**Mount Albion Parent Council Meeting Minutes**

November 24, 2016, 6:30 pm – 8:00pm

**Attendees:** Stephanie Blanchard (SB), Judy Davidson (JD), Cindy Goebel (CG), Judy Haskell (JH), Victoria Llewllin (VL), Amber Mayne (AM) Carol MacKenzie (CM - Principal)

**Regrets:** Kelly Ames (KA), Kirsteen Cannell (KC), Raji Mundi (RM)

**Call to Order & Introductions**

**Minutes:** Minutes from October, 2016 were reviewed and approved by School Council

**Call for Agenda Items:** None

**Treasurers Report:** Total School Council account has a balance of $1715.29

* November🡪 Total of $1010.10 net deposited [Turtle Jacks Night, Water Bottle Sales, School Spirit wear]
* October 🡪 Total of -$3.86 net was deducted [Mabel’s Labels, Water Bottles, withdrawal – June Graduation medallions]

**Teachers Report (Of Note):**

* Sports: **Junior Swim Team** - Swim meet took place on November 23 and several Mount Albion students placed well (2 Second Place and 2 Third Place finishes). **VolleyBall** - 16th Annual Mount Albion hosted Volleyball tournament is taking place on November 24 – 25. Junior and Intermediate Girls Volleyball team played well but did not advance. Boys will play on Nov 25.
* Initiatives: **Kindergarten -** parent visits are finishing up. FDK classes will be planning a visit to the Local Fire station and will be paired with a 911 presentation. Random act of kindness initiative will be happening in December. **Other** – December 1 is Poinsetta Fundraiser pick-up. December 5-9 will be candy grams and food drive, December 21 some classes will be walking to Saltfleet to watch their band, December 22 is Wacky Hair day and entire school will be going to see the movie Sing (aligns with curricula)

**Principal Repor**t: Of note:

* Announcements: Principal, Carol McKenzie will be retiring on January 25th (She will be missed!). Some of the staff have been informed but there will be no official announcement to the Students until January. The school Success temporary EA (Alana Gaudin) will be leaving as the new permanent staff (Karen Ryglewicz) will be starting on November 28th. On December 8th, school will participate in the Fall lockdown drill with the Hamilton Police Department.
* Request for moving January Meeting date: Unless there is urgent business to discuss, it was voted to cancel the December School Council Meeting until January 19th (a week prior to regular meeting to accommodate Principal off site meeting)
* Plans for Mount Albion - Building: HWDSB will be applying to the Ministry for Capital projects funding (using the population growth as reason for the request). Mount Albion will continue to use the port-a-pak structure until it cannot support the needs of the students. Portables may be used to bridge the gap until the funding is obtained. A preliminary meeting has already taken place, and another meeting will take place in January to discuss needs and design of space

*School Council provided wishlist:*

* Additional washrooms
* Snoozlen room
* Designated space for French and Art AND resource Room
* Air Conditioning
* School Improvement plans: New HWDSB math strategy is being implemented. Method 2 data from EQAO scores (removing students who did not write the test were removed from analysis) was reviewed and Mount Albion has made great strides in their scores. PD day training agenda was shared with school council and JD conducted a lesson in “Number Talks”.

**Community Report:**  Not available at this meeting

**Business Arising from Previous Meeting:**

* *Allocation of Funds (teachers wish list):*  Teachers were polled to find out where they would like the School Council funds to be allocated. The overall response was to have school uniforms/t-shirts (can be used for band/choir/sports). Supplementing gym equipment was also requested. School Council voted and approved the request. Funds will be allocated towards uniforms/gym equipment and Graduation medallions.
* *Movie Night:* Movie night ‘to-do list’ was discussed and assigned.
* *Parent Survey:* Parent Survey Results:
  + Many respondents were from younger grades, but we received responses from all grade levels
  + Many families are new to the school, but many families have never gone to any events despite being part of Mount Albion for years (more engagement needed?)
  + Most of the reasons for not attending were schedule conflicts or lack of information. Luckily no one responded they found it cost prohibitive
  + Families enjoyed Family Movie nights the most but also enjoyed Physical activity nights, Turtle Jacks night and family learning activities
  + Most families would prefer Friday evenings for hosting activities however since administration have to be onsite for any event, out of respect, Fridays have not been widely chosen. Perhaps a Thursday before a PD day would be suitable.

**New Business**

* **Pizza Days:** It was decided to have the teachers continue to do pizza days
* **Tim Hortons**: Recently a School Council member was at a Tim Hortons Event called “warm wishes” where Tim Hortons was answering wishes and doing good deeds in the community. The School Council rep noted that some children find going to events at school cost prohibitive, so Tim Hortons provided Mount Albion with a gift card for 550$ to help pay for the cost of the movie Sing!, so that all children can go. School Council will provide a thank you to Tim Hortons for their support.
* **FunScrip:** a possible fundraising option is a program call funScrip, where Gift cards to many different companies gift cards are available and school council can get a portion (1%-5%) in return. This is a good fundraising option for early in the year as we can use it for “Christmas gift ideas”
* **Review of HWDSB Ward Information Night:** School Council was provided with an ‘outdoor building’ information booklet, a new school will be built to service the Summit Park community (tenders are currently out for architects), with estimated completion 2018-2019. This may result in another boundary revision for the Mount Albion boundary lines.

Next Meeting: Thursday January 19, 2016 at 6:30 pm (December Meeting Cancelled unless needed)

**Adjournment**