

SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, April 16, 2019

Learning Commons

Attendees: Erica Quayle, Cathy Lapar, Lindsey Taylor, Maria Gianniotis, Jenn Schnar, Brooke Robinson, Amanda Morgan, Randi St. Laurent, Sharan Sangha, Elaine Emery, Kacy Furner, Audra Monteram, Caitlin Coverdale, Stojana Stanivuk, Melissa Manville, Colleen Bishop, Richard Wallace, Lori Bowes, Dave Linnerth, John Tsintaris, Pam Drews, LeeAnne Andriessen, Peter Trybus

Regrets: Neda Drakulic

1. Principal's Report - LeeAnne Andriessen

a. Make up of our school this year:

- 739 students, 31 classes, 42.2 staff, up by 0.2 FTE (full-time equivalent)
- Growing a little bit
- Our numbers have stabilized over the year – this is good
- No more classrooms required for the Fall
- No more portables/cottages for the Fall

Current breakdown of the school:

Kindergarten - 128 students – 17%

Grade 1-3 - 148 students – 20%

French immersion - 43 students– 6% (2 classes this year)

Grade 4-6 – 191 students, 26%

Grade 7&8 – 226 students, 31%

What does this breakdown tell us:

- We need to pay attention to our older students
- We will be importing approximately 7-8 students from around the community to be apart of our French immersion classes – we didn't have enough students within our school to make up the classes
- Kindergarten – numbers are down a little this year

b. Union & Labour Update

- The changes that we think we are going to see:
- Some grants are being cut
- There may be enough teacher retirements in the region so there may not be any cuts to teacher positions that we might be okay
- Any retirement that is not related to instructional time (aka guidance counsellor, principals) they will not be replaced – hiring freeze
- The Board has some reserve money that is expected to be used to help ensure no or few cuts – problem is that the reserve money will run out
- In the region there is enough funding for 2 Early childhood educators in a class for the entire day - the reports suggested that the Board was only going to

fund 1 ECE per class – but the thoughts are that the Board is going to use the reserve funding to make up the gap BUT we don't have reserve funding for years to come – may be delaying the inevitable

- ECE, EAs, janitorial staff, secretaries and Teacher contracts/collective agreements end on August 31

c. School Budget Committee

- Not discussed

d. Parent Survey

- Parent survey has been sent out
- Administration will call the parent if the parents' request cannot be accommodated
- Principal will disregard requests for specific teachers or for your student to be in or not in a split
- They try to look at whether a child has been in a split class last year and if they can be put in a straight class

e. Class Decisions

- See screenshot of Grade Allocations for 2019-20 – will be posted on the school website
- 5 kindergarten classes – shocking – numbers are down
- The class allocations are all computer generated by the Board
- Computer program takes into account all of the primary level caps
- There is a team of professionals at the Board that looks at the allocation that is computer generated and will adjust things that might be problematic
- No cap for kindergarten class – because two adults in the classroom
- There are hard caps for grades 1-3 is 20 students per class
- Rule: in grades 1-3, only 20 kids per classes,
- Minimum of 18 kids per class
- If too many kids, allowed to put 23 in the class
- If more than one class with 23 students, then they start to create split classes (per grade)
- Rule does not apply to grade 3/4 split
- In Ontario there is a belief that it is better to have smaller groups of students together = more individualized attention
- The principal can put in a proposal to Human Resources to fix the classes so that there are not too many split classes
- Must honour the caps until October 1
- If we have broken the caps as of October and it exceeds the Board numbers, then we would get a new class
- Principal has Very little control
- Curriculum has lots of flexibility in it – all classes whether split or not, you will find that there is a wide range of abilities and the programming must cover all levels
- Teachers create parallel tasks and programming so that all levels in the classroom are involved

- Teachers do assessments at the beginning of the year to determine where the kids are at and they work with them at that level to promote them moving forward
- Class placement consideration is given to making sure that the gender is fairly equal, friend considerations, academic levels
- Other schools have just as many split classes as we do
- Kindergarten in first floor
- Grades 1A-2A in school – closer to bathrooms
- Grades 2B-5B in cottages – small kids, better equipped to be out in the portables
- Grades 7&8 on third floor of the school (on rotation all the time)
- Grade 6A and 6B there are 27 kids in each class – need space, so they stay in the school
- Break down of the grades will be found on the Chicopee Hills Public School website
- Very small group of grade 4 students
- Staff assignments will be released April 10 by 5:30pm check chi-staff

2. Math Night – April 11, 2019 - Peter Trybus

- Great success – estimated attendance???? Will tabulate from the estimation station
- Shout out to the teachers who planned and gave of their time
- Estimation station was a highlight
- A new way to think about games
- We had Moving in Education make two presentations
- Looking to expand next year

3. Budget & Financials - Dave Linnerth & Lindsey Taylor

i. Short term and long term goals

- \$7,000 for Home Reading program – we need to pass the order
- Vision for fundraising for next year? Do we want to choose our fundraisers for next year?
- Looking to have a process for June for multi-phase plan for outdoor space
- Dance-a-thon and read-a-thon's were too close together
- Come up with a plan for the full year of fundraisers

Fundraising Plan for Outdoor Learning Project (Long Term)

A. Corporate Donation Campaign – October 2019-June 2020

- How do you recognize the corporate donors?
- Allowed to put a sign on the lawn to recognize donors on the sign
- No PERMANENT recognition of donors are permitted by the Board

B. Individual WEFI Donation Campaign

C. Golf tournament – June 2020 – John Tsintaris will chair this

- Ms. Morgan has contacts in the golf community, she will assist
- Need corporate sponsors

- Parents to put together a group to play in the tournament
- This would be our big fundraiser for the year

D. Grant Application Process

MOTION: The long-term fundraising plan for 2019-2020 School Year will be:

Fundraising Plan for outdoor Learning Project (Long Term)

- Corporate Donation Campaign – October 2019 to June 2020
- Individual WEFI Donation Campaign
- Golf Tournament (June 2020)
- Grant Application Process

Proposed by Dave Linnerth

Seconded by John Tsintaris

Motion carried

Proposed fundraising plan for 2019-2020 school year will be: (for short term goals)

- i). QSP campaign
- ii) Read-a-thon
- iii) Mabel's Labels
- iv) Book fair

- Grade 7&8s will not participate in these proposed ideas – need to involve them
- Need to ask the grade 7&8s what motivate them to fundraise – ex. Pizza party?
- Idea: gift cards – Fundscrip.com – 4% profits back to the school – order online, parents pick it up from the office – not sent home with the kids
- Flipgive.com – electronic gift cards
- Propose to add a digital/gift card fundraiser to the list
- We are permitted to have 10 days per year to go outside of Canada's Food Drive for providing food to the students
- Idea: BBQs - John Tsintaris to help cater
- Tie the fundraiser into intramurals for the grade 7&8s to get involved
- Idea: Fun Fair – problem: still need volunteers
- Legacy building – teaching the grade 7&8s about creating their legacy
- Cathy Lapar – willing to look at other options that might involve the grade 7&8s – and to research other options and bring those options to the next meeting
- The suggestion from what other schools in the area are doing is that they find one big fundraiser that defines the school so parents anticipate the fundraiser every year.

At next Council meeting – bring ideas for fundraising – be aware – who is going to run the fundraiser

Motion: We move to approve the allocation of \$7000 to the home reading program with the intention of applying the money in the following order: Gr 2, SK, Gr 3, JK then French

Proposed by: Lindsey Taylor

Seconded by: Jenn Schnarr

Motion passed,

Grade 2 home reading purchasing has started but will be implemented in the Fall.

BUDGET COMMITTEE is looking for parent volunteers to be a Planning committee – long term commitment – to be planning this outdoor learning project. Want parents from all levels.
Next meeting is April 25 at 4:30

4. Read-A-Thon - Brooke Robinson & Lori Bowes

- Thank you to Brooke and Lori for putting it together and taking on the leadership
- Youngest grades had highest participation
- \$2360 in donations
- \$200 used to purchase the prize bins
- Very close to the dance-a-thon – so could we have changed the timing
- Lesson learned: need to improve communication – communication with staff, with parents
- Mrs. Stephens class almost 100% participation – encouraged in the classroom – almost like homework
- Mrs. O'Donaghue class also won
- Mrs. Thorpe's class also won a prize
- For next year: no booklets are needed for grades 7&8 classes

5. Grade 8 Grad Award - Erica Quayle

RESILIENCY AWARD

Criteria: This award is presented to the graduating student who has been a light in the Chicopee Hills Public School community. This student has remained positive and optimistic when faced with a challenge. This student always strives for their best and encourages their fellow students to do the same. This student has shown compassion and empathy towards others and contributes to the classroom. This student makes our school and their community a brighter, happier and more positive place.

- The grade 8 teachers, with input from any guidance counsellors, and other staff will determine the recipient.

Motion: To establish this Award to be given at graduation each year – with the above wording.

Motion: Erica Quayle

Seconded: Brooke Robinson

Motion Carried,

Motion: To use a Maximum of \$150 to cover the cost of the plaque - On going every year

Motion: Erica Quayle

Seconded: Randi St.Laurent

Motion Carried

6. Travel Committee Update - Colleen Bishop

- Meeting next week 6:30 Tuesday
- Discussion with Corfield and Lackner is a big part of the discussion
- Randi meeting with Lesley regarding Corfield and Lackner issues to add some elements to make it a more noticeable area – long term plans
- Parking lot management – new signs, signs to be corrected
- Enforcement is not going to apply – no official that will come onto the property that will ticket
- Transportation survey for the students – collect data how kids get to school
- Walking school bus is up and running – Randi and Kristin - one route in Sims Estate area and one route in the Peeblecreek area – not notice on School Day about this route – Randi has 3 kids on her route, 3 kids on Peeblecreek route
- Walking school bus going very well
- Couple of walking events coming up – Walk to school day was snow day
- Possibly reduce the number of meetings to 4 for the year
- Colleen not able to “chair” this committee next year

7. Treasurer’s Report - Lindsey Taylor

8. Up-coming Events – Cathy Lapar

a. Kindie Night - May 16

b. Jump Rope for Heart - June ?

c. Graduation - June 20

d. Active Hearts/Active Minds - Year End - May 30 – Cathy Lapar

- Doesn’t look like we need a lot of volunteers
- Fun family event
- Confirmed: Tex from Rangers, Food trucks, Kitchener Kicks, Irene Pace, In Motion Dance and Mike Farwell

Proposal: Each class to do their own basket – then silent auction – Mike Farwell to encourage participation in the auction

- Dunk tanks are no longer allowed
- Maybe do a pie in the face
- Give a contribution to Mike Farwell's campaign for Cystic Fibrosis
- Grade 8s to do a Bake Sale – all funds to go towards their Ottawa trip or ask them what they want their money towards it
- Amanda, Maria, Lindsey and Cathy – to help put the baskets together
- Can use the event to promote what School Council has done

9. Book Fair – Cathy Lapar

- Because it was a second book fair, we got a bonus of \$500 worth of product
- We went selected books from the staff wish list that we received
- Buy days rather than viewing days was much better received
- We had shortened sale days – down to 3 days and shorter hours – still did over \$5000 of sales
- Suggestion for next year: Possible advertising to the community to allow outside families to come during the evening – but cost of the sign comes from the profit (approximate \$300 for sign plus permits)

10. Good Will Committee - Brooke Robinson

- Start of school essentials now (Send them off smiling website to be shared)
- The kids that we helped at Christmas time will likely need to help years to come – the need will be there every holiday season
- Grade 8 trip coming up – one student we have assisted through funding but this student will need lunches or some spending money
- Collect donations – Brooke to do so
- Will discretely check to make sure that they will have luggage and toiletries in order to go
- Thinking around \$100
- Will let us know if there are actual items

11. Grade 8 Graduation – Lee Andriessen

- June 20
- guest speaker coming
- Lots of student presentations celebrating how Chicopee does learning
- About 8 awards – HERO traits
- Start at 7:00 pm – finish 8:45
- Dance for the kids to follow – in the gym – only for about an hour – finish around 10:30
- Reception in main lobby for parents

12. Other Business

Motion: to pass Minutes from January meeting

Proposed: Lindsey Taylor

Seconded: Cathy Lapar

Motion passed

Motion: to pass Minutes from February meeting

Proposed: Brooke Robinson

Seconded: Maria Giannatis

Motion passed

Next School Council Meeting: June 4, 6:30pm, Learning Commons