

## **Gainsborough School Advisory Council Meeting**

**September 29, 2020**

### **MINUTES – Approved**

**Attendees:** Julie and Tom Adams, Erica McLaren, Renee Kubik, Kristen Hennessey, Shari May, Stephanie Schwartz, Bre Turl, Alison Moore, Maria Kotsis (Teacher), Hollyce Nunnenmacher (Principal)

**Regrets:** Cam McLaren, Jen Moffatt, Linda Vandervliet, Gail Warner

#### **Introductions:**

##### **Declarations**

- Stephanie and Erica are staff members of DSBN

##### **Nominations**

- Nomination Forms came home in newsletter. Looking for Chair, Treasurer, Secretary.
- Alison's family will be attending Home Learning (School), therefore cannot sit as council member (was Secretary and interim-Chair).
- Erica agreed to continue in her role as Treasurer.
- No other nominations were received. Hollyce will look into what to do next.

#### **Principal's Report:**

**Staff.** Mr. Erickson is our new Grade 6 teacher. He was a former Student teacher with Lisa Gravelle.

##### **COVID:**

- Parents are to screen every morning.
- Parents are asking how a child may be sent home
  - o If a child comes to office not feeling well. Office has to call home. Someone has to pick up. Decision made by Principal. Child goes home. Moving forward parents will be given a card with Public Health's contact info on it.
  - o There are times that kids are 'pulling our leg', but we can't take that chance.
- Parents are asking when their child can return to school.
  - o The Parent Agreement for Daily Screening states: If children display symptoms, they must remain home from school and seek medical attention by a health care provider to see if testing is recommended. Children may return to school when one of the following is met:
    - Clearance from their health care provider

- Completion of 14 days of self-isolation and must be symptom free prior to return. This includes children who have symptoms and are recommended for testing but testing is declined.
- Negative COVID-19 test results: child is to remain out of school until 24 hours after their symptoms have resolved
- Positive test result: child has completed the 14 day isolation criteria as directed by Public Health, fever has resolved and child has been consistently improving over the previous 72 hours.
- **NOTE:** parents can contact Niagara Region Public Health for general COVID-19 questions at 1-888-505-6074; 905-688-8248, press 7, then press 2.

All

- If school is notified of a positive test result principal tells SO and then Board informs of next steps and communication out to parents.

### **Virtual school:**

There are 2 virtual schools – one for Areas 1 and 2 and one for Areas 3 and 4 (we are Area 3).

- Students can move from in-person to virtual anytime. There is a 2 week waiting period (student may remain at school or work from home accessing online lessons that have been created).
- Students can move from virtual to in-person school at specified times:
  - November – estimated to be around the PA day.
  - Another date in spring (yet to be determined).

### **Dismissal routine:**

Quite different this year. Staff have spent a lot of time working on this continuously. Protocols from Public Health need to be followed. Staff and Principal are very happy with what is happening and feel that student safety is being achieved. Moving better. End of day 2 staff members – 1 in back, 1 in front. EAs (if free) can call up pickup kids and start loading cars. Busses go, then 2 teachers help load cars. Start of school year dismissal took 30 min, now it is down to 10-15min.

### **Break times:**

Staggered breaks. 3 different break times morning and afternoon. Tricky part is what kids are doing outside. Equipment outside – everything sanitized after (or 72 hours out of commission). Staff will be teaching games that keep hands off and distanced, but fun. Students can't bring outside items coming into school (toys, balls, etc).

### **Walker Living Campus:**

Campus is an extension of DSBN classrooms and Public Health agreed for our students to attend following the appropriate guidelines. Three classes from grades 4-8 were able to attend. In October, Grade 8, 4/5 and 5/6 will be going.

### **Purchase Requests:**

Water bottle refilling station in jr/int hallway **\$1,250**

RAZ kids license – all classes would like it. \$100/teacher x 10 classes = **\$1,000**

Reading Eggs 1 license for 30 kids (struggling kids) Learning Resource Teacher would determine who uses it **\$240**

Fans for each classroom **\$400** (actual: \$440.26 --updated Sep29)

Question asked: *Forest of Reading and Scientist in Classroom – can we continue funding, or are they cancelled? School council used to enjoy paying for F.O.R. The last couple years was paid for by Principal. We would like to pay for it. It is a nice tangible project for SAC to put to their name.*

- Principal Nunnenmacher said there is no info yet on Forest of Reading. The Board's Library Consultant gives the school the information for registering. It will probably happen, but maybe with a virtual year end conference rather than in person. Tricky parts will be:
  - o currently no clubs or teams right now, so not sure how that would look. Can start Jan/Feb.
  - o in-school distribution of library books (Mon out, Thurs in, 72 hrs out of circulation).
- Sci in Class cannot come into the schools. Although they have a virtual component, the staff are going to hold off for now.

### **Gym Equipment:**

Mr. Reid and Mrs. Gravelle are going to be logging gym equipment and its condition. A lot needs to be purged (broken, ripped, unsafe). They will be attending the next meeting with a report.

### **School Logo:**

DSBN updating school logos. Examples of old/new shown. Suggest redo of logo and colours.

- Staff and SAC were consulted. Decision was to see what the students thought.

### **Teachers Report:**

We had Maria Kotsis (Grade 1/2) attend tonight representing the Teachers. We thanked them for the work they do. We are always happy to have Teachers join us at our meetings.

### **Finance Report:**

Current finances were discussed, including any unspent funds allocated to Mr. Shatford for ukulele program and Mrs. Foster for outdoor classroom.

Looking at the available funds we currently have, Principal Nunnenmacher mentioned we are in a good position for this year-of-uncertainty considering fundraising activities may be limited. Typically, she likes to see a Council spend what they raise by the end of the year. It was mentioned Council always keeps a minimum of \$1,500 as a cushion for the following year.

**MOTION** to allocate \$1,500 for Grade 8 Grad. **PASSED**

**MOTION** to fund \$1,250 for water filling station in jr/int hall. **PASSED**

**MOTION** to fund \$1,000 for up to 10 class licenses of RAZ Kids. **PASSED**

**MOTION** to fund 1 license of Reading Eggs for Learning Resource Teacher. **PASSED.**

**MOTION** to fund \$400 for classroom portable fans. **PASSED**

**MOTION** to allocate \$800 to Forest of Reading Program. **PASSED**

**MOTION** to allocate \$2,200 to potential Scientist in Classroom. **PASSED**

Hollyce is going to have a few 'lines' added to the finance report to reflect allocations.

### **Fundraising Report:**

Currently, no items can be delivered to the school, so our regular fundraising, such as Little Ceasars, are on hold. Fundraising committee will look into online fundraising options. Thank-you to Hollyce for setting up Mabels Labels fundraiser.

Question: *Can parents donate money to school without purchasing through fundraising activities?*

- Yes, there is a donation button on the home page of the school website. Some funds taken off (service fee?).

### **PIC (Parent Involvement Committee)**

Alison attending PIC meeting in October (*this was omitted from conversation, but added to minutes after meeting*).

### **General:**

#### **Paul Davis**

- March 4, 2021 is booked. Alison will check on cost.

#### **Year books**

- came home in June as electronic. We will print, but not yet due to protocols.

#### **School pics**

- will not be taken as of yet due to no one permitted inside the school.

### **New Business:**

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Callie May and Carson Thompson's family lost everything in a house fire.

- Principal Nunnenmacher arranged for a \$250 Walmart gift card from the Education Foundation of Niagara. Staff also collecting funds to give gift cards.
- Parents are asking what can be done. SAC feels we need some information on what specifically is required if we are going to organize a donation drive. If clothes, what size, what gender? Because donations cannot be dropped off at school, and volunteers will be collecting at their homes, we don't want too much waste/un-needed donations. Hollyce will try to collect some more information.
  - o Update Sep.30: *Principal Nunnenmacher spoke with Ms Thompson. They have had an outpouring of clothing donation for all of them, but she appreciates that Council is willing to help them out. It was decided that Ms.T will reach out to Principal once they have their new place and will let her know if there are things she is in need of.*
  - o Alison will inform those who inquired about donations.

Question asked: *Can Alison attend SAC meetings as 'member of community of West Lincoln'?*

- although not quite the definition of a business leader in the community, it seems as though Alison can sit as a non-voting member during council meetings.

Question asked: *Shoes are coming home in bag on a daily basis? Can we leave at school?*

- Yes. The rules on this have recently changed. Originally it was so custodians could clean. Teachers have been notified.

### **Next Meeting(s):**

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- Thursday, October 29 6:45PM
- Tuesday, November 24 6:45PM