

Mutchmor Public School Council

Meeting Wednesday May 25, 2016

Present: Mike Todd (Co-Chair); Mike Zureik (Treasurer); Chari Marple (Secretary); Kylie Taggart (Book Sale & Outreach Committee); Adrienne Annan (OCASC); Kiersten Love (FunFair); Dana Reid; Irene Pijuan Aragon; Isabelle Flannigan (Principal); Joanna Courtney (Teacher).

Co-Chair update:

Funding and Volunteers for Heritage Garden

Funds were requested to update and maintain the heritage garden. It was agreed that with the switch and addition it would be important to keep this heritage garden. The garden design was inspired by a number of sources (e.g., a 1916 horticultural society brochure to inspire beautification of Glebe properties; paver designs are based on design of the school's tin roofing). Flowers were already planted this spring. Seeking Canada 150 funds to obtain tulips for next year. Council approved funding up to \$500.

Volunteers are also being sought. This would include some weeding (a fall and spring clean-up). The biggest responsibility is to be a backup for watering gardens while Lynn Armstrong is on vacation for about three weeks during the summer.

Principal's report

- EQAO for grade six began today. Grade three students will be tested next week. Student feedback was that the test was the same as their curriculum work.
- Next year some teachers will be expanding from English to mathematics. Training is being provided.
- Kindergarten 2JK 2SKs and a JK/SK split. Movement for the kids will be minimized by having teachers move from class to class.
- Tell them from me survey is now being administered so that one year parents one year students. This year parents can participate from June 1-15. Parents will be contacted by e-mail.
- School Board budget for the school has not to date been cut. A superintendent has been cut and some Vice-Principals have been cut. School budgets will be cut 1% across the Board.
- Supply teacher budget has not gone over. Suggestions have been made How to cut council budget.
- School improvement plan this year focused on mathematics. A number of students were tracked as they were assisted with improving their math comprehension. Of the 36 kids 30 showed improvement. Mathematics will be the focus again next year. There will be an effort to incorporate math into other subjects.

School report

- Track and field is ongoing. Mr McMann will choose the school team for the regional grades 4 to 6 meet.
- Great participation at Run Club. This Friday will be the last day of the Club.
- End of year Choir Concert will be at 6:00pm Wednesday June 22.

- Tryouts were held for a tennis tournament to take place between three or four elementary level years.
- Structured teaching program took place at the school.
- Grade six graduation ceremonies will take place at Glebe Collegiate, June 29.

Treasurer's report

- Allocating unspent funds from this year to earmark for new playground structure replacement expected in 5 years.
- Book Sale amounts raised was greater than forecast.
- Fun Fair wrist band purchases will be done online to test out how well the new systems works that the school council has signed up for.
- If the Fun fair online payment system (PayPal) works well, school council will look at expanding this to other fund raising activities next year such as pizza lunch.
- Emails are already in a system for sending out e-mails. Parents grant permission to allow access to their information and revise it as they wish. There are already about 80% of families in the system. Kids who graduate are automatically removed.
- If any parent is interested in viewing the monthly booking keeping and summary report, please feel free to contact the Mutchmor School Council Treasurer.

Committee Reports

Book sale

- Wrap up meeting next week.
- There are still some left over books.
- Most volunteer shifts were full.
- There was significantly more walk in traffic on Saturday.
- A number of other book sales were taking place on the same weekend.
- Elgin Public School will be borrowing our shelves for their book sale.
- Thank yous will be given out. Winning classes will have a field trip at GNAG.
- Freezies will be handed to all classrooms on a hot day – perhaps May 27.
- The school requires a date for next year is required soon.
- For next year:
 - Signs to direct customers to the sale are required (possibly feet on the ground).
 - A sign at the cash with all prices would be helpful.
 - Perhaps we should not have a Friday sale as this is a school day. We could continue with the Thursday and Friday evening times.

Fun fair

- Will take place June 16.
- An email was sent out.
- Principal will be looking into insurance.
- Gym equipment will be used for activities.

- Water for water guns will be outside.
- Families will use school washrooms.

Outreach

- A donation will be made to the Education Fund.
- Thank you were received letters from Sioux Lookout; Pond Inlet; and Ottawa Refugee Action group.

OCASC

- An update was provided on the Secondary School Review.
 - They are attempting get rid of middle schools (with two school configurations: K to grade 6 or K to 8 and 7 to 12 or 9-12.
 - French emersion to be provided at all high schools.
 - Want to eventually make the International French Proficiency Program available at all high schools.
 - New International Baccalaureate program to be started for the west end of the city.
- The issue was raised as to how to engage the parent community.

Other

- Teacher appreciation lunch. June 10th PA Day.
- Open positions for next year's School Council will be advertised on the next synervice.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 22, 2016 at 7:00pm at Craft Beer Market.