

École Varennes Parent Committee Meeting

November 21, 2022

Agenda

This land is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and homeland of the Métis Nation. We acknowledge the harms, of both the past and present, that were and are inflicted on Indigenous peoples in Canada by a colonial, exploitative worldview and we, as the Parent Committee, dedicate ourselves to move forward in collaboration with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation.

Attendance: Charlene Sacher, Amy Warriner, Eileen Mueller, Laura Marquié, Devin Johnston, Megan MacDonald; Meika Richmond, Robert Marin, Meghan Dobbs, Rebecca Musafiri, Tian Su

Call to order (1 min) 6:34 pm

Adoption of minutes (5 min) Megan motion to pass October 24, 2022 minutes, Devin to second, passed.

Business arising from minutes (5 min)

Amy to talk to K/1 teachers about potentially doing a Pizza dinner for K/1 families. (usually happened around November in the gym). Amy to discuss during staff meeting tomorrow & email the group.

Someone went up on to the roof and retrieved all of the balls that were stuck.

Storage – Charlene hasn't had a chance to come down and go through the materials – she will try to make it this week – plan to attend the school on November 28

Reports

Chair (5 min) – No Report

Treasurer (5 min)

Current Balance ~\$6990

Fundraising/Income:

Approval was given for \$506.80 to be spent on recess equipment, just slightly over the \$500 budgeted.

As reported at the previous meeting, \$2505 was received by the deadline from the fundraising family fee.

An additional \$210 has been received since that time.

Megan made a motion to raise the budget from \$150 to \$400 for the Pizza Lunch for Kindergarten/1 families, Meghan to second, motion passed.

Expenses:

| Item | Expected Cost | Actual Cost |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| Truth and Reconciliation Books | \$800 | \$539.08 |
| CJS Scholarship | \$500 | |
| Retirement Gifts | \$200 | |
| Staff Appreciation | \$500 | |
| Grade 8 Farewell – USB sticks | \$150 | |
| Field Trips (2 bus/grade grouping) | \$3675 | |
| Gardening | \$200 | |
| Pizza lunch for kindergarten/grade 1 families | \$400 | |
| Outdoor space | \$300 | |
| PAC windup | \$200 | |
| Recess Equipment | \$500 | \$506.80 |
| Teacher Wishlist | | |
| Babysitting | \$325 | \$75 (to date) |
| Purposeful Nights/School Presentations (Babysitting) | \$300 | |

Administration (15 min)

Community consultation was a success. We had great turnout. Over 100 adults and 90 children. Eileen suggested making a narrated PowerPoint presentation with a brief history of why we need a new school that can be posted to the website or played at future consultation meetings to give those who hadn't previously attended.

Parent Teacher conferences Tuesday (in person) and Thursday (virtual) – very few people have signed up for virtual, so it has been opened up for in person. There is some confusion as to whether to bring your child or not – it is up to the child's teacher.

Next Family Night – There will be a follow up to the recent school consultation family night in January – the school will take care of planning it.

Amy would like to know if the Parent Counsel could share in the organizing of future Family Nights – possibly February. Keep it simple – ideas for activities and refreshments:

- Bannock
- Hot chocolate
- Bon fires – would need to look into getting a permit. Rob offered to pick up wood, fire pits etc. Charlene to follow up with other schools who have done this.

New Business (30 min)

Fundraisers

- Equipment donations at Family night
- Dominos – Charlene to contact Amanda for the contact to check if they will give us the fundraiser deal for the Kindergarten/grade 1 orientation night. Potentially look at doing the pizza fundraiser over Spring Break. Charlene to connect with Tannis Irwin at Dominos t.irwin@dpz.ca
- Popcorn – Meghan mentioned potentially have a popcorn fundraiser in the spring. To be re-visited in the future.

Hot Lunch: Meghan gave report on progress. They looked into a variety of options. Munch a Lunch has a \$300 annual fee to participate. Healthy Hunger appears to be the best option at this time. Meghan created an account with Health Hunger. Would like to plan it for before the Christmas break if possible – Meghan to call Amy on Thursday, November 24 for a list of all the teachers. Will provide a hard copy order form for those families who need.

- How many people do we need to distribute the lunches? 4-5 depending on how many orders.
- What days for Hot lunch days – suggestions were a Friday or whenever there is an early dismissal.

School Support resources: discussed the different ways the parent committee supports the school.

Purposeful Nights:

Schools to teach strategies by families (i.e. Zones of Regulation, supporting French language in the home, Multiage presentation) – PAC to support by providing babysitting, other activities for children, snacks

Charlene to motion to pay babysitters \$300 (\$25/babysitter – 12 sitters based on previous nights) to support a school presentation on the topic of Zones of Regulation. Megan to second. Motion passed.

Educator Appreciation Committee:

potential ideas:

chili lunch – Charlene will see if Kate would want to organize- willing to organize for March or April

Drinks and snacks - Charlene to set up next week or the week after. Eileen to drop off drinks at Charlene's house.

Upcoming Events

- January 23rd, 2023
- February 27th, 2023
- March 20th, 2023
- April 24th, 2023
- May – no meeting
- June 5th, 2023

Adjournment (*1 min*) 8:22 pm

Next meeting: January 23rd, 2023 @ 6:30 PM in École Varennes library