**Mount Albion Parent Council Meeting Minutes**

May 25, 2017, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

**Attendees:** Kelly Ames (KA), Stephanie Blanchard (SB), Judy Davidson (JD), Alex Douglas (AD), Cindy Goebel (CG), Victoria Llewllin (VL), Amber Mayne (AM), Raji Mundi (RM), Angela Giardino (AG - Principal)

**Regrets:** Judy Haskell (JH), Andrea Daw (AD),

**Call to Order / Introductions**

**Review of Previous Minutes**: Minutes from April 27, 2017 were reviewed and approved

**Call for Agenda Items:** none

**Treasurers Report:** Treasurers report was unavailable. It was noted that it was unsure if Stephanie from Total FX fitness had been paid

ACTION 🡪 AM to contact Stephanie from Total FX fitness to find status of payment for her service.

**Principals Report (Of Note):**

* EQAO: EQAO preparations are ongoing with a teacher providing afterschool support for EQAO studying. It was noted that there is a need in the classes for hands on manipulatives for the learners to engage in (geoboards, tangrams, etc). This is a possible funding opportunity for School Council in the 2017 / 2018 school year. The Board has an initiative to have all students reading by the end of grade 1. Recently the school has been able to purchase some learning tools to help achieve this goal (LLI kit for kindergarten, etc).
* Renovation: Mount Albion will be receiving 3 portables to accommodate the school growth for 2017 / 2018 season. The portables will be delivered in Mid-June and a new basketball court will be created since the portables may take over the site of the basketball court. Once the portables have been assembled the re-grading of the upper field will commence. Renovations over the summer will include: portable assembly, field regrading, bathroom renovations for both female and male washrooms, science cupboard upgrade, and repainting the hallway / doors.
* Class Building: Currently there are 35 JK (1st year kindergartens) registered for the 2017/ 2018 school year. Therefore it is assumed that there will be three kindergarten classes again. With the reorganization of the classes and the addition of three portables, it is a possibility that the junior classes may be relocated to the portables for next year. AG was able to obtain some gently used furniture from Ancaster Hills school. It is anticipated that by 2019 – 2020 Mount Albion could reach 500 students.

**Teachers Report (Of Note):**

* Sports: **Jr. Track and Field –** over the past few weeks Junior (Grades 3/4/5) have been practicing for track and field over recesses. Track and field day will occur in Mid-June. **Swim Team** – Swim team received 4 banners and exhibited exemplary behaviour while at the swim meet. **Water Polo** – Mount Albion participated for the first time ever in Water Polo and did amazing. A fun time was had by all. **Baseball** – baseball tryouts will be commencing shortly and the baseball season will take place in June.
* Trips/Activities: **Jump Rope For Heart –** occurred in the upper parking lot and was a huge success. **Wonderland –** Wonderland trip for choir and band occurred on May 18th. Both groups were outstanding. **Talent Show** – Talent show performers have been set. Currently a new date for the talent show is being discussed. **Butterfly Conservatory** – All kindergarten classes will be going on a school trip to the Cambridge butterfly conservatory on June 20. **Bowling** – Primary classes will be going to a bowling trip for their end of the year activity. **Wild Waterworks** – Intermediate classes (grades 5 – 8) will be going to Wild Waterworks for their end of the year activity**. Pizza Hut** – The special education classes will be going on a end of the year trip to Pizza Hut to practice ordering at a restaurant. **Dance** – the Grades 6/7/8’s will be having an end of the year dance.
* Academic: **EQAO** testing will take place May 23 – June 2 for grades 3 and 6; **Kindergarten Information Day** – June 8th (it was suggested that School Council have a presence there that day to help ‘recruit’ new members)

**Community Report (Of note):**

* Heritage Green neighbourhood will be holding a garage sale – so far 45 houses in the area have signed on to participate
* June 1st is the soft launch of the Heritage Green Farmers market and June 8th is the official Grand Opening to the Heritage Green Farmers Market. The Mayor, Councillors etc will be in attendance for the ribbon cutting as well as face painting and a fire truck.
* The market intends to fill a need in the community to provide walkable fresh and local produce to the community.
* So far 16 vendors have signed agreements for the market which will run Every Thursday from 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm from June to October each year
* The market also intends to implement Market bucks, which are vouchers given to the more at need local families so they can spend it at the market on fresh products.
* Possibility of the social media teacher responsible for the Mount Albion twitter feed to tweet about it to create a school / business community partnership.

**Business Arising from Previous Meeting:**

* *Uniforms:*  Mount Albion was able to receive 85 shirts of varying sizes for 13$/ shirt. The shirts were received in time for the students to wear them to Band and Choir festival at Wonderland.
* *Open House:*  Overall the book drive was a success. Many families participated by bringing and taking books to enjoy. However, Council felt that perhaps families felt they could only take a book(s) if they brought some. Perhaps wording changes in the flyer would help rectify this misconception next year. Additionally, the book drive was located in the Grade 4/5 class and not easily locatable (especially for kindergarten families) since the book drive was in the opposite end of the school. All books left over from the book drive were donated back to the teachers to add to their reading bins.
* *Pro Grant:* ProGrant submission is complete.
* *Fundraisers:* Possible fundraising opportunities for next year include Indigo, Fund Script, Walkers Chocolates, Montana’s Family Diner nights (instead of Turtle Jacks)
* *Parking:* AG indicated that by-law officers have been to Mount Albion on several occasions to hand out tickets for parking offenses. Although great strides have been made on parking / driving issues, there is always room for improvement.

**New Business**

* *Grade 8 Grad:*  Grade 8 Graduation will occur on June 22 at Paramount Church and the end of the year dinner will take place at Carmen’s “ C restaurant”. School Council is historically responsible for hosting a drink reception after the graduation occurs. However it was decided to provide a cake/sweet as well. Additionally, it was decided that a letter will be sent home to the Grade 7 students to ask for “dessert donations” to pay it forward to the Grade 8s. Decorations lists, task dividing and other logistics were discussed. CG will provide the punch, AM, SB and VM will obtain the decorations / photo frames / napkins and cups.
* *Kindergarten Orientation:* It was decided that some School Council members should be in attendance at the Kindergarten Orientation to discuss what it means to “join School Council”.
* *Teacher Appreciation Day:* it was decided to get each staff member (Teachers, EAs, ECEs, Care Taking staff, Admin) a hot beverage and a sweet treat from Tim Hortons. SB to create a “sign up sheet” for staff to indicate their specific requests. SB / VM / AM to go to Tim Hortons Wednesday May 31st to get the thank you snacks.

Post meeting note: Many teachers expressed their thanks for the appreciation gift of a Timmy’s treat. They also indicated they loved that School Council did it on Tim Hortons Camp day to also “give back”.

Next Meeting: September 28 2017 at 6:30 pm.

**Adjournment**