

Courtice North Parent Council

Meeting Minutes

September 17th 2023

Attendees: Lea Cooke, Henrietta Mccaig, Meggan Niven, Lasha Laskowslay- Reed, Ashley Muir, Tracy Gray, Valerie Le Drew, Kyla Redden, Dana (Teacher rep), Jen Voordenhout, Sarah-Jane Lawlor, Amanda Sturgeon, Michelle Courtemanche, Kim Cain, Chloe Ward, Jenny Feltham, Sumreen Qadar

Introductions

- Valerie Le Drew introduced herself as the new principal of Courtice North Public School. She is excited about coming to Courtice North and is very impressed with the staff and the overall community.

Council Position Voting

- Each role was explained, and the roles available are: Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Regional Chair.
- We discussed broadening the scope of the Treasurer role and the Treasure having a closer partnership with Heather for more in-depth financial information.
- Jenny nominated Lea for the Chair position, Henrietta Seconded, and we discussed trying to find a co-chair, next year, to work with Lea as her final child will be graduating in 2 years.
- Ashely nominated Chloe for Secretary, and Lasha seconded.
- Jenny nominated Kyla for Treasurer; Henrietta seconded.
- Jenny nominated Lasha as the Regional Representative; Ashley seconded.
- Dana will be the Teacher's Representative – if staff have a request for council, they should go through the teacher rep. The Teacher's Rep will communicate important council activity dates to the staff.
- We discussed implementing a standard form for the teachers to use when requesting funding from the council.

Date discussion

- We will try to keep the meetings on nights that there is a staff meeting.
- We have opted to try to have our meetings at 6:00 pm vs 7:00 pm.
- The meeting dates for this year are as follows: Tuesday, October 17th, November 21st, January 23rd, Feb 20, April 16th, May will be an informal meeting, and June 11th.
- The tentative date for Fun fair is Thursday, May 16th.

Halloween Dance:

- Council members will come into the school and decorate the gym starting with the kindergarten kids, music, glow sticks, etc.

- Each grade gets 45 minutes.
- LSS kids have a sensory-friendly time.
- Henrietta suggested that the Student Spirit Squad could be responsible for ordering the popcorn, popping the corn, and distributing it to the classes.

General

- We discussed the possibility of adding different sub-committees within the council for specific goals, ex. Fundraising & food prep etc.
- Council requested that we have a council bulletin board somewhere easily accessible in the hallway listing the council dates, when the next hot lunch is, upcoming events, etc.
- Valerie notified the council that a fundraising report is required of every school council, stating what we are raising money for – broad goals, we have to commit to and submit to the board by October 31st.
- Technology that is purchased by the council will have a shelf life and will not be a long-term investment due to the changing nature of technology. The school has 32 new Chromebooks and will be purchasing a new charging cart. The school has 25 iPads that will be obsolete next year and recalled by the board.
- Council has pledged \$300 for soccer pylons.
- Council has approved \$100 for sand toys for the kindergarten sandbox.
- Henrietta has suggested that there be better cohesion between the Student Spirit Squad and the Parent Council. Spirit Squad may need volunteers from the council for some of their ideas, and they may also come to us if they have specific asks.
- Next month, the council will get an update from the Spirit Squad to learn how many students there are, what their plans will be and dates, etc.

Recap of the Last Meeting

- We would like to start a community closet – clothes or toiletries.
- We circled back to the breakfast club/ food program that we tried to get off the ground all last year. The funds had been allotted but there was a decent amount of red tape that prevented this from being implemented – will discuss the next steps in depth at the next meeting.
- The council would like to provide funds for outdoor equipment, basketballs, etc.

The meeting ended at approximately 8:15 pm.