

# ***Parent-Teacher Council Meeting Minutes***

Thursday December 5 2019, 7:00pm

**In Attendance:** Josée Beaudry (Principal), Robert Levesque (Vice Principal), Janet Stooke (Staff Representative), Keith Jansa (Chair), Stephen Bartolo (Vice-Chair), Leslee Ledger (Treasurer), Heather Baldwin (Secretary), Cathy Miles, Barb Cram, Adam Goulet, Erin Albert, Rebecca Brown, Danny McInenly, Christy Wilson

## **Welcome and Introductions (7:05 pm)**

### **Approval of Draft Agenda**

- Addition: Cathy will give an update on the JK/SK playground grant when we get to fundraising
- Approved

### **Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes**

- November 2019 Minutes - Approved

### **Message from the Principal**

- Principal and Vice Principal's report
  - Director of Education Camille Williams-Taylor is visiting Fallingbrook at 9:45 tomorrow
- Labour Action: Nothing new to report, still in phase 1 WTR (no changes for students)
  - ETFO website has detailed information of each stage
  - OCDSB will continue to update parents as new information comes through
  - Janet Stooke shared information from the union as to why strike action is taking place
    - Ford government has been stalling at the bargaining table, ETFO is putting pressure on them to take action
    - Strike action does NOT mean taking to the picket line, as per Work To Rule
    - Issues include class sizes, funding in schools, and the overall needs and safety of our students.
- Library Project: the committee is going to follow the library guidelines for weeding books
  - Carol will pull books NOT used in 10 years or more, and use her discretion to keep books on the shelf because of their quality
  - After books have been removed, the committee will review them to see if any should be put back on the shelf. Those books will then go to the staff room for one week for teachers to grab. Julie Trigger will take some of interest for the annual book swap. Next they will be in the foyer for parents and students. Finally they will be donated
  - Students will be surveyed for their input
  - Diverse books have been purchased for the library and are displayed here tonight
- Bullying Awareness Week Review
  - Focus on promoting positive student behaviour and mental health
  - Staff is keeping track and recording incidents in order to note any patterns in behaviour

## Review of Action Items

- Rob: Home Alone Program:
  - Safety Course (gr 1-3; \$27), Home Alone Course (gr 4-6; \$32) after school until 5:30. These two run at the same time.
  - Babysitting course, two 2-hour sessions (gr 5-8; \$60)
  - Parents cover the costs entirely, but they will subsidize families that need it.
  - They suggest taking a look at February
  - No minimum and no maximum.
  - Christy Wilson volunteers to work with Rob on this project.
- “Continuing conversation about air conditioning”
  - Stephen had a chat with the CFO Mike Harson, there is a list of schools in the queue. He had no comments on portable air conditioners. We cannot get AC even if we find the money because it costs too much to run them.
  - Action item to follow up with Keith Penny
- Updating the PTC Constitution:
  - Most of the PTCs do not have a constitution, so at least we have one!
  - Ongoing action item.
- PTC Priorities and Goals plan will be circulated with photos of real Fallingbrook families
- Jersey Prices:
  - Thank you to Michelle Minogue for the information we have here
  - We like the idea of the teal (easier to spot the kids on the field), something that can be washed!
  - Pinnie, T-Shirt, or Dry-Fit T-shirt
    - T-shirts are cheaper, more uniform than throwing a pinnie overtop
    - Looking for a teal colour: not really an option for the t-shirts
  - Looking at roughly 50 items, varying sizes
  - What if we go backward by giving a budget and then go from there.
  - Consensus seems to be t-shirt, maybe dry-fit for better quality
  - Considerations: colour (easy to spot), durability, quality, appropriate sizing
  - Budget proposed up to \$1000

## Kindergarten Information Night

- Coming up in January
- Danny McInenly volunteers to do the presentation and to update the flyer file

## PRO Grants

- Government gives \$40 000 to school board to decide how to disperse between its schools
- Parent Involvement committee is best deciding where it should go, taking into consideration which schools need it the most
  - Every school should be given a portion of the funding
- The school board will need to spend this prior to June 30 of next year. We should hear something soon enough as to how this will work.

## Outdoor Classroom Update

- Landscapers design is presented
- Easy to maintain plants, tables, benches, wheelchair accessible
- Outdoor learning space more than an outdoor classroom for small groups
- There are grants available for us to look into
- Plan to be presented at a staff meeting for teacher feedback
- Include the proposed plan in a newsletter with the teacher comments and ask for community feedback
- Ask teachers for exact, specific uses.
  - Perhaps create a Google Form with pointed questions as to use of the space
- Stephen has a contact with Ottawa Police Services that will review for safety plans

## Fundraising and Social Activities

- Cathy Miles: Plays structure update
  - Play structure update has been APPROVED (\$27000 - thank you City of Ottawa)
  - Presented designs to move the house, add instruments, include logs, a digger - gain space that is safe to fall.
  - Need to pick colours for all poles and design elements
    - Going with natural colours
  - Start in the spring, should only take about a week to build
- Charitable Status: Stephen
  - PTCs have gotten away from charitable status, but there is no reason we can't go through the school board.
  - Implementing for next year with a "Write a Cheque" campaign
  - Christy suggests a test run to see how this will work and see how long it takes for a tax receipt
- Pita Pit Update
  - Monday date, intermediate students helped to deliver them
  - No formal update provided; no representative present.
- Flip Give: Keith
  - After a month we have already raised nearly \$200
  - Send out another update for social media
- Gift of Giving Update:
  - Quite a few donations have been given already
  - December 12th and 13th
  - Josee to do the schedule: suggested to start with the youngest students and go up
  - Limiting to one item per student on the first run; any leftover items we can invite students to come back a second time
  - Donation deadline extended to Monday December 9
- Movie Night Update: Keith
  - Everything went well; movie was maybe a bit too long
  - Donation jar: roughly \$67 jar
  - January 31st is the next movie night: movie and volunteer to be determined at next PTC meeting

### **Treasurer's Report: Leslee**

- Banking Options: Currently leaving CIBC, looking for Alterna for a fee-free account (or max \$4)
- \$5700 to spend

### **Funding Requests:**

- Grade 2 and 3 English reading A-Z program, RAZ Kids (From Michelle Minogue)
  - Online reading program, each student gets their own account
  - LST purchases one subscription, but there is higher interest in more classes
  - \$219 USD 12 month subscription
  - APPROVED

### **Questions from Members**

- Stephen: To be more sustainable, can we project the agenda and the minutes here to save paper?
  - Yes!
  - Also, PDF and email out to members

### **Summary of New Action Items**

- Rob to follow up with Home Alone program as to a February start
- Continue conversation re: AC
  - Follow up with Keith Penny
- Administration to review t-shirts with \$1000 budget
- Danny to review and update flyer for Kindergarten Information Night
- Stephen and Christy to connect re: outdoor learning space and safety plan
- Stephen and Rob to look into charitable status for September of next year
- Heather to add social media post for Flip Give, Gift of Giving donations
- Get a volunteer for movie night January 31 2020

**ADJOURNMENT (9:09 pm)**