

Lawfield Parent Council – Hybrid Meeting, Tuesday September 27th, 2022

Attendees:

- Tanya T.
- Holly E.
- Kevin B.
- Rozan Q.
- Saman P
- Alana J.
- Sooraj U.
- Bridget C.
- Heather A.
- Ellen S.
- Tanha P.
- Sandeer P.
- Nikki
- Shannon B.
- Thuong T.
- Tuyet D.
- Sunitu P.
- Krista H.
- Veronica B.
- Karen N.
- Julie W.
- Chris D.
- Jackie t.
- Michelle S.
- Alyson B.
- Jeff M.
- Karan B.

Introduction & Welcome

Review School Council Election Rules – Holly E.

Election of 2022/23 School council Executives and Members

- Can have 20 voting members (Members at large) – voting must be in person/virtual (not proxy)
- Holly E. is acclaimed - Chair position
- Jackie T. is acclaimed - Vice Chair
- Heather A. is acclaimed - Secretary
- Chris D. is acclaimed - Treasurer

Names collected via paper and virtual for voting members

- Voting Members (Members at Large):
 - Ellen S.
 - Alana J.
 - Krista H.
 - Sooraj U.
 - Shannon B.
 - Karan B.
 - Karen N.
 - Nichole R.
 - Jeff M.
- Non-voting Members
 - Bridget C.
 - Tanha P.
 - Sandeep P.
 - Sanian P.
 - Rozan Q.

Principal's Report and update – T. Tymkiv

Welcome, pleasure to be here. Beginning and start up was a lot smoother than previous years. No daily attestations, screening, cohorts, etc has made it a lot more comfortable. A lot of classroom community building activities, this will make it tricky to face a reorganization.

Teachers volunteering with 3 pitch; highlighting the successes in team work. Swim team is meeting, track and field is being offered to junior students. Really great way to start off the year with physical activity.

This Thursday is annual Terry Fox walk; wearing red and white or school colours – school will be walking together around the property.

This Friday is National Day of Truth & Reconciliation: Orange Shirt day – display case includes story books and articles, talking to students of all levels to build empathy and understanding at all ages.

Undergoing Reorganization right now

Some split classes are turning into straight grade classes and some straight grade classes are turning into split classes. Some classes had over 30 students at the beginning of the year. In English stream, over 80 students are being shifted. On the French side, 46 students are moving (grade 3 to 6). Losing a whole class on the French Immersion side (junior level) – will be announced by the end of the week. The families that are impacted will be getting a specific letter. Student will be given specific new class, teacher and room number. The changes will be effective October 7th. In some instances, all of a grade level has to go, in other instances, the teacher has to decide who changes if just a few students have to move. Consider all notes; parent requests from previous days, giving kids a break from each other, etc. Will also send an email to the parents of the class if it's a whole class.

Q: how many students from a grade at minimum to create a split class

A: try for 6, not always the case. There is a new system for applications; creates a delay. Board is looking at who actually came to school from the 6th to the 13th. Since that day, we've had more changes, but the numbers won't be perfect because we have 2 more weeks of changes that weren't accounted in the initial change instructions.

Q: What counts as junior

A: Grades 4, 5 and 6

Parking Lot

Call-out for volunteers for the end of the day; if anyone is interested as a parent in helping with parking lot supervision at the end of the day. Still have people who sneak in. Rule is that we don't allow people into the parking lot. Don't have the space; we need to focus on safety. We're asking parents to use the sidewalk to set the example – if kids see adults walking through the parking lot they might do so too. Anywhere from 2:40 to 3:00 pm when people are arriving. People are driving around the pilons or in through the exit.

Suggestion: Gap in the fence – does not line up with walkway at the Kiss N Ride. Can we move this?

Information: Previously we've had someone come to provide an assessment and plan; work order is still open and the work on the fence hasn't been done; painting has been done.

Q: Near the dumpster there are trucks -who are they?

A: Hamilton Wentworth trucks are there at the end of the day. They are there to deliver, or crew doing some work (don't always have control over that).

School Renewal funds

Painted front entrance and atrium – everything was yellow, brown and burgundy. Wanted the kids to have a brighter more welcoming environment. Looks so much nicer; other schools are checking it out!

This summer the library was painted! Looks bare now but we are doing a bit of an overhaul – working with Library technicians at the schoolboard. If it looks bad we'll pitch it, reviewing all the material. We will be dedicating some funds towards updating some furniture and updating technology (laptops). Modernizing the room, creating a learning-commons collaboration space, work on things together. Often now two classes are in here at a time, lot of clubs and extracurricular activities are using the space, reading buddies etc. Tech bins are along the wall for collecting and distributing tech. We'll wipe the devices, put them into the hands of kids for photos, etc. 25 ordered in October, and 20 ordered in January in May – they are very backlogged. Are continually investing in tech and hoping that Lawfield Parent Council will help support with funds.

Q: Will we have any student representative on the parent this year?

A: We haven't had one at every meeting, we've had a guest (e.g. student council president) come to present when they need something.

Q: Are we going to have a staff representative?

A: No volunteers as of yet; feeling is that people would like to wait for Reorganization dust to settle

Q: When does the Lawfield spirit wear become available for purchase

A: Ms Hoefur is working on that.

October 12th Wednesday – Open house curriculum night. 6 pm – wander through classrooms, meet teacher, allow your child to show you some of the spaces in the building that you haven't seen in a few years.

Q: Other schools are doing a big event with food trucks etc – are we doing anything like that?

A: Staff are comfortable with what we've settled on; no bbq

Financial Update – Holly E.

\$342.49 from Plantables from last year

Mabels Labels – affiliated from the school, we get a small fee per transaction

Still working on who from the office will be providing information from the office. Chris D will provide financials moving forward.

Council Ongoing Monthly Meeting Dates Discussion

Sept – Nov, Jan – May, last Tuesday of the month

Fasl – Ellen is waiting to find out if they are on the committee

PIC (Parental Involvement committee) – no one is planning to represent Lawfield

Q: Can we start at 6:15 instead of 6 pm?

A: Majority voted for 6:00 instead of 6:15.

Open Discussion & New Business

Q: Will we be starting up Pizza day?

A: Yes, will do that after Reorganization so that we only do the lists once (right after reorg, second week of October) – Jackie and Karen run this

Alana J. Can committee to 1x day a week to do casual work in the school – would help with Pita days, etc. (Michelle and Jackie can help)

Q: Are we doing hybrid meetings for the rest of the year?

A: Yes

Fundraising: We will start up Fundraising committee to lay out plan for approval

Volunteers? - Shannon, Jackie, Holly, Alana

More restricted on what we were allowed to do in previous years because of size of school

Fundraising plan – have to explain what we want to raise money for, what/how, and when

Home and School Foundation – solely focus on fundraising – would be separate from school council (Michelle leading this)

Q: Can we do a Halloween dance?

A: Will have to look into permits to see if anyone is using the gym.

Already had a teacher start a committee to have an activity day. Dance is one of the options, quiet activities, video games. This would be on the 31st.

Friday the 28th would be the Family Halloween dance at night.

Only need help with School Cash online for families to order slices of full pizzas.

Volunteers for baked goods to sell, sell glow sticks.

Goals for the year; bring back the feeling of community (pre-covid)

Q: How many students are enrolled?

A: Between 740-750. Reorg is the time when families will be leaving to go remote if they chose to. No remote classes this year; there is a separate school for that.

Next Meeting

Tuesday October 25th