

# **Summerside School Council - Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at 7:00pm via Google Meet**

**In Attendance:** Claudia Baluch, Jenna AuCoin, Andrea Gordon, Stuart van Oostveen, Zainab Saket (Student Representative) Rebecca Ryan, Kailey Satta, Melissa Humphries, Bobby Chauhan, Sui Ling Lee, Sonia Lamba (Student Representative), Crystal Savage, Stacey Downing, Jenna Robertson, Erica Roy, Becky Stanisic, Jeff Matthews, Linda Mama, Mary Jane Farrish, Chatura Prematunge, Sarah Ahmed

## **Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

Both documents are approved in absence of objection

## **Student Update**

- Holiday spirit week underway
- Thanks to Mr. Holtslander, the new Swarm gear has been delivered and students are very excited
- Intermediate students took part in a presentation by YNRA (Youth Net/Reseau Ado)
- Some classes are setting up virtual learning spaces in case students need to be away from class
- Congratulations to the Grade 7 students who raised \$100 for Earth Rangers

## **Staff updates**

- Celebrated Bullying Awareness week and worked on a collaborative project
- Currently celebrating holiday spirit week
- Using gym equipment for volleyball
- Third Path book club is continuing to meet and are currently working through Regulation
- Angela and Melissa attended a workshop for emotional coaching
- Ukuleles are in full swing
- EF6/7 and EF7 are reading complex rhythms for the bucket drum
- EF1/2 are learning finger knitting
- Special Education classes have been using body break room
- Kinder are reading a story about the Gingerbread Man - Ginger came back today
- Swarm gear delivered and distributed

## **Principal's Report**

Welcome to Superintendent Mary Jane Farrish

- Will be putting an emphasis on **Culturally Relevant and Responsive Pedagogy** - distinguished by three elements: High expectations for all students, Cultural Competence, Critical Consciousness
- Want to teach to every students at just the right place - challenge them just enough without overwhelming them
- We're looking for threads of commonality through these District initiatives that also align with the Third Path
- Differentiated instruction - making sure we're finding just the right place, gathering data, lots of assessment, finding out where we can support students - tailoring learning to kids at different levels - special education approach but all students are special and differentiate for all kids
- Universal design for learning - based on architectural concept - making curriculum wide open and making sure kids have lots of voice and choice - understanding goal and this is how to be successful - list of criteria - choose how they go about learning something - group, research, podcast, lots of choice
- Our goal is to improve student learning and also help them stay mentally, emotionally and socially healthy as they develop and grow. Part of teaching is modelling the learning process, and as teachers, when we view ourselves as the lead learner in a class or school. Parents are key in this partnership and we value your

communication and involvement and look forward to the time when we can have you back into the school building

### **Treasurer's Report**

- Balance as of today \$9693.31
- Monthly fee of \$4.95
- Once our Fall fundraising cheques have been deposited, we should be over the \$10,000 and should not be paying the monthly fees anymore

### **Update from Fundraising Subcommittee**

- Mabel's Labels was just under \$100
- Flipgive is close to \$120
- Purdys was \$796. It's fully delivered and only had one broken Santa. Expecting that to be bigger order in Spring with hopefully double the profit
- Altogether we were just under \$1000 coming in at \$993

### **Play Structure - Question for Superintendent Mary Jane Farrish**

- Hoping to focus efforts on fundraising for play structure
- Got a presentation back from OCDSB that outlines prices and options and grants but the presentation is old and out of date
- Grants that we available was \$7500 from OCDSB and \$7500 from the City of Ottawa
- Are we able to seek donations from outside sources?

### **Response from Superintendent Mary Jane Farrish**

- We're in a climate where costs are increasing faster than we can keep up with revising presentations. We are restricted now in terms of making commitments to dollars and projects.
- Don't see the supply chain getting better before it gets worse. Suggestion is inviting someone from Facilities to have a conversation about where we're at. Able to ask what would be the best guiding document and guidelines.
- The other piece we have to be really careful with is when we look at multi-year planning - we want to make sure we don't get into so many years that the money being raised by current students will not be spent on current students

**Question** - Is it possible to put in a shade area instead?

**Answer** - Yes we are exploring options once we have more information

### **Pizza Program - Question for Superintendent Mary Jane Farrish**

**Q-** Why are we unable to get the pizza program in place when it was ok for Carpe Diem in the school for photo day?

**A-** From a District perspective, we're prioritizing with risk. With third party photographers, there's a contracted mechanism in place and we have very tight control. Not necessarily with all schools, but in general when working with third party providers to have lunch programs, it's not something we can control as tightly and more of an ongoing thing instead of getting in and out. We have made commitments to lessen restrictions when we could but we're not there yet for pizza day. We appreciate it's a major part of fundraising initiatives - if school is in need of a nutrition program - subsidized lunch programs - if that was what someone was relying on, it would happen, breakfast and snack programs. We encourage every single school to engage in that partnership with ONFE.

### **Social Media Subcommittee**

- Looking for input on the newsletter - working well on our end - any additional improvements?
- Have heard from some parents that it's very informative and enjoy reading it. It was helpful with spirit week - a good way to communicate fundraising initiatives. One page is the perfect length.
- Potential for having facebook group - Castor Valley has one and they have a tight process for making sure everyone is approved
- Next step is contacting the school to see if their council would be willing to talk with us. They have a very clear terms of use and the posts are moderated
- Aim for having it after next council meeting in January

#### **Matters for Discussion/New Business**

- Money has been allocated for PRO grant. It has to be spent on resources for parents. We've gotten it in the past and used funding for library resources. It has to be spent by the end of June.

#### **Partnership with Carson Grove**

- They were contacted and very excited about that - will really appreciate that - offered to help mentor and will bring it to next school council meeting

*Meeting adjourned at 8:24pm*