

Dundas Central School Council Minutes

Thursday October 28, 2021 – 7-8pm via MS Teams

Attendees: Megan Beckett, Bethany Foster, Jennifer Harper, Laura Bartkiw, Tammy DiDonato, Aaron Vanderwal, Amanda Gumbinger, Courtney Southworth, Brian Gautier, Jenna Anderson, Jennifer Moore, Joanne Di Maio, Julie Hansen, Majdi Qutob, Michelle Lucas Larving, Kristyn Pickell, Katherine Scarrow, Madeline Van Impe, Meghan Coombs

Members Absent: Laura Lawson

Welcome and Land Acknowledgment

1. Financial Update & Parent Engagement Fund

- Shelley sent attachments with the last 2 financial updates
- Balance in account 1699.72
- Money coming from pizza, school council fundraising
- Parent engagement fund - \$500 given from the board - will spend this year
- Didn't spend last year, specific rules around spending
- Vinyl sign advertising school council meetings, social media contact info, put up on fences outside of school

Motion & vote: approved

2. Playground Update (Mrs. Moore)

- New installments are now complete
- Bienenstock temporarily replaced some of the boards with cedar planks on the bridge,
- Maintenance package wrapped up
- TD grant was not approved, not sure but there was a piece about needing written approval from the board, which was not included
- Proposal can be submitted again in 12 months, or in 6 months, we can approach TD again with a different project in mind
- Up for discussion with staff, students, ideas from parents in the community
- Idea of equity bridge, rolled into TD grant, going to be in conversation with Bienenstock to see if we could still go ahead with that

-Any new installments need to be fundraised for

3. Fundraising (Katherine & Courtney)

-Lots of things impacting fundraising in last few years

-Spirit wear will continue to run - 10% profit margin, Mabels labels - 20% profit margin

-Need to get the word out more that these things are fundraisers

-Holiday Basket Drive - go towards purchasing gift cards for families in need

-Every classroom picks a theme for basket, parents, and community donate gifts for baskets

-Package them offsite and then sell raffle tickets

-Proceeds go to sensory rooms

-Card fundraisers - children in the class do some art on a 5x7 piece of paper, draw whatever they want (teacher-directed, or student-directed), send them off to School Fundraising Canada, they can do anything with the art ie. make it into cards, magnetic puzzles, coasters, magnets, plaques, etc.

-Parents have an order form and basically order what they want with their child's art on the item

-Host a fun run for the community, welcome to anyone, keep entry fees relatively low \$10-\$20 to participate, volunteers offsite, work with the fire department to make sure the route is clear and safe

-Try to aim for bigger donors, build over the course of a few years as opposed to making a lot of money this year

-Proceeds go to the playground

Motion & vote: approved

4. Communications

-Create a general Instagram page to get information on events and fundraisers out to everyone @dundascentralbuzz

Motion & vote: approved new Instagram page

5. Home & School Report (Aaron & Bethany)

-Invoice passed from school which exceeded amount remaining in the account

-Home & school association will exist for the remainder of the school year but not conduct any business, will go dormant at the end of the year

6. Teacher Report Tammy DiDonato

-Ms. Filipovic talked about instrumental band classes, going well. Big difference from last year

-Grade 7 and 8 students able to take sanitized instruments home

-Music classes are doing a prerecorded remembrance day concert, will be sharing it virtually with all the classes

-Extra-curricular sports happening - baseball is finished, girls made it to quarterfinals

-Lots of students finished top 5 in cross country

-Exceptional sportsmanship, collaboration, and teamwork were mentioned by all teachers. Far exceeded anything they've experienced before

-Board and psych department and We Help department are collaborating, different workshops are being offered for students and parents

7. Principal Report

-Bi-weekly school website communication updates

-Dress Code was sent to all families, grade 6, 7 and 8 students were encouraged to have discussions at home

-Lockdown practice 1 all went as expected

-Daily screening continues

-Student census to be sent to families likely next week

k-5 parents will complete, 5-8 students will be sent a link to complete themselves

-Remembrance day coming up, Mrs. McGuire will do school cash donation online from November 1st-11th

-volunteers are very limited this year. Volunteer drivers needed for sports, application form, full vaccination, and vulnerable sector screening required

November 19th progress reports will be sent home

-Treaties recognition week next week. Teachers have access to learning materials that will support them in the classroom

-Natural playground looks great

-New stage curtains ready to be installed

-Investigating with school contingency action team line painting outside, getting quotes, estimates etc.

-snow clearing memo was posted online last week

8. Other Business

-There may be an IT issue with the school website, hopefully, will be rectified tonight

-Inappropriate music being played at pickup, was addressed by Laura today

8.03 Adjournment