost of new bike racks.
5. Teacher's Report –
 - a. happy to be on the other side of progress reports, interviews and Hallowe'en.
 - b. Comments on last month's report – has chatted with junior teachers regarding inviting students to council. Discussed that it might be more appropriate to facilitate survey of senior students instead of inviting them to meeting (or could attend meeting to report).
 - c. Some response from staff regarding funding initiatives, can wait until have more response. Suggestion to open it up to other members of staff.
6. Treasurer's Report – Gillian reported on the new report, noting allocation of funds from last year that still need to be spent, as well as current funding initiatives. Explained the clean up of last year's budget and report from late paybacks to the board
7. Fundraising sub committee update – Sara explained how we have determined what the fundraising initiatives are. Talked through the different ones:
 - a. Pizza and lunch lady – continued from last year
 - b. Explained fundscrip as a possible "paper fundraiser" with use of debit. Consider if this is the best one for parents - are we asking for too much money? Have a lot of great gift cards (that parents might be purchasing already), but not sure if feasible to ask parents for more money. Debated whether it will appeal to the same people. Consider whether you ask for more money while Wintergreen fundraiser still ongoing. Should be making it clearer when we do fundraisers, what we are specifically fundraising for. Willing to take on volunteering to run – Gillian and Jesse. Want to send via cash online (pick proper increment and parent determine delivery system – sent home or pick up at office).

- c. MOTION: Will attempt once a month for 4 months as a pilot project – order using cash online, using a paper order form, and Gillian to co-ordinate. Moved Sara, seconded Simon, Carried unanimously.
 - d. Wintergreen – great quality, local company, family-owned, \$10 earned for Dundana from each item
 - e. Fun Fair at Spring BBQ- still in early planning stages
 - f. Cookbook – recipes from families. \$10/book, about 150 books
 - g. Movie Night – have had one, planned one more for the year.
 - h. Recommendations – to put in more trees on the playground. Consider looking at the outdoor design manual. Put in additional bike racks. Sara will look into trees for playground. Kristi will look into putting in additional bike racks.
8. Canadian Parents for French update – Claire Rivlin. Two weekends ago had an annual meeting (free for members, Dundana is an associate member organization). We are eligible for a webinar – provides resources for parents and teachers. If you would like to have a webinar – what are parents are interested in. Homework help, how to support your child in FI, online resources are popular topics. CPF funds some research – State of French Language in Ontario report – available online. Currently acting to improve French teacher shortage situation. Online resources: French street (FrenchStreet.ca) website, Idello – online resource (audio, video programs). CPF – membership is growing across Canada because FI is growing at a steady yearly rate of 5.7%. Online documents available: Supporting your child in french, supporting Spec Ed in French, supporting ELL students in French. Grants available: no longer have PRO grants available. Frenchapalooza – will be in the Spring. November 7 – 7 p.m. of Fortinos kitchen room (Westdale) planning night and info session - gathering information about what events people would like to see in their community.
9. Any other business –
- a. Greg van Geffen – transportation and accommodation reviews.
 - b. Transportation – driver shortage for last 2 years, has hit us very hard. Sharp and Attridge provide 80% of our service. Still about 21 drivers short. No relief in sight. Kids arriving late for school. Discussions on how we can save funds/freeing up drivers – recommendation to increase walk distance of K students from 1 km to 1.6 km (coterminous Catholic board is 1.2 km for Ks). This is the shortest distance in the province. Consider going up to 1.2 to be common with Catholic board. HWDSB overfunds for transportation because we aren't funded enough to cover what is provided. Considering secondary students using the transit system instead of current private transportation. Staff to begin discussion with city of Hamilton. Will become an even bigger issue for this board. This would require a policy change. Now in consultation phase. Encourage to do surveys to have voices heard. Request has gone to province to reconsider how/what we are funded.
 - c. Accommodation reviews – DVSS great school who went through the review about 5 years ago and it progressed through well. 16 million was spent to build a great school. Three planning areas in the city that need to go through reviews, one of which is Dundas. Planning exercise about how education to be delivered in school catchment area for the foreseeable future. Explained example of recent review in Flamborough area where they are seeing 4 schools reduced to 2, but with lots of community hub

supports and resources. Dundas originally scheduled for review in 2017/2018. When new government came into office, they are currently reviewing the process and developing a revised policy. Will then go to the board for process to carry out. Doesn't see the review to happen in next 2 years, but likely in the next 4 years.

Recommendation to approach the process with open mind – may remain as status quo, but could also have any combination of school organizations. Consider being part of the ward information nights (if hosted by Paul Tut, as it has been by Greg van Geffen).

- d. Recommend that the council reaches out to the new Trustee so they know what to fight for.
10. Simon notes that PRO grant process has now been suspended. Consider sending out a letter to the Minister of Education to express concerns and disappointment. Simon and Adrienne to draft.
11. Discussion about Raz kids and how helpful it is for students.
12. Meeting adjourned, 8:10 p.m. by Tara.