

Broadview Parent Council

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

Minutes of Meeting

1. Principal's Update

Technology: The District is putting money into bringing devices into the classes. Parent Council gave 7k for tech, now that the district is allocating technology spending on chromebooks, should we spend on tech for chromebooks that will be funded or other items, e.g., doc cams. Looking towards redeploying technology funds. Board is buying every teacher a chromebook by end of this year.

Online payments: There is an online payment system coming. Holding off on collecting the \$20 school voluntary fee. Will be collected after the online system is up. **"School cash online"** – the link for this will be provided on the OCSDB website. Expected to begin December 2017. Field trip forms, paper forms will still go home. But now a website where you can create an account. Reduce bookkeeping time, etc. by the office.

School learning plan/well-being plan: Math is a provincial goal; school learning plan is focusing on math this year in particular. Kids don't always think through steps of problem solving, so one push is to address how kids solve problems. Applies to other areas of life: playground problem issues, etc. So will have a problem solving 'blitz' around the school with photos/posters of staff solving problems.

Also sparked questions of wellness more generally; wellness of the teachers is important, he wants to set up teachers to unleash creativity, etc. but also setting boundaries, e.g. responding to emails from parents. Teachers feel pressure to respond to emails continually, including from home and in evenings. Suggested to contact parents more broadly about this.

Also suggested to increase communication about parking since cars still parked/dropping off where not allowed. Waiting for signage to arrive before making a broader announcement.

Construction update: Waiting on the stone mason to continue work on some structures, waiting on work with the garden. Waiting on Avondale paving, contractor has been contacted with reminders and updates. Miscellaneous issues around the building are continuing to be addressed by custodian.

2. Chair's update: Carrie K.

Teacher Survey Results: Asked teachers what they want to see, what they value, etc. Breaking down by division: kinder, primary, intermediate. For instance, Kinder/primary = arts. Junior/intermediate shifted towards technology and science. Maybe next year tailor by class/grade, offer a 'menu' of options and not offer everything across the board. Hope to have more budget results before budget allocation next year.

29 November 2017: meeting to discuss inequities in parent fundraising dollars in our community. There is an open meeting, anyone can attend. Taking place at Lisgar Collegiate. Broadview's fundraising is less than the average of the top group of 23 schools. We therefore have the opportunity to try to raise more money (we are at \$60 per child, top 23 schools raised average of \$145 per child). We lack some key resources, e.g. speakers for the stage, 3-D printer, pump to blow the gym equipment/balls up with, etc.

3. Committee Updates

Fundraising Committee Update

Deadline Nov 20 for cookie dough and magazines. Next up is a Mrs Tiggy Winkles event: \$5 entry fee and 20% off the entire store, open just for Broadview. Bake Sale: Dec 20th.

Followed by discussion whether class parents could facilitate communicating the fundraising information? Discussion of lack of class parent compared to prior years, Discussion on 'do class parents work', how to get this going again. Discussion around privacy about email collection, creating lists, distribution, etc. Carrie and Helen (volunteer committee) to work on gathering info to roll out during parent-teacher interviews coming up.

Broadview swag store update: working on shipping, sending out flyers, facebook page. Question was raised about shipping costs: right now, \$10 to ship from a US supplier which offers 'on demand' ordering, which is high and so they are waiting on negotiations over shipping costs. Update to come at next meeting.

Some discussion about the Snowball Dance. Parent council will not organize: student council will organize.

Arts Committee

Plan is to have an Arts Alive event in April or May. Based on feedback from community, parents, etc. approach is to divide focus among the divisions and to have one event for the year. Students will work on different projects: art, music, instrumental, etc. according to what different art educators will select for each division. Will work on details going forward with teachers and arts educators.

Fundraising could happen at this event, discussion of what kinds of fundraising and what it could go towards.

Greening Committee

Working on researching costs for outdoor structure. Researching possible locations, steps required. Looked into different levels of structures, e.g. more permanent shade structures for the outdoor classroom or temporary pergola-style structures.

Vote on \$24,000: Teachers have said they would like an outdoor space. Motion by Carrie for an outdoor space, Mo seconds. In favour: all. Opposed: none.

Healthy Active Living

Rhythm Works – stomp style workshop to be held on December 18 (will be the first workshop). Found activities for every class/level, working on timing, etc. for these.

Volunteers Committee

Helen had about 40 responses to a call out for volunteers. She has emailed and matched names to events/committees. Committees/organizers should try to reach out as early as possible well in advance if you know that you need them since it is harder to find volunteers at last minute.

Science and Technology

Put together a menu of workshop options. Preparing an email so teachers can see the options.

Community Engagement

Ran a successful food drive. Snowsuit drive coming up soon.

Mr Moore and his class would like to be even more involved with collecting/packing/sorting the food items in future years. Harmony House basket drive is next.

Have linked to a 'sister school' (York Street Public School) for a fundraising campaign. More information to come. York Street has no parent council, and is unable to offer field trips to its students.

Well-being committee

They are looking at workshops for parents. To give tools they can use with their kids. E.g. learning how to deal with anxiety, etc.

Meeting adjourned.