

## **Spring Valley Elementary School Council Meeting Agenda Thursday, December 14, 2023**

### **Attendance**

In-Person: Leslie Montreuil, Kate Babetin, Christine Ho, Michelle Ouzounis, Allison Law, Jelena Urosevic, Lisa Veloce, Mr Manson, Mrs. Lumsden, Mrs McVittie

Virtual: Claire Fletcher

### **1. Welcome: Leslie Montreuil**

### **2. Principal's Report: Barb McVittie**

- Food & Toy Drive – Somewhat successful but not as much as previous years. Ideally we go back to the hampers in the future. Mrs Lumsden requests feedback from the community to see how we can improve for next year. We filled 3 trucks, 1200 lbs of food. Mrs Cohen took over while Mrs Lumsden was away for a few weeks.
- Ancaster High School had 900 lbs.
- Grocery prices are higher so people
- Toy Drive – fire department picked it all up. Wrapping up this week. Volunteer brought his own personal vehicle and it will filled. Toys will still be collected tomorrow. We had hoped to have the fire truck come tomorrow but it was not available.
- The kids were very enthusiastic about it and they learned a lot.
- Jane McPherson is retiring in January. We still don't know yet who will be taking over. She has been a strong supporter of our school so we are sad to see her go.

### **3. Teacher's Report: Mr. Manson**

- Volleyball – Senior girls made it to the semi-finals, lost. Excellent season overall
- Basketball tryouts underway, Will begin in January
- Junior basketball teams start in March
- Boundary ball for primary – goes until end of January
- Robotics team went to their first tournament last week in Markham. The kids had a blast, very well organized. We had 5 weeks to get ready when other schools had from September. We placed about 10<sup>th</sup>, highest of all the HWDSB teams. The kids can't wait to do it again next year.
- We will be opening a generalized robotics club, grades 4-8 this January – June. More information to come about the times and structures.
- Next year the hope is to have a Junior and Senior teams.
- We'll hear an update about the fundraiser in January. The goal was to purchase 3 new prime kits and expansions and we expect to be able to purchase those.
- Staff VS students volleyball, Tuesday and Wednesday.
- Monday the band and choir will present a winter concert. Parents are welcome, there will be chairs put out for the 3:00 performance.
- Many classrooms are holding celebrations next week Thursday and Friday.
- Spirit Week – Monday, fancy dress; Tuesday – Glow up and Shine; Wednesday – Crazy Hair Day; Thursday – Winter wonderland; Friday – PJ day

- Winter Fun Day – Grades 1-6, Winter rotations and activities on Wednesday for 1-3 and 4-6 on Friday.
- We are trying to keep routines because it's hard for the kids that have difficulties with self-regulation. Keeping routines and having fun. Keeping in mind varied cultural backgrounds so we are respecting all traditions.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report: Christine Ho**

- \$8901.39 Total
- Kernals - \$136, as we sell stock this will increase
- \$232 – TCBY

#### **5. Fundraising Updates**

- Pizza, TCBY, Kernals, and Subway all going well. 12" subs available for next round. Subway has been very well received by the kids. Next round of orders need to be in by January 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Krispy Kreme booked for November next year. Subway has been very well received by the kids.
- Dominos Dough raiser for valentines' day. \$5 from every large pizza sold goes to the school. We should start communication for mid-January
- If children are away we hand them out the next day, kept in the fridge (subs, yogurt, popcorn). We are unable to do that with pizza.

#### **6. Other**

- Mad Science – Some schools are offering it after school. Question if we are going to do that. Barb has inquired with the Board if we can offer it at Spring Valley after school during nutrition break. Typically the board says it must be after school if it's a paid activity. In the past we did Scientist in the Classroom.
- BBQ – need to find someone to take the lead. Kate to draft an email to Barb to send out to the community.
- Book Drive – Flyer has been sent out. Books can be dropped off at Kate or Megan's house. Barb will send a message out with Kate's address.
- Staff Meeting today, discussed needs for classrooms/school.
  - Sound proofing in the music room
  - Kindergarten pen, Floating fake grass has been fixed, still other needs. Teachers would prefer a natural playground – pros and cons to that.
  - Zen Den – playground corner with a bench and other items for kids that want a quiet area. Items will need to be anchored down and cannot be moved. This will be something we grow over the next few years.
  - Keyboards for the iPads we have
  - Additional iPads
  - Laptops for Grade 7's and 8's
  - Stand and stairs at the end of the volleyball nets for the reps.
    - Barb will cost everything out.

- Lego Drive – part of what we'd like to do for community outreach next year for the robotics team is mentoring and teaching. Starting with building lego before robotics. This would be led by the students.
- Robotics – there is non-competitive aspect from January – June. Then the competition information is released in May. The competitive mission goes from September to December. There is a functional part, a challenge. Subway has been very well received by the kids.
- Cake Raffle – Schools cannot do any raffles as per board policy. Bake sales are okay. Barb listed baked goods sale for February
- PRO grant – we can use this towards the BBQ if it's not a fundraiser.
- Question about Grade 7 teachers returning – cannot be discussed due to confidentiality.
- School Bus – one of the busses is frequently. Barb has communicated concerns to the bus company. They are working on it.
- Time Capsule – next meeting
- Kindergarten Celebration – the board will not allow a formal graduation ceremony. There will be some type of celebration. Teachers and parents to organize. There is a team at the board that is looking at standardizing the various graduations

## **6. Upcoming Meetings**

- January 18, 2024
- February 22, 2024
- April 18, 2024
- May 23, 2024
- June 13, 2024

## **7. Evotes:**

- **November 23, 2023 Meeting Minutes:** Approved