

MAPLE RIDGE ELEMENTARY PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

Sign-in and call to order _____ 7:03pm

Secretary: Tanya Harrison

In Attendance: Sabrina Harker, Lisa Foster, Tanya Harrison, Samantha Laird, Nicole Keough, Mel Vankoughnett, Lisa Kania, Donna Servant, David Bacic, Rachel Jensen, Laura Kelly, Dana Bates, Melanie Stoiber, Merissa Stephens, Dallas Bell, Christina Masse, Monika North

Minutes: approved

PAC Chair Report – Sabrina Harker

- Great start to the School year with Pancake breakfast – thanks to the volunteers!
- Welcome everyone! Welcome new parents
- Introductions.
- Demonstration of PAC parents standing who have children in grades 5,6 or 7. – those parents will be moving on in the next two years. Now is the time to mentor new volunteers for some of the events the school puts on. Many roles need to be filled in the next two years. It would be a smoother transition if the new volunteers had some experience before the transition.
- Think about ideas for building membership with the PAC, talk to new parents.
- These events that happen, Entertainment Books, Fall Bulbs, Hot lunches Scholastic Book Fair, Fall shopping extravaganza, Spring Market, etc. –they bring in \$7000 - \$10,000 each year.
- We do several fundraisers every year but we do not expect you to participate in everything. Many hands make light work!

Principal/Teacher Report –

- Great start to the School year
- 30 new students registered in last week of August.
- Most classes are full and Hammond is taking our overflow now.
- Two spots left in the French immersion track.
- With the new class size mandate class sizes are limited now.
- New English division taught by Ms Nielson –she is bilingual but will be teaching on the English track now.
- Our school is very lucky to get all of our positions staffed.
- All of classes are in classrooms,
- New classroom furniture has been delayed – for now older desks and chairs were brought in to hold us over until new furniture arrives
- Jason Craft is going to be painting the front entrance mural. He will be at the October PAC meeting to show us samples of his work. Staff and students are collaborating to create a common vision about our identity and who we are as a school and what words describe our school other than “MRE the place to be”. Also going to ask him to paint a little butterfly imbedded in the mural as a memory of Kira Short. Our school applied for a grant and received money for this mural (stipulation is that is has to be French/English spelling)
- Sept 29th Terry Fox Run @ 1pm– need volunteers Ms. Halfknights is coordinating
- Sept 27h – Full school assembly
- Thank you for the fantastic pancake breakfast – it was well organized!

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DPAC Chair Report: - (Dana Bates present)

- No report yet as the DPAC don't meet until last Thursday of the month.
- Once a month there are District PAC meetings, and the DPAC rep attends and reports back to our PAC

Treasurers Report: Samantha Laird

- General Account: \$ xxxxxxxx
- Gaming Account: \$ xxxxxxxx
- Savings Account: \$ xxxxxxxx
- Fundraising money raised after expenses was \$9252.21

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Art Cards –

- Kids can create beautiful card that can be turned into gifts
- They haven't arrived yet.
- Encourage your teachers to do it!

Fall Bulbs –

- catalogues came over summer would like to get them out on Friday.
- forms need to be back before the 29th of September
- Will need help wrapping bulbs when the orders arrive
- we get 50% back. So for example if \$800 is ordered, the school gets \$400

Crossing Guard – Traffic and Safety –(no rep present)

- Ongoing battle. Sabrina will message the City as they promised to paint the sidewalks but didn't over the summer
- It was suggested that maybe it would help to get the parents to stand along sidewalk with signs saying slow down, "these are our kids" might help.
- Perhaps contact citizens on patrol?
- The traffic sign along River Road closer to 207th currently says 50km/hr but then a few feet later is another that says 30km school zone. Might be worthwhile discussing changing the sign along River from 50km/hr to 30km sooner.

Entertainment books – Jeannie and Nicole

- went out today (Tuesday)
- Newsletter will go home Wednesday.
- First date to bring money/books is Friday Sept 18th
- Maybe an announcement to remind students about returning the books would be helpful

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Hot Lunch: Lisa Foster

- First Hot lunch is Sept 27th – PIZZA!!
- Mel suggested a spaghetti lunch in the future.

Book Fair: Monica North: monikanorth@yahoo.ca

- Monika spoke with coordinator recently
- Book Fair will coincide back to back with shopping night – Nov 17th and then following week of November 20th, 21st, 22nd.
- Inherited a well-organized program as Ms Walker dummy proofed the book drive, making it easy to pass off and learn. Can easily be done by 2 people and volunteers on the actual day to take payment.

Santa Mall –

- Every year the school collects gently used things you have at home, re-gifting items, everyone donates things.
- A sale is put on and the students can go in and buy a number of wonderful things to give to their parents/family members for Christmas.
- The kids really enjoy Santa Mall every year.

Health and Safety

- Stay on top of disaster/ earthquake kits
- We have a container full of stuff that needs to be moved over into the new container.
- Maybe need to start a committee to help

MRE Fall shopping Extravaganza – Dallas Bell

- Friday Nov 17th 5 – 9pm
- Dallas can manage the food
- We have about 20 vendors already signed up
- Mel has a number of vendors who she has been in contact with – she will send over the list of vendors
- Chilli, soup and buns for food.
- Volunteers needed to help set up tables

Fruit & Veggie Program (Jeannie not present, Nicole present)

- Free fruit veggies and milk for Kindergarten and Grade 1
- Next one is Sept 19 – Italian Plums
- 12 deliveries are scheduled for this year
- We have the option to take part in a fundraiser – families can purchase fruit and veggie baskets
- If we want to take part we need to contact program soon as it closes sept 21st
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New Business –

- Terry fox Run – In the past the PAC has provided water and granola bars
- We usually get two big water containers from McDonalds filled with ice/water – the kids can bring their own water bottles to fill
- Mel will call and organize getting two bottles from McDonalds
- We need 400 granola bars/ 1 box of fruit leather, a parent volunteer will pick up for us - just keep receipt for reimbursement

Motion: Sam Laird motions to buy 400 granola bars and 1 box of fruit leather at a cost of \$400

Discussion: a parent has volunteered to pick up from Costco

Second: Melanie VanKoughnett

All in favor

- Every year the PAC donates \$100 per class towards the cost of buses. Mme Servant will ask the teachers what they would like for buses this year – if they in fact would utilize the funds as last year only \$900 was used. Not all teachers took part.
- Weekly Blast - If anyone needs something to include in the Friday blast, it needs to be in by Wednesdays
- Mme Servant looked into team from Safer Schools to present a Social Media Awareness, Digital Footprint, and Cyber Bullying presentation for students. It is a 60 minute session for students. It is recommended that grades 1-4 and 5-7 be presented separately as the information presented gets more comprehensive as the students get older. The presentation would cover all things digital from digital citizenship (and how to be a good digital citizen) to the criminal consequences of cyber bullying. Some of most prominent concerns around student's use of social networking sites and smart phones will be discussed. As well as online etiquette, how to recognize and respond to cyber bullying, criminal and social consequences, possession and distribution of intimate images (sexting), self-peer exploitation, digital media habits over sharing, digital addiction, piracy and plagiarism. The cost is \$1000 plus travel for the presentation

Motion: David Bacic motions to book team from Safer Schools for Social Media Awareness, Digital Footprint and Cyber Bullying with a budget not to exceed \$1200

Discussion: - there is the option to add a 90 minute parent presentation but in the past it has been difficult to get parents to participate in any parent presentations

Second: Tanya Harrison

All in Favor

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- Every year \$100 is given to each full time teacher to use as they see fit - for their classroom start-up. Support (ELL, Library prep) receive \$50

Motion: Sabrina Harker motions to continue this tradition and spend \$100 per teacher (19 divisions x 100))and \$50 per support teacher (5 x 50) for a cost of \$2150

Second: Lisa Foster

All in favor

- Adela wanted to plan a movie night to raise money for Kira's parents.
- Would like to also have a concession where donations go to the family.
- Movie choice will be Muppets Kira.
- Parents can buy popcorn/drinks or can just donate.
- A date hasn't been set but would be great for a Friday night.
- Mme Servant is going to apply for the licence to play the movie

Discussion: This will be the last event we do in the memory of Kira as the School Board does not want to re-open wounds as the kids have dealt with her passing and they do not wish to prolong the process of healing. As stated earlier a butterfly will be painted within the school mural in memory of Kira. Kira's parents have not approved anything else to take place as the community was already invited to celebrate her life at the community candlelight vigil. *If anyone thinks their child is struggling to cope and could benefit from some counselling regarding Kira's passing please contact the school.*

Next meeting October 12th 2017 @ 7pm in the library

Meeting adjourned: 8:34pm