School Council Meeting
Tuesday September 24th 2019
Learning Commons

Minutes

In Attendance: Kate Wiley, Felicia Dunham, Lynn Hooper, Kristy Duncan, Sarah Richert, Claudia Pierce, Kimberly Melville, Mario Zeoli, Lori Peck, Lino Misale, Cody Seguin, Alanna Walker, Sampa Shakya, Sarah Dimick, Julia Fraley, Joy McDonald, Sany Langevin, Amy McCulloch, Tammy Hall, Tammy Goodman, Paul Contini, Cathy Bradley, Christine Haddon, Manilay Phengphachanh, Bonnie Henderson, Bashiva Valji, Mary Beth Crane, Michelle Lewis

Regrets: Miriam Laundry

Childcare: Olivia Hall

1. ***Agenda & Adoption of Minutes***
   - Welcome to teacher Paul Contini to his first council meeting. Paul is considering being the teacher representative on the committee.
   - Agenda changed to move the elections before the committees.
   - New agenda adopted by Cathy & Kristy. All approved.
   - Minutes from previous meeting adopted by Amy & Tammy. All approved.
2. ***Declaration of Conflicts of Interest***
   - None
3. ***New Business (arising from previous meetings)***
   a. **Outdoor Classroom Committee**
      - Michelle explained the history of wanting to put in an outdoor classroom onto the grounds of the school to use as a play and work space, aligning with the school council goal of enhancing student experience.
      - Still need a committee to start this process by looking at what research has already been done and what other schools have done.
      - Sarah Richert offered to take the lead. Felicia, Amy, Lino, Claudia, Alana & Cody also offered to join.

   b. **Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) Funds**
      - Each year the committee gives the schools $500 each.
      - Typically, in the past we use it for insurance ($151.20 this year), childcare for our meetings, goodwill gifts of flowers and cards, and supplies for our events.
        - Motion to approve the use of $151.20 of the PIC grant money to pay for the School Council insurance for the 2019-2020 year.

** Indicates business to be added to the next agenda for follow-up.

- Motion approved Cathy & Kristy.
- All in favour, none opposed.

School Council approves the use of $151.20 of the PIC funds to be used to pay the insurance for the 2019-2020 year.

c. Constitution Review

- Those who had volunteered to review the constitution (Michelle, Kristy & Kate) have not yet met. They will still do so and report back to the council at a later date.
- Kate to email out the constitution to the council for those who are new and want to read it.
- Once it is updated, we will have it posted on the website

d. Communication

- A discussion about how to help post more news on the website with documents was had. The new executive is to form a plan with the principal and vice-principal and get back to council. **
- The school has posted 2 calendars/month on the website. One for extra curricular and one for school events.
- Teachers can only use Google Classroom or D2L for electronic communication to the class. The school will no longer be using Twitter, but will keep the Facebook page.
- Mario stated that he will help those who want to volunteer for School Council events to connect with the volunteer coordinator.

e. Review of Calendar

- In the past we have had troubles with overlapping events and fundraisers between the school and the school council. We have also had times where the council felt that they were only there for fundraising and not for advising.
- Last couple of years we have pre-planned the year with the school administrators in an effort to avoid this.
- With new administration, the calendar now needs to be reviewed. Executive to review with the administration and make changes. Report back to council. **
- Parents expressed how much they liked with the school sent a letter out telling parents about what fundraisers to expect and to remind them that there is no pressure to participate in all of the fundraisers.

f. Monthly School Planning Cycle

- Past chair to lay out the things that the council should be doing each month and pass it on to the new chair.

4. Chair's Report

** Indicates business to be added to the next agenda for follow-up.

a. Financial

- Account currently sits at $7673.18
- There are sill some funds from pizza supplies and the insurance cost to come out as well as the addition of the $500 from PIC.
- Typically, in a year we help with things in the school such as robotics, track and field buses, books for the reading club, graduation. This can be apx $4000. We also designate our major fundraisers to go to certain areas in the school. Poinsettias usually make apx $3000 and the dance-a-thon averages apx $7000.

b. Recap of 2018-2019

- Last year we focused on branding and finding a purpose to our council. We:
  - Made a better table for School Council representation at events.
  - Grew our membership.
  - Increased communication.
  - Focused on building a sense of community, especially due to the fact that we are not a neighbourhood school.

5. School Report (Presented by Mario & Lori)

a. Introductions

- Mario introduced himself. He is coming to us from Central School in Grimsby where he was principal when they started French Immersion (6 years ago, at the same time JSV started).
- Lori is joining us from Power Glen School in St. Catharines where she was Vice-Principal for 2019. Previously she worked for the Durham School Board as a vice-principal and as a French Language Consultant.

b. French Framework

- Mario spoke about the ministry's Framework for French as a Second Language document. In it, there are 3 main goals for French Immersion:
  - Students to have spontaneous conversations in French
  - Increase the French Immersion graduation rates
  - Increase the involvement of parents in French Immersion
- Throughout the year Mario would like to talk to us about this document and get our advisory opinions.
- This month at the staff meeting the administors shared the goal of having the teachers use more French on a daily basis. French Immersion days must consist of

at least 50% French, and therefore if Math & English are being taught in English, everything else must be taught in French.

- Some parents around the table asked what they can do to help their children with French. Some suggested online resources and asking their child's teacher. Lori stated that the most important thing is to really enrich your child's vocabulary in their 1st language by having detailed conversations about school work.

c. Bell Times

- In order to get the appropriate number of instructional minutes per day, students need to be in their seats and ready to work at 9:15am. Currently that is the time the bell rings, and therefore students are still coming in. The school is working with transportation services to get the buses there on time to have the bell ring at 9:10am. This would allow students 5 minutes to get in and get to their seats ready to work.

6. Elections

a. Chair

- Previous chair, Michelle Lewis, explained the role.
- Michelle nominated Kate Wiley for chair. Kristy seconded.
- No others volunteered.
- All in favour.
- ***Kate Wiley named Chair for the 2019-2020 year.***

b. Vice – Chair

- Michelle explained the role. Message given that the previous vice-chair, Miriam Laundry, is no longer interested in the position.
- Felicia Dunham self-nominated. Kate seconded.
- No others volunteered.
- All in favour.
- ***Felicia Dunham named Vice-Chair for the 2019-2020 year.***

c. Secretary

- Previous secretary, Kate Wiley, explained the role.
- Sarah Dimick self-nominated. Michelle seconded.
- Kate nominated Christine, but Christine did not accept.
- All in favour.
- ***Sarah Dimick named Secretary for the 2019-2020 year.***

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d. Volunteer Co-Ordinator

- Michelle explained the role. Previous coordinator no longer at the school.
- Michelle nominated Sany Langevin. Amy seconded.
- No other volunteers.
- All in favour.
- ***Sany Langevin named Volunteer Coordinator for the 2019-2020 year.***

e. Goodwill Ambassador

- The person who takes on the role of Goodwill Ambassador is not considered a member of the executive. This member is in charge of staying in contact with the school administrators if any "life events" occur with staff and then pass on council's well wishes or condolences. They then report to the council every month.
- In the past Manilay has done this role. Cody Seguin offered to help take over and work with Manilay on this.

7. Committees

- Moved this agenda item to the October meeting once the Executive has formed the calendar of events with the administrators. **
- Did discuss that we will provide or sell popcorn for the Halloween dance this year. Tammy to purchase popcorn.
- Volunteer Coordinator, Sany, to touch base with school about picture day volunteers (October 4th).
- Poinsettias: The lead of this committee needs to be decided so that someone can communicate with the growers. Kristy Duncan and Lynn Hooper to take the lead.
- Administration is going to check on the rules of police checks for those who volunteer in the school.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:22pm.

Next Meeting October 22nd 2019

** Indicates business to be added to the next agenda for follow-up.