

Mount Albion Parent Council Meeting

Thursday, February 29, 2024

6:00 – 7:00 pm

Attendees (15):

- Cheryl Urbanczyk (Principal)
- Kristy Luker (Vice Principal)
- Kelli Ridgeway (Childcare Supervisor)
- Prashanth Kannan (Chair)
- Elizabeth Roediger (Treasurer)
- Judy Davidson (Teacher)
- Lisa Hewitt (Secretary)
- Jelena Stevanovic
- Dana Kennedy
- Melissa Smith
- Jennifer Lazarski
- Alyse Nishimura
- Julie Young
- Luba Dubinsky
- Amber Mayne

Regrets:

- Christine Basilebrock
- Jessica Gold
- Nicole O'Neill
- Nicole Pollice
- Tamara Jones
- Leesa Gill
- Anna Ricketts
- Leeann Esposto
- Belal Ahmad
- Ariana Rusic
- Praveen S
- Adele Dantonio (Before/Aftercare Supervisor)

Call to order and approval of minutes

- Cheryl call to order at 6:06 pm
- Minutes approved

Community Rep report

- Childcare full until Sep 2025
- Before and after care full, lots of JK on the list already, may have to open another JK before/after list (13 on the wait list and haven't even had JK orientation yet)

- Summer camp full

Principal Report

- Student council up to a lot of events
 - Pink, red purple friendship day
 - Beach day on March 8 – TBD how that will actually look considering the weather
 - Food drive raised 2, 252 items and 1734 lb for Stoney Creek Community Food Bank
- Kindergarten registration is open, already have a lot of registrants
- 3 clubs – floor hockey, robotics, drama
- Introduced the new multi year strategic plan to the staff from the board and determining what it looks like at Mount Albion. One of the priorities are to work with the math strategy. School has purchased a few resources for it as well as investing in additional staff learning. Multi-year strategic plan (2023-2028) can be accessed on the board website (<https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/multi-year-strategic-plan/#:~:text=Hamilton%2DWentworth%20District%20School%20Board's,impactful%20learning%20outcomes%20for%20all>) . Collaborated with parents, teachers, etc.
- Grad photos and photo retakes were yesterday (Feb 28, 2024)

Teacher Report

- Jr boy's basketball is starting
- Grad is coming up. Right after March Break a letter will be going home to graduating families with info. Will be asking Parent Council for a donation for the cookie purchase. Luba highly recommended repeating it based on her children's experience last year.
 - Amber – wants to confirm how many cookies for grad – 55 (\$3/cookie = \$165). Motion to vote. 10 voted yes. Motion passed.
- Safety assembly happened this week
- Sr swim team in April
- Intramurals – floor hockey

Treasurer Report

- Nothing new to report
- Following up about Purdy's rebate and \$500 for Parent Engagement. Cheryl will follow up about Purdy's. We missed the deadline for the Parent Engagement application so will not receive those funds.
- Currently have \$3200 with what has been deposited + \$182 from Purdy's

Paul Davis update

- Good to go for April 19, 2024. Parent session at 6 pm. Junior/senior presentations throughout the day. Paul Davis just sent an ad. A notice will go out to families through School Messenger. Cheryl can look at the school budget to

see if any opportunity to contribute, since we missed the \$500 Parent Engagement contribution we were hoping for.

- Cost is \$1800

Dinner night

- Amber – called Montanas, the manager is on board but has to check with GM. Will follow up Monday morning. Would have to be after April 9. 10% of everyone's bill (minus alcohol). Would be valid the entire day. Valid for take out for lunch (for the staff) but otherwise only valid for dine in.
- Prashanth - will reach out to Andrea to find out who the contact was for Dominos to try and set that up as well.

Photo provider

- Cheryl is still looking into when our contract goes until. At least the end of the year. Kristy noted that Gatestone just recently switched from a different provider to our current provider as they had a lot of quality issues.
- Saltfleet uses Lifetouch.
- Our provider seems more expensive than a lot of other ones.

New Business

- Student awards and assemblies – not happening this year. Student council has taken the lead on this in the past. This year they are going in a different direction. It can look different year by year and this year decided not to do it. Judy noted that even though there is not an official assembly this year, students are still rewarded for positive behaviour within the classes. Also commented that the assemblies can be discouraging to students who do not receive an award. Kristy suggested to ask the staff to survey students to ask them what they would like to see, to feel recognized.
- In terms of Parent Council funds, the goal is to spend all the money from this year. We can only carry over \$500-\$1000 to the next year. Usually donate \$500 to grad (pays for awards/trophies) and then purchase the cookies.
- Amber – open house – are we planning to do the baskets? Cheryl says yes. Amber suggested to get a letter for businesses to try and get more donations other than just from the classes. Suggestion to target new businesses in the area (Mud/Centennial). Have to coordinate with where people are going to get donations so the same businesses are not getting hit up more than once.
- Aim for Krispy Kreme fundraiser next year once the Hamilton one opens.
- Amber – if we have money come the end of the year, principal will ask teachers what they need and try to spread it around. Paul Davis, grad, cookies = \$2400 so still have \$1000 left. Plus, will have the dinner fundraisers. Last year pizza raised \$200-300 and Montana's has traditionally been \$200-400.
- Question about end of year celebrations for students. Liz asked if we can help. Amber says yes but we need police checks, approval from admin and committed volunteers who will be there no matter what. Get admin to ask staff to start making wish list of what they would want to add to their classroom celebrations.

Judy noted that the wish is always something the whole school can use or is equitable among all grades (i.e. sound system, gym equipment)

- Bomb threats – school has not heard any updates about the investigation. If there were any updates, it would be communicated to the board not to the school. If anything had changed there would be an update to policy provided to the board. Prashanth wants to know if there is any way to communicate with the board. Alyse noted that there is a Parent Involvement Council that meets once per month. There is a call for members in June for September and have to apply. Not everyone will get accepted as they want representation from all geographic areas within the board.
- Prashanth asked how is the board preparing kids for the future with the advent of generative AI. Cheryl suggested to review the new multi-year strategic plan on board's website.
- EQAO – May
- How much are iPads? 10 + cases + tub for storage = \$4000. School has already purchased 20 so far this year.

Next meeting date(s)

- Don't meet in March because of March Break
- Thursday, April 25 at 6:00 pm
- Thursday, May 30 at 6:00 pm

Adjourn

- 7:06 pm