

**Parent Council Meeting Minutes**  
**May 16, 2022**

**Attendance:**

Rachel Smith  
Catherine Scott  
Amber Wilson  
Emily Coe

Meaghan Ollmann  
Michelle MacIntosh  
Kathy Compton-Morgan  
Mr. Puley

Sarah Marsden  
Mrs. McGowan  
Mrs. Del Mastro

**First meeting for next year 6:00pm**

September 26, 2022

Last Meeting Minutes approved by – We had thought these were missed being sent out, but they were!  
Check your April emails 😊

**Principal Report**

- **Tutoring after school** – The school board has provided all schools with last minute funding for paid tutoring. We have had 3 teachers and a DCE step up for this. We are running a phonics academy for grade 1's and kindergarten students after school for 1 hour per day, Monday Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. We have 21 students enrolled.
- **Many trips planned** – We gave out over 100 forms for family volunteers for trips. Thank you to our school community. We have a few theatre trips planned at Glendale. We have a Niagara Falls trip, Grade 8 trip for graduates, and trip to the Zoo in Brantford for kindergarten to grade 2
- **Welcome to kindergarten Orientation** – this was held last Thursday prior to Open House. We have over 30 new JKs registered so far. In our community we have many that register throughout the summer. A 1-hour orientation was held. A short presentation and a tour of classrooms and a loot bag was provided.
- **Open House** – We had a great turnout. Thank you to all families who provided items for our raffles. The school raised over \$1500 from the raffle alone. The food trucks were quite popular, both agreed if they were welcomed back, they would both bring another truck to help with lines. We have shared some images of the orientation and the open house on Twitter
- **Scholastic Book Fair** – This was highly successful, our sales exceeding \$6300. We expect to be able to purchase about \$3000 worth of product to go back into classrooms and the library
- **EQAO** – Franklin is all set up for the online process. Our iPads and educators are ready to go. It requires students do a practice test, which is accessible now. Graphic organizers and math formula info sheets are available through this. Feedback from students has been positive. They are enjoying it, very game-like. Starting May 30 grade 3's will begin. Numeracy during periods 1 and 2; and literacy will be periods 3 and 4. Catch up will be June 6. There is some flexibility now, if students are away, they can come in and write. Practice sessions running now to May 20<sup>th</sup>. Grade 6's will write from June 6-9. Catch up day is June 10.
- **Graduation** – Monday June 20<sup>th</sup> from 5-6pm at Hill Park Auditorium. Rehearsal in morning then will decorate in the afternoon. A reception to follow, opportunity for pictures. We have opted not to do a dinner/dance this year. It is a small graduating class, in consulting with students they have planned a trip instead which will be held the day after. They are going to the Alcatraz escape room, then a lunch and then Splittsville for bowling.
- **Construction Update** – Planning to work in 2 or 3 rooms every weekend throughout rest of school year to try to finish the rest of the ventilation units.  
Q – Will we be waiting to put the air conditioning on  
A – It is controlled by the board; we can check on that
- **Last day of school** – is Wednesday June 29<sup>th</sup>, June 30<sup>th</sup> is a PA Day for staff

### Teachers Report:

- **Trips** – JK to gr 2 going to see the Little Mermaid June 2. Gr 4-8 going to see Annie on June 1. End of year trip kindie to grade 3 going to Twin Valley Zoo, Gr 3-4 are going to Niagara Falls. We were lucky to get a generous donation which cut this trip in half from \$96 to \$45 per student, they are getting 4 activities to enjoy with this.
- **Track and Field** –Seniors are June 8, Juniors are June 17. Mr. McQueen, Mrs. Knowles and Mrs. McGowan are doing this. We have practices before school, during nutrition break, and after school
- **Jump Rope for Heart** – Friday May 27. All the fundraising will be done online.
- **Open Gym** – Mr. McQueen is still running open gym for grades 6-8. They are loving it
- **Open House** – So amazing to see some of the kids that are now 20 return to the school to hear of college plans etc....

### New Business...

#### **Open house – Feedback**

Lots of positive feedback regarding coming back to school, kids were excited to get to show their parents what they have been working on.

**Food trucks** – they did require exclusivity which made for some long lines. Nice to hear they will be willing to bring extra trucks next time

**Book Fair** – Looked great, always busy, some people didn't make it in due to the long line. A couple comments about the flyers, they did go home but some parents weren't clear they could send money with their kids to school to purchase through out the week. In the past a note has come home to say our date is this day, if they would like to bring money this day they can, maybe it could be possible to schedule class days in the future, that way parents could spend less time there, more in the classrooms.

**From Mrs. Del Mastro** – The daytime slots were almost just as busy as that night. We may need to extend the days during that week. Flyers were handed out to families, and Wishlist slips were handed out to students. Posters were also placed throughout the school. Students were allowed to go down during nutrition breaks to purchase books. We did give out flyers to all students; maybe not clear that they were able to bring cash and purchase these books on school time

**Raffle baskets at front door** – this created a lot of congestion at the front door. Is there another place we can do this? The gym was split in 2, one half was for kindergarten orientation, and shoes for kids on the other side. We did receive feedback for tables to be placed outside to help.

#### **Fundraising**

**Q** - Were we able to secure other fundraising to subsidize for other school trips?

**A** -We do have some fundraising that hasn't been used from previous years. We generally are to use fundraising up in the year it comes in. Almost all trips will get a little money towards trips. Some for bussing, some for students who needs subsidizing for the trip itself. We have held some money back for that. Some of the leftover fundraising will also go towards graduation, graduation costs must come from school fundraising, they do not come from school budget. For sports trips, example track and field, these will be covered by an athletic grant we just received last week. Students shouldn't have to pay for any bussing costs for these trips.

### **Food trucks for school events**

If anyone has any food trucks they like or recommend please send them along, we can make a list of trucks to use to keep on hand

### **2018 Buddy Benches status**

We have 3 picnic tables. We have talked to caretaking, they will be anchored into the blacktop, we will be removing them in the summer, so they don't get too damaged. A work order has been started

### **Donation material for fundraising**

**Q** - Did info go out about this?

**A** - We send communication through school messenger, and classrooms were sending out a note requesting donations. Donations are always completely volunteer based.

### **Kindergarten Orientation Feedback**

- This was our first year run the same night as open house.
- Some parents found this to be a bit rushed and disorganized. The slideshow is geared towards adults, so some restless kids in the audience. Some parents saying, they couldn't hear, or unsure if it was over so some got up and left. Rachel asked to do a talk about parent counsel, when she arrived the presentation was already over. The treasure hunt and kids meeting the teachers and ECEs in the classroom was great, kids loved the goody bags. From a parent, there was a lot of info given, but maybe not in the most effective way.

### **From Mrs. Del. Mastro**

- The board provides a slideshow that we must share. Educators put a brochure in the goody bag with some Franklin School specific info. It was busy, we did cut it short. Heidi, the reading specialist, and Melissa from Today's Family both read the room, and both cut their presentations short. Parents can reach out anytime with questions, and hopefully being in the kindergarten rooms they could ask questions there too. We will think about what this might look like for next year.

### **Suggestions**

- Maybe we could send out an email prior to orientation with the board slideshow, and then give an opportunity to ask questions in gym and classrooms.
- Could the slideshow be given in the classrooms so the kids could be playing while the parents listen to the slideshow?
- Possibility of a Teams meeting with board provided material first, and then come into the school for a question and answer and show the kids the rooms.

### **3 head basketball net**

**Q** – Can we get this lowered for the little kids?

**A** - It is cemented, not sure if we can lower it, we will look into this

### **Pizza Day**

There will be no pizza day this year, it is really busy and now with pizza day being handled by online cash it would be a lot to get going. We will wait till next year

### **Cash Online**

If you are already set up, you do not need to re-register. Upcoming trips will already be there.

A “how to register” info sheet went home with students.

### **School re-organization**

**Q** - Do we have a big movement of teachers? Families noticed a dynamic duo missing from kindergarten orientation, does this mean movement?

**A** - This info will come out by the end of the school year. It is still confidential at this point. The board is still in the process of hiring and changes are still being made, this information is confidential and will be shared with teachers first closer to the end of the school year, and families will find out after that. We will have more people; portables will also be coming back.

**Q** - Is it a board decision if teachers move about the school to new classes or new schools?

**A** – We follow collective agreements, very rigid process planning our moves to the next year, teachers provide choices, and we do our best to accommodate those choices. All based on the collective agreement. If teachers choose to move to other schools they would apply elsewhere, and then we would have to backfill. We are on the second round of postings that happen throughout the school system. Nothing is settled in any school at this point.

**Q** – Do siblings automatically get the same teacher every year?

**A** – So many factors go into class building. We look at a variety of factors when classroom planning. Classes are made with teachers input. Always looking at the best needs of students. We rarely take parental requests. Always based on best learning environment for students.

**Q** – Why more split classrooms?

**A** – The board provides us with our organization. The ministry provides classroom caps and allotments. Sometimes the organizations they give you comes with split classes. There is a whole mathematical piece that is out of our control

**Q** – What is the benefit of a kid being in a split class?

**A** – Children don't learn in rigid grades they are assigned. Our curriculum is designed to be scaffolded. You can teach to students at different abilities in a combined grade the same as you would a straight grade.

**Q** – Why is there 2 of the same split grades?

**A** – This is a part of that mathematical formula

### **Parent Engagement Grants**

**From Mr. Puley – Parent reaching out grants.** There were 29 programs that were accepted. Link posted in chat. Provides a sample of what other schools throughout the board have put forward and been approved for. All geared towards parent engagement. Engaging diverse communities, how to support learning in the home, all kinds of different things. We might look to these in the new year to see what other schools have been approved for. Maybe putting together an election committee for this for next year, usually in the spring.

**Question for Mr. Puley and Mrs. Del Mastro – How was your first year at Franklin Road?**

We have loved it; Loved the energy and school community, putting smiles on kids' faces, the students are amazing. We really noticed we were coming back after 2 years of pandemic. There was a lot going on, a lot of restrictions and changes, the last month and a half we have been able to see some amazing things.

**Q** – Mr. Puley, will you ever be fully with Franklin Road, not split between 2 schools?

**A** – It is not by choice, it started with declining enrollment and remote learning with the pandemic. Student populations diminished. We can't answer that, we just wait to find out as well.

**Thank you to the committee**

Thank you to Rachel for leading our meetings and for all members for attending these meetings

**Meeting adjourned 7:43 pm**

**Important Emails:**

Assistant to Ester Pauls: [zora.milovanov@hamilton.ca](mailto:zora.milovanov@hamilton.ca)

City of Hamilton bylaw: [mle@hamilton.ca](mailto:mle@hamilton.ca)

Ward 7 Councilor: [esther.pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:esther.pauls@hamilton.ca)

Ward 7 School trustee: [ddanko@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:ddanko@hwdsb.on.ca)