

HELEN DETWILER PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting Minutes

Thursday September 29, 2022

Time- 6:00 - 6:45 pm

In-person meeting

Present: Mr. Ro (principal), Sukhi (secretary today), Amanda (co-chair), Heather, Kim, Allison, Annie White (teacher rep)

Regrets: Cara, Lora

1. Land Acknowledgement

2. Introductions (Mr. Ro):

- Friday September 30 is Orange Shirt Day. If students do not have an orange shirt, HWDSB has provided stickers for students and staff.
- Parent Council 2022-2023 includes Kara H (Secretary); Amanda & Laura (Co-Chairs), and 4 voting members.

3. Co-Chair Report (Amanda):

- Next dates for parent council were established: October 27th, 2022 at 6:30pm, November 30th, 2022 at 6:30pm.

4. Teacher's Report (Annie):

- **Cross Country:** will be on October 13th. Mr. Martin and Mr. Martins will head the 6-8s while Ms. Graham and Ms. McHugh will head the 3-5s.
- **Meet the Educator:** on October 12th from 4-5:30pm. It will be outdoors, with food trucks (Curbside Foods).
- **Terry Fox:** will be on October 14th (all day). Last year we raised \$1200 and this year our fundraising goal is \$1500. Donation collection begins on October 4th.
- **Photo Day:** October 20th, 2022
- **Royal Botanical Gardens Field Trip: October 17th;** it's for grades 6-8
- **Real Inclusivity:** November 4th, 2022; a free virtual workshop for grades 6-8
- **Neighbour 2 Neighbour:** is back for the reading tutor program for grades 1-4 (begins in October); they've included a math tutoring as well for grades 7-8 at Turner Park Library; parents can apply for their child through the school or as a community member.

5. Principal's Report (Mr. Ro):

- **School Reorganization:** we will be adding an additional kindergarten class and a Grade 2 class. No other grades are being disrupted. October 6th is a transition day for staff, while students will join their new classes on October 7th.
- **Pizza Day:** return on October 12, 2022 and will continue each Wednesday; our volunteers are back to head pizza days; payment of \$2 will be accepted in cash and School Cash Online.
- **Police Checks:** Amanda notified council that there is currently a backlog for volunteer police checks

by up to 60 days and this could affect pizza day or any school trips.

- **Public Health Nurse:** HD will be having a public health nurse come into the school for a half day each week; they will assist with mental health guidance and other things; they may be able to join school council as a community member.
- **Student Council:** is run by Mme. Payant and Ms. Danyal. elections are currently underway.
- **School Choir:** is starting up again and will prepare for the Remembrance Day ceremony. Mr. Ro will consider if parents can attend the ceremony as well.
- **School Facilities:** school roof replacement has been delayed a bit. The portapack roof has been replaced as well. Amanda mentioned that an awning has been removed from the overpass in the back and students are getting wet as they walk under it; Mr. Ro is to look into that. The school will be getting new doors and windows, scheduled for the summer of 2023. The air conditioner needs to be addressed for the spring (as there are issues due to the roof replacement).
- **Office Administer:** Ms. Orgar officially retired, and Ms. Beattie is now the office administrator.

6. Community Discussion:

- Amanda brought up a parent/community concern of the juniors mixing with the primary grades during recess. Mr. Ro states that when middle school kids are mixed with primary kids, there are fewer incidents during nutrition break. The concern is regarding some grade 4 students missing opportunities to play with their friends from other classes during recess. Mr. Ro states that Room 14 will open up soon for the Grade 4s to have nutrition break with their friends (it will be supervised).
- Volleyball is cancelled as an extracurricular activity. Amanda would like to know if any other teacher could take over or even parent volunteers. The children have missed so much since the pandemic.

7. Additional Business

None

8. Upcoming Meeting Date

Scheduled for October 27th, 2022 at 6:30pm

9. Meeting Adjournment

Mover: Allison

Seconder: Heather

Meeting adjourned at 6:45.