

Forest Hill (FHL) School Council Meeting

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

School Library

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

In attendance:

B. Hughes (Principal), Matt, Brian, Elaine, Jenn D., Melissa and Monika

Regrets: Mr. Wiechers (VP) and Jenn Poczuk

FINANCIAL UPDATE: (Elaine and Mr. Hughes)

General account balance of \$4,341.69

- Most recent transaction (debit): University of Guelph for Wild Ontario (Fun Fair)

Tree Generation balance of \$2,873.85

- Most recent transaction (debit): Veseys & Grade Six Graduation Tree
- Maintenance on Trees: (Jenn D.)
Jenn enquired about the maintenance of the trees and mulching. Once established, do we maintain or do we outsource? Matt referred to last year's account and stated that John's Nursery usually takes care of the maintenance.

ACTION: Mr. Hughes will look into what has been done historically as well as the year-to-date expenditures. Mr. Hughes will report back at the December meeting.

- Mr. Hughes mentioned that Sean McCammon (Outdoor Education Specialist, Laurel Creek Conservation Area) is interested in partnering with FHL for further greening ventures. Mr. McCammon recently worked with Southridge PS and is looking for a new school to partner with.

COUNCIL UPDATES:

McMillan's Fundraiser:

We are currently in the midst of this fundraiser. Elaine (K4) and Brian (K3) mentioned that they did not receive brochures. Monika, Matt and Jenn checked Staff mailboxes and all brochures have been taken by teachers. Not sure why these classes did not receive.

ACTION: Mr. Hughes will add as a file to School-Day. He will add a link to the order form.

Matt mentioned that several other organizations are running the same fundraiser at the same time.

Mr. Hughes mentioned that Mrs. Gilbert has expressed that from an admin point, it is easier to run the "Youngest and Only" lists. So noted for next fundraiser.

WALKING SCHOOL BUS: (Melissa)

- The FHL Walking School Bus operates Monday & Wednesday. Leaves Chandler Mowat C.C. @ 8:35 a.m.
- Chandler Mowat C.C. has signage outside advertising the days the bus operates.
- More volunteers are needed

Monday's Group:

- Lead by Miguel; attendance is nil.

Wednesday's Group:

- Lead by Melissa; 4 students attend on a regular basis

- Group includes some rowdy, hyper students. Melissa has mentioned to Mr. Wiechers.
- Have can we promote or raise awareness.

PRO Grant:

- School Council has applied for grant in the past.
- Did not apply last year as government funding was not confirmed. Funding is now confirmed.
- \$500 is automatically transferred to each school council.
- Mr. Hughes believes the maximum is \$1,000 (to be confirmed)
- Due date for application is due Dec. 18.

➤ **Matt motioned to use pro grant this year for Art Night; Melissa seconded; All in Favour. Motion passed**

- Brian agreed to offer his skills in filmmaking to do a 2 hour workshop.
- Jodie Reason would be eager to partner. Melissa has suggested a superhero theme for this year.
- Matt and Jenn will work on the Pro Grant application.

WRAPSC:

- Brian and Jill were sick and couldn't attend last month's meeting.
- Minutes of the meeting were received via e-mail.

Principals Go Public:

Field Trips:

- Grade Six students went to the Flight Centre
- Grade Four students went to the Earth Sciences Museum @ Univ. of Waterloo

ACTION: Matt will provide Council with info on Kids Day

- Field trips help to expand our students' horizons wider than the school and the neighbourhood.
- Trips help students consider these opportunities for their future.
- Priority of fundraising to subsidy costs is more than just a day trip have lasting impact.

Winter Community Clothing Giveaway:

- Co-ordinated by Mrs. Scharlach; who leads by example that this giveaway has an important role in our community
- Over 125 jackets and snowpants were distributed to students and community members free of charge. Opportunity for us to give back to the neighbourhood, help families feel welcome and make sure that essential winter items are available to all.

Hero Generation:

- November trait is Empathy
- Junior learning Buddies read "The Invisible Boy"
- On Halloween day the Plasticity team visted FHL. Plasticity employees came in costumes and connected with students and teachers.
- Mr. Hughes will be taking a course on "*Self Regulation for School Leadership*"

ACTION: Mr. Hughes will e-mail the "Principals Go Public" report before next month's meeting so that Council may review and "Ask Me Anything" at the December meeting.

Staffing:

Mrs. Sylvia West has been hired as Second Secretary. Her hours are 8:45-3:15, Mon/Weds/Fri

OPEN DISCUSSION:

School-Day:

- Question regarding navigating School-Day website for parents
- Mr. Hughes mentioned that documentation for parents is available on the site by clicking on: **question mark>knowledgebase>parents>browse all articles**. There are also video tutorials available.
- Parents may also be directed to the Office for help with navigating this application. Mrs. Gilbert and Mrs. West are available to assist on Mon/Wed/Fri anytime after 10:00 a.m.

Kindness/Hero Gift Shop:

- Open December 1-20; Teachers are asked to promote and recognize student acts of kindness with a "kindness ticket" that may be redeemed for a gift for a loved one. Each student is asked to think about whom the gift is for and its purpose. Volunteers will gift wrap each item.
- If wrapping paper needed, please notify Matt and he will do a Costco run
- Donations are welcome. Be mindful that we are looking for a balanced inventory. Once inventory is confirmed, if donations are needed, Mr. Hughes will advise Council how we can donate.
- Teachers can e-mail Jenn D. to ask for volunteers.

Thank-you gift for Mrs. Scharlach:

- Brian suggested Council send Mrs. Scharlach a small gift basket (\$20 value) to thank her for all her hard work in coordinating the Winter Clothing Community Giveaway.

ACTION: Leave with Brad for follow-up

Pride Signage:

Brian inquired if there is a permanent Pride symbol that could be displayed at FHL to make students feel welcome, similar to what he has seen on Waterloo Region facility vehicles. Mr. Hughes mentioned that the signage for the facility vehicles was specially commissioned.

ACTION: Mr. Hughes will contact the Equity and Inclusion department of the WRDSB to inquire about signage.

Next month's meeting:

- Council voted to begin the meeting at 6:00 p.m. so we can enjoy our potluck dinner.
- Jenn D. will e-mail a sign-up sheet for potluck items

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.