

School Council Meeting

Tuesday, December 4, 6pm, School library

Present: Melissa (Chair), Marlon, Natasha, Debbie (Treasurer), Harry (Principal), Carol (V-P), Nicole (Secretary), Jessica, Ian, Jen, Nousheen, Allison

Principal's Report:

3 Fire Drills - 1 Lockdown Drill per term - hopefully next week
Applied to French dept for enrichment funds - might be \$ 1000
Assembly on thurs 13th 10:30 to 11:30: empathy, kindness and caring
Last year was on self regulation - Aussie X Fusion - might be coming back
PA day this Friday
Essex 5:30 to 7 - December 19, Holiday concert
Grades 4 to 8 going to Raptors
Book Fair in Lib Dec 12 to 19 - \$ for school that are raised

Swipe cards being installed today Dec 4- all staff and daycare will enter via swipe card.
Parents to enter via main door and use doorbell.

V-P's report:

Eblast every week to announce what is happening
Gr 8 boys basketball, volleyball
Screen printing for gr 7 & 8 and a fundraiser
Canadian Skills competition: students compete in a pool (Daniel), STEM (e.g build a boat in a pool and stay afloat)
Animation club gr 4 - 6
Lego league robotics , Grades 4 to 7
Eco Club
2nd dodgeball game with the police, Police vs Gr 7 & 8, once a month
Grades 6,7 & 8 going to a Marlies game in Feb
Grow capacity as a school in equity work. Ted talk "Danger of a single story"
Professional Learning Community, all staff, all age groups, self regulation, where is someone's normal behaviour being misunderstood? and how are we slowing this down, is there a different approach we could take?
Planning to create a school wide event focused on how to grow the community, a celebration of equity and diversity, open conversations, anti-oppression, make it less heavy and more of a community, looking for community members, meeting with student and committee voice. Carol looking for support. Need voices from parents
Dec 17: guest speaker, Leora Schaeffer working w parents on how to address anti-semitism.
Last day before holidays: both schools, primary to gr 3, children's musician (need name), gr 4 to 8, with Milan & Kay intro opera.
Using "EH Schools" now on Twitter.

Updates from last meeting:

Jen has volunteered to be part of Spring Fling

Catherine has taken over blog

Monster Mixer: food sold out in 1 hour. \$ 9 for smoke machine. Made a profit of \$ 125 (TBC), earmark the money for an EH event, maybe the Pow Wow.

We are now sharing the Parent Council meeting on the same night as Hawthorne

Harry and Carol to Hawthorne transitioned to Hawthorne meeting at this point - Will return.

Grade 7 and 8 fundraising on target (for Montreal trip Michelle Follett).

Raised \$ 3000 so far. Popcorn and bake sales. Slow the fundraising down a bit in new year.

Selling choc bars (nut free) at Holiday Concert. Bingo night on Jan 29. 5 families need help in going on the trip.

\$ 527 per student for trip. Parent Council will earmark some \$ for the trip. Decision on amount from Parent Council. Propose the motion to give \$ 1000 to the G 7 & 8 trip this year, proposed by Allison, seconded by Marlon, \$ 1000.

Treasurer report:

Went over last year's financials 2017-2018. \$ 2000 in bank account at beginning of the 2017-18 year.

Apply for a charitable number for Essex, so we can write tax receipts. Allison to look into this.

(Melissa: Spring Fling , money goes back into the school)

We have \$ 5000 in our bank account at the beginning of this year.

Estimate \$ 7500 for pizza. Fresh from Farm not this year, too much work. Book sale so far this year \$ 250. Feb 2019 and then Spring Fling. Silent Auction \$ 4,650. Leslie R, Kate, Allison and some other kindergarten parents. Does Early Reading Club need any money?

\$ 1000 discretionary fund. Debbie propos, 2nd it. Passed.

\$ 1000 for perfs/events. Passed

\$ 1000 for Grade 7/8 trip to Montreal

STEM

\$ 200 per class for STEM related activity - that was voted on last time- which would equal \$ 2800 in total for the whole school

Use profits from Bag2School and Book Sale +Monster Mixer - earmark it for Pow Wow.

Debbie proposed the motion on performances, seconded by Marlon. Passed.

No PRO (Parent Reaching Out) Grant this year. New govt cut it.

Theatrix - improv/dance/ kindergarten to grade 6.

Spirit wear. Darcy away. Hawthorne and Essex ordered last year. A number of each item to order in order for vendor o make it. Wants to spend \$ 1400 the year? Christmas market, Spring

Fling. Darci will order it tonight. We spend \$ 1400.00 to order the stock. Motion to spend the \$ 1400 propped by Marlon, seconded by Allison. Trying this year , if we do not break even at Spring Fling, then do not continue on this.

Melissa: Yoga: need an approved vendor. The Yoga Project. All yoga teachers, certified teachers, TDSB or ECE, teachers certified to work with special needs. Younger students - song etc. Stress reduction for older students, mindfulness. Come to school for 1 day, cover whole school. Specific room. Room on 3rd floor. \$ 4000 for 6 months, 1 per month.
To move forward: ask the teachers if they would like yoga or Theatrix? Jess and Ian. Could do a Wellness Day and hire a yoga teacher for the DD/MID.

Diversity community:

How we approach diversity initiatives? Marlon and Natasha do most of the initiatives and we need to get more parents involved. Make a way for parents outside of parent council, how to plan inclusion/diversity/anti-oppression.

Proposal: that we offer a different meeting in January, a way to engage w parents around inclusion, black history month indigenous awareness, and get some good planning around it. Some parents prob do not know we do this but perhaps it would get them involved.

Jess mentioned that there is an Equity committee run by teachers , get a member of that committee to attend. Lunch buddies, reading buddies. Sarah Cervinka's Positive Space. MID/DD use that group to talk about inclusion. Let everyone know the initiatives that are being run by teachers in the school, and how parents can help, and how the inclusion committee can help. Suggest Carol highlight this in her email blast.

Get in touch w teachers who are involves, talk to Carol, plan night to meet with teachers and parents in Jan, advertise to families in the school .Melissa will get it started.

Melissa re Pizza Lunch. Some parents wish pizza lunch to be more equitable. Hawthorne also has pizza every week. Essex has snack program. Discussion ensued around this. Will be revisited in January.

Melissa: Playground accessibility grant, looking into this, to make the playground more accessible. Do some research.

Debbie: how to get more students involved in Parent Council? For example, get lunch bins with wheels.

Spring Fling meeting (Jen).

Melissa for next meeting, how PC can support the teachers?

Next Meeting Feb 5th @ 6pm School Library