JAMES MACDONALD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

200 Chester Ave, Hamilton, ON L9C 2X1 November 13, 2019 at 6:30pm

Meeting held in the Learning Commons

MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE:

Stephanie Lostanaw Lavin, Co-Chair Hannah Poon, Co-Chair Stephanie Hurley, Secretary Elyse Palmer, Treasurer Melissa McCormack, Principal Amanda Vernon, Teacher Becky Buck – School Trusty Amanda Whalen Rachelle Hest Stephanie Hosking Abby Robertson Laura Kentie Heather Talach

Meeting called to order by S. Lostanaw Lavin at 6:32 pm

- Agenda approved by E. Palmer, R. Hest. All in favour.
- Minutes approved from October 9, 2019 meeting & accepted by, L. Kentie, H. Poon. All in favour.

BUSINESS FROM LAST MEETING

PAINTING OF PLAYGROUND AND BLACKTOP GAMES

- Looked at pricing with local company: Creative Playgrounds.
- Looking at different games for blacktop and kindergarten area.
- Approximately \$1000 depending on what is requested & for different colours (yellow is standard).
- Company will do a site visit. Can paint at earliest in March. Needs 2 days to paint without rain or wetness.
- Will discuss at January council meeting and fundraise.

CHILD MINDING BY LOCAL HIGHSCHOOL

• S. Lostanaw Lavin will reach out to J. Brinson for follow-up

MATH CLUB

- Last year, Math club put on by H. Poon and Mr. Sousie for junior level students.
- Club started in response to EQAO results from previous school years.
- Interest expressed to start club up again this year. Well received last year.
- Looking to restart club and possibly open up to primary students. Need teacher and parent volunteers.
- H. Poon will be lead contact for this club.

NEW BUSINESS

FUNDRAISING

POINSETTA

- Council decision via email vote to not do this, this year as timeline to short.
- Will look into it for next year.

BIG BOX OF CARDS

- Box of 33 cards (Birthdays, Sympathy, Congratulations)
- \$33 to purchase box. School profit of \$11 per box.
- Need to register by February for specials. Fundraiser includes prize packs and incentives for students.
- Council looking at spring to roll out fundraiser (End of March/April)
- VOTE: Motion to approve Big Box of Cards fundraiser. S. Lostanaw Lavin, R. Hest. All in favour.

MOVIE NIGHT

- Thursday, March 5 (evening before PA Day)
- A. Robertson and R. Hest will organize.

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PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

- Meeting November 12, 2019, attended by S. Lostanaw Lavin
- Presentation by local libraries. Discussed library resources, partnership and connecting within schools.
- Parents reaching out grant not available to councils this year due to uncertainty of funding. Instead board possibly will
 do a larger event, possibly around Bullying, which will be held at a large venue, open to all schools. Details to be
 determined.

CONSTITUTION & GUIDELINES FOR COMMITTEE

- Council needs to develop a constitution for School Council.
- Support/resources available through the board, HWDSB template.
- Council members S. Lostanaw Lavin, A. Whalen, A. Robertson, L. Kentie volunteered to develop and write
 constitution

TREASURER'S REPORT, E. Palmer

See attached Financial Report for account balances

Possible discrepancy among teachers for allotted classroom startup/supplies. Will look into this.

HWDSB TRUSTY, B. Beck

- Labour relations among teachers progressing well on local level, relationships good.
- Bullying panel being developed. Using a hybrid model. Board hoping panel will be complete by May. Purpose is to bring community partners together to look at issues of bullying.

TEACHER REPORT, A. Vernon

- Mrs. Pretch asking for donations of keyboards for music. Will put on Facebook group.
- Mrs. Pretch requesting 5 headphones for current keyboards. Unsure of price. Depends on size needed. Approx. \$30-\$50 each. Needs 5 headphones. Headphones need to be purchased through board approved vendors.
 - VOTE: Up to \$200 for headphones. R. Hest, A. Robertson, All in favour.
- Joy Day in December for primary students, grad 1-3/4. Day spent doing winter crafts/activities. Primary teachers asking for \$10/teacher x6 teachers to a total of \$60
 - VOTE: S. Lostanaw Lavin, L. Hest, All in favour.
- Mitten Drive organized by Mrs. Monkhouse to support an inner-city school: Viscount Montgomery School. Each classroom has a box. Mitten drive will run until November 28.
- Remembrance Day Assembly: went well, gym decorated with students art work, many performances by students.

PRINCIPAL REPORT, M. McCormack

- Bullying prevention and awareness next week
- PA Day November 29 theme: Positive School Culture
- Safety Drills complete
- Drum Fit: held in October, well received by students.
- Bus Driver Appreciation day: October 23. Thank you to council for gift cards. Presentation done for bus safety.
- Halloween parade: great success.

Meeting Adjourned by S. Lostanaw Lavin at 7:48pm. Approved by R. Hest, S. Hurley. All in favour.

The next School Council Meeting will be held at 6:30 pm On Wednesday, January 8, 2020, in the James Macdonald Learning Commons