

Elmdale School PAC Minutes Thursday, December 12, 2019

In attendance: Heidi, Janet, Nicole, Tracy, Marian, Stacey, Jacqui, Karla, Erin
Regrets: Vince, Tammy, Kelly, Cheree, Laura

PAC chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Welcome, Minutes from November 14, 2019 approved.

Important Upcoming Dates:

- December 13 – Christmas pjs, hats or scarves
- December 17 – Christmas Program (K-4) 1:30 PM
- December 17 – Christmas Program (Grades 1-4) 7:00 PM
- December 20 – Christmas sweaters, caroling assembly
- December 23-31 – Christmas Break
- January 6 – First day of classes
- January 31 – Professional Development Day (No classes)
- February 17 – Louis Riel Day (No classes)
- February 21 – Professional Development Day (No classes)

Building and Grounds:

- Capital and furniture requests for Summer 2020: since no capital projects happened this past summer, our same requests have gone in (no guarantee any will be done, as we don't know what the budget is yet):
 - Upgrades to cubies/closes in all classrooms
 - Staff Room updates
 - Library reading pit
- Play structure proposal (replacing wood play structure)
 - Based on rough math, the funds we have to date and estimated funds to receive based on past fundraisers, it will take 18 years to get enough money to build a play structure worth \$125,000 (including deconstruction and installation).
 - Will school pay for any of it?
 - Can we get any Provincial grants?
 - Build the new play structure in phases?
 - Do we need to build such a big one again? Can we get away with recreating only the favourite elements of the existing play structure?
 - Do we do more fundraisers? (See further notes under Fundraising section on this).
 - What do kids like most about the existing play structure?
 - Bridge, "gazebo", ramps
 - How many kids can fit on the existing play structure?

In School:

- Swimming lessons are complete
- Resthaven visits are ongoing in 4T
 - Smaller group this year due to renovations at Resthaven
 - Complimented on the program and thankful for our participation and relationship with Resthaven
- Christmas Hamper food drive
 - 600 items collected
 - Grade 2s collected the most
- Staff have appreciated the snacks brought in by PAC volunteers
- Reminder about the Elmdale Counsellor Page:
<http://elmdalecounsellorpage.blogspot.com/>
- Assemblies this year have been more focused on School Community Building instead of what the students have been working on in class recently. This means the teachers have free reign on what they choose to do. Parents are always welcome to check them out, and we have noticed an increase in parental attendance.
- Copyright Lawsuit affecting some HSD schools. Although our school was not selected, some divisional PD was cancelled for December/January to allow for subs to be sent to affected schools to support the teachers there.
- First Bucket Filing field trip to Providence happened earlier in December. Will do 3 more in January-March.

Fundraising/Recent Purchases/Upcoming Purchases:

- 12 new sleds have been purchased (\$161)
- Artist in the School coming up (\$750)
- Kindergarten t-shirts ordered (\$8 x 65 = \$520)
- Do we do Spent Pizza fundraiser again in February-spring instead of Sunshine?
- Other ideas for different types of fundraisers:
 - Join with Track and Field Day/Run, Jump, Throw Day
 - School picnic
 - Sell hot dogs
 - Lion's Club BBQ
 - Danny's Whole Hog roast
 - Silent Auction

Treasurer (Jacqui):

- Monthly update with account balances provided. Please ask Jacqui for report.

Hot lunch program report (Tracy):

- We cannot join with other schools to share the cost of Munch a Lunch, as we would all have to have the same hot lunches on the same day.
- Increasing soup option to every week starting in January, instead of bi-weekly.
- Cost to use credit card is 2.9% plus \$0.30 per transaction.
 - Try to encourage larger orders to reduce this cost.

- Next year, plan to have volunteers at the school on Meet the Teacher Day to collect funds in advance to attempt at reducing credit card usage/fees.

Other:

- Send reminder email to parents regarding Christmas program times, not entering auditorium after program has started, and not taking kids home after. Must be picked up from school.
- Gift for music teacher? School or PAC or both?
- Vince to send out questionnaire to get parents that are not on PAC more involved (not necessarily joining PAC, but helping with other events).
- Have existing PAC volunteers at Kindergarten orientation to get kindergarten parents to join PAC.
- Will need to appoint new PAC positions at AGM January 16.

Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

Next meeting Thursday, January 16 at 7 PM.