

Bloomsburg Public School Parent Council

Meeting Minutes September 21, 2016

Attendance:

David Van Laecke, Bev Cody, Katie Bartlett, Kate Holwerda, Sandy Macdonald, Liz Dreyer, Karen Smith

Welcome to all in attendance. Since the turnout to the meeting was less than what was expected, the group decided to offer parents an opportunity to express their interest in joining Parent council through a flyer sent home with a tear-off section for return to the school. Parent Council voting members to be determined by end of September.

Principal Report

- a. School enrollment just shy of 200 students. Split grades K-5, Straight 6, 7 and 8. Ron Tomczak returning as Head Custodian. Lisa Desotti now contract teaching at Walsh P.S., K. Holwerda returning as grade ½ teacher in LTO, Joanne Johnstone new member teaching grade 6. Mrs. Stratford (EA) split between WDHS – AM at BLG. School look great thanks to summer custodial staff.
- b. New awards board “Pride of Place” in main hall
- c. Nutrition programs begin first week of October, Liz to offer Breakfast Program again – menu is now available, 2 volunteers from First Ontario Credit (Simcoe) coming alternating Wednesday mornings. Stricter dietary guidelines to consider and follow this school year – sugar content is a focus, whole grains as first ingredient, no to deli meats (nitrates)
- d. Hot lunch to begin first week of October. School Cash Online – items are now available for parents to purchase. 4 items (daily milk, Mr. Sub subs, pizza, breaded baked boneless chicken chunks – sauce on the side) **Meatball sub – offered? Hot meal option might bring more interest, soggy? David will follow-up**
- e. PRO grant – Min of Ed grant offered to Parent Councils – last year accessed funds to support Craft Night in April. Goal of the grant is to use the funds to engage parents in education or social events. Welcoming them into the building. We plan to hold a similar event this year (\$600 was approved) **“Parent’s choice” survey will be offered in coming months – October.**
- f. Website – school site continues to be updated and active – staff question: “Are parents accessing the content we post online?” DVL to discover whether a counter is available. Twitter – unknown web traffic numbers, we will carry on with posting information online as a staff
- g. EQAO results from 2016 spring made public today. Information posted from province, board and grades 3 and 6. Parents of students will receive their child’s results compared to board and province data. DVL shared general results for Reading, Writing and Math of Bloomsburg compared to GEDSB and provincial standards. Highlighted provincial concern for math – we will target numeracy, as a staff, in our next PD – Oct 7
- h. Saidat presentation Oct 26 – speaker who has visited Bloomsburg before – 2 group assemblies focusing on diversity, inclusivity, anti-bullying, character development. Offer 3 hip hop group activities with smaller groups throughout the day
- i. Healthy Schools Committee – HN health promoter, public health nurse visited last year to discuss comprehensive health with small school committee (students, staff and parents) to create healthy goals for a healthier lifestyle.
 - a. Liz and Carmen have been trained with “You’re the Chef” program – grade 6 class will be cooking in October; Grade 7 will partake in series of lessons as well
 - b. Target set to increase mental health. This week’s meeting decided to use Mind’s Up resource throughout school (curriculum for wellness) informs students of obstacles/barriers that affect wellness, provide strategies for handling situations when we aren’t functioning at our best. Upcoming assembly to introduce to students.
- j. David to introduce GEDSB Multi-Year plan next meeting

Teacher's Report

- a. Open House – Great to see many families were able to attend. Excellent seasonal fundraiser (DVL, JHD).
- b. Colour Houses – Kickoff was warm and sunny – students and staff thoroughly enjoyed!
- c. Terry Fox Run – Friday, September 30th – donations to trickle in (to be announced by Spirit Squad tomorrow on AM announcements)
- d. Sports Teams (Fall) – Junior, Intermediate Soccer, Cross Country practices have begun – short season this year
 - Jr. Soccer - Sept 27 – rain date - Sept 28 (S. Turner)
 - Int. Soccer – Sept 29 rain date – Sept 30 (C. Forbes)
 - Cross Country – Oct 14 (L. Lea)
- e. Battery Recycling Kickoff – Sept 28 AM Assembly – donations throughout year via Front Office
- f. Young Canada Day – Oct 4 Staff looking forward to seeing students and families that day at the fair
- g. Primary Literacy Night for Parents – date TBA (mid-October) (K. Holwerda, S. Turner et al.)
- h. The Great Big Crunch (2nd Annual) – Oct 20 PM K-8 participate in apple-themed activity (science, math, literacy) and gather to have a synchronized apple bite “crunch” put on by Child Nutrition Network via Haldimand-Norfolk REACH

Treasurer's Report

Balance as of September 21, 2016 \$3746.70

Christmas Dinner cost Parent Council \$965.47

Former Parent Volunteers who ran Christmas Dinner are not interested to continue this year, although willing to mentor interested parent volunteers.

Friday Dec 16 – this year's date

Past and Potential Fundraising

Bulldog Blast – Made over \$1800

Dielman – Made over \$1900

Christmas Bazaar – Carmen and Katie Bartlett interested in taking it on

- Sell tables in gymnasium, people bring items in and sell
- Raffle items
- Date to be picked after checking out other community events

Deilman

- Mary Jo (former contact) has left company and is still offering a magazine type fundraiser

Third Wave Fundraising Inc.

- Holiday catalog – Bev to begin it week before Thanksgiving

Staff will support Heart & Stroke Foundation via Jump Rope for Heart event (Spring 2017)

Spirit Squad will support smaller community initiatives through events and Spirit Days

- Target for kids to reach with donations (show students what they are donating to)
- Making fundraising visible (Parent Council and Spirit Squad)

Other Business

1. Pumpkinfest
 - a. Float – liability issue
 - b. Parade with Spirit Wear – green light
 - c. Display by baseball diamond
 - d. Pumpkin carving pyramid – 230 pumpkins coming
 - i. Have staff identify student pumpkins somehow

New Business

Positive Feedback

1. Parent night was a great success, parents felt welcome and that staff “want” to be here.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, October 19, 2016

- incentive for parents to come out
- stickers in agenda/Teachers to send Remind announcement