

**Parent Council Meeting Minutes  
October 25, 2021**

**Attendance:**

Rachel Smith  
Catherine Scott  
Amber Wilson  
Emily Coe

Meaghan Ollmann  
Michelle MacIntosh  
Sarah Honeyford  
Brittney Tolsma

Sarah Marsden  
Ms. McGowan  
Mr. Yull  
Mr. Puley

**Next meeting date: Monday November 29 - 6:30**

Last Meeting Minutes approved by Brittney and Meaghan

**Principal Report:**

- **Construction ongoing** Ventilation construction is ongoing. It has been challenging with big units parked in classrooms. The plan was to utilize space in the library to help, but with the library closed we have been utilizing space in the gym when needed. No work has been done with the units in 2 weeks; we are hoping to remain on pace for construction to be completed by return from winter break  
**Question:** If we as a council reach out to the board to see if we can get the timeline of completion, will that help?  
**Answer:** Possibly  
**Question:** Is there heat on during construction?  
**Answer:** Yes, heat is on. Mrs. McGowan noted it seems intermittent, Mr. Yull will investigate this with the caretaker
- **Library** has been closed to staff and students. We are supposed to get the library back for use next week
- **Caretaker retiring** Mr. Ed is retiring. His last day is October 29.
- **Covid in classrooms** Franklin has had 2 cases of covid in classrooms this year. When there is a positive case Mr. Yull gets a text to attend a meeting, is notified of the classroom and the instructions to give to those affected  
**Question:** Is it a new protocol that they don't notify the rest of the school?  
**Answer:** Any covid positive information goes out to the affected classroom as well as a notice gets posted on the website. Maybe he can use the posted notice from the website and deliver to parents
- **Dress Code** Changes to the existing dress code passed unanimously. They found the previous code outdated, targeted certain groups and student voices felt unheard. The new dress code is a lot more permissible. Example hats, bandanas, midriiffs, and shoulder straps are now permissible. The hope is students feel free to express their identity through their clothing.  
From Mr. Puley – It was very inspiring to see students advocating for themselves and proving differences can be made when working together. Supportive of the student trustees who submitted their plan to the board
- **Student behavior** Franklin Road is struggling with behavior. There have been as many suspensions this year so far than all of last year. Probably lots of reasons stemming from covid and lack of social presence. JK/SK levels have not had a lot of time at school and older intermediate grades are seeming more divisive, possibly experiencing some regression in social skills. The school is in a constant state of triage, as 1 classroom gets managed, something will bubble up in another. They are focusing on an upcoming staff meeting on how to improve school climate. Ideas like “gotchas” for staff catching students doing kind things or student recognition plans for a job well done

### Principal report continued...

- **Bathrooms** There have been many issues in the bathrooms this year including ideas from Tiktok challenges such as plugging toilets, graffiti. Franklin road teachers have been directed to be mindful of the situation. Talk of a possible student leadership group. Students have been informed that severe consequences and no more chances will be given with bathroom issues
- **Progress Reports** Will be coming out in November
- **Parent Council Survey** Last year Rachel submitted a survey from parent council. About 48 schools submitted this survey. Some of the common responses were feeling disconnected from the school and a lack of fundraising

### Teachers Report:

- **Staff Feedback** FDK staff would like to give a big shout out and thank you to Mrs. Scott for the kindergarten pen scouting. Thank you, Mrs. Scott!
- **Covid Fatigue** Very much still ongoing, students staff and parents are feeling this
- **Sick children** – If your child is sick, please keep them home
- **Ipads**- iPads are starting to be deployed in classrooms...some working, many not!
- **Teacher/Parent Communication** Being delivered mainly through email, MS teams and The Hub
- **Grade 4 CCAT** testing will begin mid-November
- **Halloween** Halloween is this week. No parade but many classes doing party in a bag, classroom celebrations etc...
- **Senior Cross Country** was amazing – thank you to Mr. Coe for helping!
- **Junior Cross Country** tryouts are Thursday Oct 28 for grades 3-5. For the Juniors they are looking into an option of going to Macassa Park for the meet. Possibly taking senior members to help
- **Remembrance Day** ceremonies will be taking place in November

### Fundraising:

**Spirit Wear** – So far 25 people have placed orders. Just under \$1100 to the company and \$100.00 to fundraising for Franklin Road. It closes Sunday Oct 31. Mr. Yull will put a reminder on announcements

**Poinsettias** – Mrs. McGowan has the package from Terra. Parents will **not** be able to come into the school to pick up the orders. Terra has offered the option to pick up directly from Terra. Might be more successful if the pickup was at the school. A good idea may be to set the pickup from the side gym door, parents come there to pick up. Similar to how the tablets were distributed. Poinsettias range from \$7-\$100. Mrs. McGowan (with help from a few teachers) feels comfortable doing this fundraiser on her own, she will reach out for help if needed. Looks like orders will be due November 19<sup>th</sup>, for delivery Dec 6<sup>th</sup>, making the pickup date December 7<sup>th</sup>. Everyone voted yes for this fundraiser

**Popcorn** – Talked about doing a Kernels popcorn fundraiser in the new year, possibly February. Profits are typically in the 40% range. Once popcorn comes in, it does need to be sorted into individual orders. Rachel has offered her garage as tribute, and many parents would be willing to volunteer the time to sort. We will table a final decision on this fundraiser to the next meeting

## **New Business, Questions...**

### **Danger hole at front of school**

- There is a loose sewer(?) grate in the front of the school, lovingly named the danger hole. Caretaker is aware, a work order has been placed to have this fixed. Might be a good idea to place a pylon near it until it is fixed

### **Parents not wearing masks on school property**

- Some parents noticed at the back of the school not wearing masks on school grounds. Can we put signs around to remind they are required on school property? Yes. Teachers have also re-enforced when noticed. We can also add to school messenger as a reminder

### **Terry Fox follow-up**

- \$1225.00 was raised by Franklin Road. The link is still open if anyone would like to still contribute

### **Family engagement funds**

- There is now \$500 for 2021-22 family engagement funds. Unsure if there is the \$500 from last year available. Probably not, but they will check.

### **School parking improvement?**

- The pylons do not seem to be working perfectly, there is some noticeable improvement though. Rachel will make the signs for the kindie fence.

### **Picture day**

- Do we have a date for picture day? Not yet, current photographer hasn't been cleared yet. Mr. Yull will look into this

### **Kindergarten outdoor area**

- Can the students use the bicycles available? Mr. Yull will look into this
- Can we make donations for toys to play in the yard? Is it possible some of the behavior issues in JK/SK is because the kids just have nothing to play with outside? Yes, we can make donations to the yard. We do have to be mindful of certain materials not being allowed for safety. Example: be mindful of what material is being used, something with pesticide or harmful chemicals would not be advised

## **Important Emails:**

Assistant to Ester Pauls: [zora.milovanov@hamilton.ca](mailto:zora.milovanov@hamilton.ca)  
Ward 7 Councillor: [esther.pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:esther.pauls@hamilton.ca)

City of Hamilton bylaw: [mle@hamilton.ca](mailto:mle@hamilton.ca)  
Ward 7 School trustee: [ddanko@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:ddanko@hwdsb.on.ca)