

Gainsborough School Council Meeting

April 27, 2021

MINUTES - Approved

Attendees: Julie Adams, Erica McLaren, Cam McLaren, Shari May, Stephanie Schwartz, Renee Kubik, Linda Vandervliet, Alison Moore, Lisa Gravelle (Teacher), Hollyce Nunnenmacher (Principal)

Regrets: Kristen Hennessey

Introductions:

Welcome

- Julie Adams welcomed everyone and opened meeting.

Principal's Report:

De-streaming grade 9

- Academic and Applied choices are no longer options for Grade 9; although, the School-To-Work/Community students are not affected. Math, English, Science, French and Geography will all be taught at the Academic level for grade 9. Ontario is the last province to de-stream Grade 9. This is done for equity purposes. It is a benefit when kids work/learn together.

Student census survey

- Please fill it out.

Playground

- The playground is 13 years old (2008). Typical playgrounds last for approximately 10-20 years. Annual inspections and reports are completed to outline work required. We are waiting on this years report to come (possibly in June).
- School Councils are responsible for playground expenses. School budgets do not cover these expenses.
- There is \$5000 left in funds that originated from a community fundraiser in honour of the loss of the Woerlen family. Funds were raised for 2 streams: purchase and maintenance of playground; and, school/student awards.
- School council needs to plan for maintain & repair costs in the future, as this \$5000 will not last long. In the least, woodchips are usually purchased on an annual basis. Last year approximately \$2000 was spent on new woodchips just for the Kindergarten play area. We have much larger areas that use woodchips than just the Kindergarten area. Other repairs we know about are fixing the swing set.

- **Hollyce** will try to find some historical inspection reports and expenditures to assist us in deciding on a set amount to add to our School Council budget.
- **Alison** will reach out to town/region council regarding grants/assistance.
- **Julie** will touch base with Pauline Dawson.
- **MOTION:** Set aside one of the fundraisers next year as our designated playground fundraiser. From there, along with a better idea of expenses required for upkeep, we will decide how to set a budget among for the following year. **PASSED.**

School Updates

- primary girls bathroom updated to two sinks and autoshutoff taps.
- The new freezer purchased. Old freezer went to Port Colborne High breakfast program. New fridge purchased for staff room. Old fridge from staff room went to Little House.

Teachers Report:

- Thank-you to Lisa Gravelle for attending our meeting. We are always appreciative of the input we receive from school staff.

Financial Update:

- Funds were presented. Only expenditure was ice cream on bingo day

Fundraiser Update:

The following were presented to school council as options, with ensuing discussion:

- Tru Earth, Canada – shipped to home
- Nothing Bundt Cakes, Burlington ON – pickup and non-contactless
- Nevada Tickets – sold at a community restaurant/store
- Deli Dude’s Pepperettes – Ontario
- Little Ceasars booked already.

Discussion

True Earth is a contactless, any-time-of-year fundraiser. It could be added to the roster of other contactless fundraisers we already have on the website – Chapter, Mabels Labels, and eventually FundScript.

Our fundraising goal will most likely be to meet current annual commitments (grad, sci in class, forest of reading, etc) plus any playground expenses (see motion under principal’s report). Any additional funds, if any, could go towards staff “wish list”. Hollyce spoke with staff, and the top four “wish list” items for funds were: chromebooks, funds allocated per class to be used at teacher’s discretion, team jerseys, makerspace items. She also suggested re-polling staff in September so we get a clear feel for the needs of the staff at that time.

Next Meeting(s):

- May 25 6:45PM

