

Parent Council Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2023 - 6:30-7:30 via in-person and Teams

Attendance

Cat Scott, Amber Wilson, Brittney Tolsma, Emily Coe, Melissa Patterson, Dale Bullock, Michelle MacIntosh, Mr. Efthimiadis, Mrs. Del Mastro

Upcoming meetings, all Mondays at 6:30, all planned as hybrid

February 13, 2023

April 17, 2023

May 29, 2023

Previous minutes approved by Amber Wilson and Brittney Tolsma

Land Acknowledgement – Mr. Efthimiadis

Fundraising Updates

We went over our fundraising success to date and spoke about our remaining plan for fundraising for the year. Mrs. Del Mastro shared a table of our profit to date:

Event	Profit to date
Dominos (November)	\$760
Fall Dance (October)	\$1112
Pizza (ongoing)	\$2691
Poinsettia (November)	\$678
School store (ongoing)	\$300
Mabel's Labels (ongoing)	\$50
Total	\$5591

Our fundraising plan set at the beginning of the year was \$13,800. Some notes on our current fundraising...

Dominos

We will be planning to do another Dominos Fundraiser end of February, and then another later in the year. This is the one where you order on pizza night using a Franklin code

Pizza days

We will be starting to use Dominos for our pizza days instead of Famo pizza. Finding Famo pizza to be a bit hit or miss, sometimes receiving multiple pizzas that are burnt or tough. Dominos is also a bit less expensive.

School Store

The number above might not be entirely accurate, it just started in November and so is hard to track total profit at this time. It seems to be a hit. Lines are large but it is a fast process, and we are finding students are not stuck in line for their breaks very long. We will be changing our popcorn from Kernels brand, which is more expensive to a different, Canadian based popcorn company.

Upcoming Fundraising

Cinnabon

We had planned this to begin in April, to be finished just prior to Mother's Day. We would like to go ahead with this. Council will need to reach out to Cinnabon to get this going. To recap, this one is where we can set the price. So, if a box is \$10, maybe we make it \$13. Then Cinnabon gives a paper voucher for families to take directly to the store.

Bath Bombs

Holly stepped down from council to allow herself to be able to do this fundraiser. Two other schools confirmed to go ahead with this fundraising idea before us, and their timelines are set. Holly would have been able to add Franklin Road into the mix for beginning in April and distributing end of May. This timeline doesn't work from the school's end, due to it being a very busy time of year for staff. Mrs. Del Mastro said if it could be wrapped up by May 15, we could go ahead. Unfortunately, that date wouldn't allow enough time between Holly's other fundraising commitments. We can't go ahead with the bath bomb fundraiser this year. With all the kinks now ironed out, we can hopefully make this wonderful fundraiser idea a priority in the fall, which Holly has agreed to as well.

New Business

Lunch box program

- Unsure if this one is worth having. The info sheets show that the options are fairly expensive.
- For example, a pita may be \$9 for just a pita, and we would have to add on top of that to make a profit.
- It's not the most inclusive option for families, especially for families with multiple children. We did discuss having a lunchbox day just for something fun for students, and not necessarily for fundraising, to keep the cost down. Possibly towards the end of February.
- Mrs. Del Mastro suggested parent council look into what a couple options might actually look like, and we can go from there. Rachel had sent out all information for the Lunchbox program at the beginning of the year. We can look for that and re-send out.

Holiday Concert

- **Feedback** - It was noticed during the junior grades concert from some parents, that some of the adults who attended the holiday concert were not behaving in a very respectful manner.
- Many were standing, blocking the views of all parents behind them as well as coming and going during the concert when it was still ongoing.
- It was suggested at the next gathering, a message be delivered at the beginning about parents being mindful of others in the audience also wanting to watch the concert, and also not leaving as soon as their child is done/arriving late during the concert. It was confirmed we can do this next time
- **Donations** – Could we make food donations or possible \$1-2 ticket to concerts a requirement? Answer – We cannot make either mandatory. Some families may not be able to contribute the same as other families. It was talked about making a possible volunteer only monetary donation, to support Mr. Barletta's music program at the school. The reason this didn't happen this time was timing. It was tight timing between the strike action this year ending and concert planning. Will look into this for next year.

- **Stage** – Franklin Road did have a stage, that was being stored at Hill Park, because there is no storage available at the school. The stage was mistakenly sold by Hill Park, leaving Franklin Road without a stage. They did end up finding a contact who could lend a stage, but the timing was too late for it to be transported to the school. Hopefully next year we will have a stage, which will help with being able to see from the audience.

School Threat Protocols

- Mr. Efthimiadis went over the school threat protocols.
- They have a very specific protocol from the board they must follow when a school threat is discovered.
- The police are notified first, they're responsible for determining the risk.
- The school found out about this specific threat at the end of the day. The police with all the pictures and info needed, did not get back to them until the next morning, so they could not share with parents until they had that information.
- For our incident, the police determined the threat to be low risk. The timing of the school shooting threat email that went out to parents and the hold and secure drill email that went out, were purely coincidental. This drill was planned prior to any knowledge of this threat
- The school has to plan a number of drills (fire, hold and secure, lockdown etc) throughout the year. We know that the timing of this could have added to parents' stress, but all protocols for the threat were followed.

PRO Grant

- Information went out to the group regarding the PRO Grant and the application process and asking for any ideas that may come up. We did get one idea back, it was possibly using the grant to make the entrance to our school more inviting. Because the PRO Grant criteria is so specific, it wouldn't make it through approvals (a great idea, maybe we can look into this some other way in the future)
- We didn't receive any other ideas via email, at the meeting it was suggested to use the grant to improve communication between parents and the school/teachers, through holding an information session for parents about all things communication. Things like School Cash, The HUB, School messenger, MS TEAMS, etc....)
- There were no other submissions, we can go ahead and start the application process, which is due Jan 27

PIC – Internet Safety

- Information went out to the group about the PIC initiative, and possible ideas. A survey went out asking if we would like to use this grant to have Paul Davies hold an information session about internet safety, if we'd like to have him come speak to the intermediate students, and if not, were there any other ideas
- I received 6 replies for the survey, 5 were interested in having him hold the information session for parents, all 6 were interested in the session for the students, and there was one suggestion to instead use it for a session that might address supporting kids mental health, especially with these past years of covid
- Mrs. DelMastro will investigate the timeline/application process for Paul Davies

Graduation

- Any plans yet? No solid plans yet. Likely the week of June 19th. Looking into Hill Park for the venue again. More details to come

Gotcha Tickets

- Feedback – Are kids enjoying the reward of playing games as the Gotcha ticket reward? Received feedback from a couple students saying they don't want to play games in the gym and so they don't submit their tickets for the draw. In the past it has been a pizza reward they were more interested in
- The reward is teacher lead by Ms. Mair. It looks like most students are enjoying this reward, seems to be pretty popular. Could be looked into to add another element as well. A suggestion was brought up for possible school store vouchers. Mrs. McGowan will take that back.

Crossing Guard

- We do now have a crossing guard named John at the corner by the office. He just started. Upper Sherman and Fennell has had one there sometimes only, and no guard at Upper Wentworth and Franklin road yet. It's a city issue, there is a shortfall of guards. Feel free to reach out to your councilors with questions/feedback about this

School Facebook group for parents

- The topic was brought up in past years, fell off during covid times. Would we be able to run a Facebook group for parents. It would be for getting information out there about fundraising, reminders, spirit days, etc...
- The school or its staff wouldn't be able to have any part of running or being affiliated with this group. This is the approach used by other parent school groups that have groups. It would need to be made very clear in the title of the group that it is not affiliated with the school itself, HWDSB or staff. It would need to be council lead. Ways it has been shown successful at other schools include having council carefully monitor posts prior to being added to the group and keeping it a private group for parents of Franklin Road students only
- I can reach out to council, see if this is something we would like to start, and if there are any volunteers who wish to take this on

Teacher Report

- Sr. girls' and boys' basketball – Mr. MacQueen is running this. If he can't make it to both games Mrs. Skinner and Mrs. McGowan are stepping in to help. They have offered to help with the juniors to gain some more experience
- Extracurriculars – Mr. E is running intramural soccer in the gym.
- Extracurriculars – Checkers club. Mrs. Ireland is running this. It's for grades 3-8. 6 students from each grade can attend. They are practicing with the intermediate students in the hopes they can teach the younger kids
- Poinsettias Fundraiser – This year did not do as well. Only half the amount was made from what is usually made with this fundraiser
- Report Cards – Back to admin by Feb 3. They go home Feb 17
- Individual education plans – submitted to learning resource teachers by mid to late February
- Wed Jan 25 – Mrs. Curruthers is our mental health and wellbeing representative. She has given some info that teachers will bring back to the classrooms
- Family Literacy Day – Friday Jan 26, possibly another PJ Day?

Principal Report

- **New Human rights policy at the board** – learning about the new policy and reflecting. Please visit this link to view the new policy, it was shared at the meeting:
<https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/draft-human-rights-policy/>
Lots of time at PD Days are spent focused on the new Human rights policy, Indigenous rights and education, continuous learning and improvement, Emotion coaching, problem solving with students, including progressive discipline
- **After school tutoring** – The ministry has provided all schools with pandemic recovery funding to use for tutoring. The program runs for about 8 weeks. Currently 2 groups running, one for reading one for math. A new session will start as money has been provided for the next session. 6 teachers have volunteered time for this. They are training for this now. Selection will be done next week, mostly for literacy this time around, this session is available for students up to grade 6. Parents may get a call from a teacher regarding the program
- **Shortage of EAs** – Not only at Franklin Road, it's a board-wide concern. We are still able to support all our students with needs at Franklin Road. Mr. Efthimiadis and Mrs. Del Mastro, as well as resource teachers are able to help support our EAs. We can group kids together and our EAs all have walkie talkies for communication in order to help address these gaps.
- Grade 7 Camp Kawarthas is a go – Overnight camp, 2 nights, 3 days. Feb 8-10.

Questions, Comments

Q - Is the school aware of the possible new development at the corner of Upper Sherman and Mohawk

A - Yes – The school wouldn't be involved in any planning regarding an influx in students to the school. Any concern you might have you should reach out to your city trustee. It looks like there's a community meeting coming up Feb 4.

Important Emails:

Assistant to Ester Pauls: zora.milovanov@hamilton.ca

Ward 7 Councilor: esther.pauls@hamilton.ca

City of Hamilton bylaw: mle@hamilton.ca

Ward 7 School trustee: ddanko@hwdsb.on.ca