

Courtice North Parent Council Meeting Minutes November 19, 2024

Present: Valerie Le Drew, Dana McDonald, Jennifer Cox, Jenny Feltham, Jen Voordenhout, Ashley Muir, Alycia Stephens, Kyla Redden, Nicole Hodgkinson, Sarah-Jane Lawlor, Lea Cooke & Chloe Ward.

Regrets: Sarah-Jane Lawlor, Kim Cain, Jen Voordenhout & Meg Niven

Meeting called to order at 6:06 PM

Nicole Hodgekinson, a representative from the YMCA joined our meeting tonight.

School Representatives

We have two student representatives from the spirit squad – Emily & Chloe.

The requests are as follows:

- The Council discussed purchasing more sports equipment for classes, including soccer balls, volleyballs and basketballs. Val Le Drew mentioned the school doesn't have outdoor volleyballs, but they have outdoor soccer and basketballs. It was suggested that beach volleyballs for outdoor use be considered. The indoor balls don't last well outside. It was further suggested that red rubber balls be purchased for foursquare.
- An inquiry was made to purchase outdoor soccer nets, with posts as soccer is played every recess. Valerie Le Drew will make inquiries with the Board Office to see if this is possible.

Leah Cooke will inquire with Heather Hoskin, to see if the money we put aside for sports balls last year has been spent
- A request was made for each student to have computer in their classroom. Right now they don't have enough for everyone. Valerie Le Drew reported there are approx. 60 laptops and 120 students. It was requested that the Regional Rep ask our Board office if they might change the policy so that there is one laptop per student.
- Ideas for extra curricular clubs included cooking / baking classes – kiddie club. Valerie Le Drew noted that these were great ideas but they were also dependent on teacher/volunteer availability. It was mentioned that those involved with food would need their Food Handler Certificate. Valerie Le Drew has reached out to Georgian College for a culinary student to come and take the kids.
- School Council reps have been asked to make a sign-up sheet for interest for the afterschool clubs.
- Ashley Muir motioned for funds to buy more chess boards. Jenny Feltham seconded motion. School Council agreed on \$100 be used to purchase more chessboards.

Treasurer Report

- As the financials were reported this afternoon from Heather Hoskin, Kyla Redden has not had time to properly investigate and validate the numbers. A revised report will be completed by end of day Friday

Fundraising/ Purchases

- After auditing the jerseys, Lea Cooke believes that we need to purchase 51 additional jerseys – They will all have the new logo.
- Leah Cooke is waiting for a quote on the 51 jerseys.
- It was suggested a waiver be included on the permission form for parents to sign indicating their child is responsible for returning their jersey and if not, they will be charged. We could create a form to go into the jersey bag that needs to be filled out for every sporting event. Perhaps we can enlist a student who doesn't want to participate, but still wants to be involved be the equipment manager.

School Requests – Library Revamp

- In response to our Library Revamp feedback requested in September, timelines have been revised. This is a 5-year plan. Year 1, Greenscreen 450, Lego Wall, 375, flexible seating and workstations 3000 - Grouping of 8 seats. The request is for \$4,000 for this year.
- Item 1, Greenscreen is for the creative video – they have most of the pieces and but need a few more items to make it usable i.e. Tripods etc. This could be used in classrooms as well.
- Lea Cooke stated that through her years there haven't been any major requests from the librarian.
- Kyla Redden stated she believes we can afford the \$4,000 request and still have a healthy balance.
- It was asked if we could make a fundraising request specifically for the Library. Can we put out a letter, specifically marketing to kindergarten parents? Can send out a letter to parents – letting them know council has funded the \$4,000 for this year and suggesting a donation to help us further our goals. We could ask local businesses for donations. Kyla Redden will draft the letter to parents requesting help to get us started to reach our goal quicker.
- Chloe Ward motioned \$4,000 to start some of the Library Revamp improvements Alycia Stephens seconded the motion. All present voted to carry the Motion, with the exception of Kyla Redden who abstained due to bias. Motion carried.

Administration/ New Business

- Valerie Le Drew stated that Progress Reports will be going out November 20th. SK-Gr. 2 will have the new reading screener in the progress report.
- Parent teacher interviews are offered to all parents.
- Dental screening will be happening this week for grades SK, Grade 2 and any student whose parent would like their child included in an examination.
- Learn to Play Lacrosse is happening this week for grade 4-8

- Book fair is running this week.
- School improvement plan is focusing on math and literacy as well as mental well-being.

Round table

- Teaching reading has now transferred towards a decodable method. Chloe Ward suggested that there be a night for parents to be taught by teachers the best way to support their kids at home.
- Discussion led into whether or not we should continue doing Scientist In School and interest from staff.
- Various ideas were discussed as to how we let families know the needs of the school.
- Dana McDonald reported on Flipgive – mostly all staff have joined Flipgive. This is an app for purchasing retail items and at the same time receiving funds for the school. There will be an EDSBY post about it.

Meeting adjourned at 745 pm.