

2019-2010 Vincent Massey School Council meeting – January 22, 2020

Attendance: Ginette Thibeault, Kelly Haslam, Allison Klus-Palermo, Christine Dalglish, Heather Munro, Caitlin Anstee, Jaclyn Scholz, Charmaine Johnson-Mentlak, Anne-Marie Thompson, Christine Moffatt, Sam Kuzak, Chrystal Beckett, Kate Connolly

1. Meeting was called to order
2. Minutes from November meeting were approved and seconded (Kate, Charmaine)
3. Agenda for October 16th meeting was approved and seconded (names were not recorded)
4. **Teacher Updates:** No updates as the teachers are unable to attend the meetings at this time due to strike actions
5. **Principal and Vice-Principal** - Ginette and Kelly

Update by new Principal Ginette Thibeault

- Administration is in hiring mode right now – there are shortages in some groups of teachers. Seniority based hiring now means internal applications are chosen first; this causing movement of teachers to other schools for promotional opportunities
- Question (Sam) what levels are we hiring? 2 EA's so far but more staffing actions are in progress.
- Shared about "Canadian Parents for Education", a good group to advocate for parents with the education cut backs
- Kindergarten night well attended
- Planning for next school year has started. There will be no transfers for students outside of boundaries because VM is at capacity in our catchment. Kids already at the school are allowed to stay but no new student transfers will be accepted. Projected to be 700-725 students for the next 5 years
- Update on Labour Relations: Supervision of students is well managed. Field trips are cancelled in 2 week intervals.
- Report Card information has now been sent home.
- Snow Removal: they have reviewed the plan; Norman said the hills out back will be taken care off
- New school sign out front - we are in the queue to get a new sign
- LED Changeable signs - communities complain as it is too bright so they are getting reviewed.
- Student Voices Survey - our numbers were really low so some of the intermediate students were allowed to work on it on Friday. Some classes didn't get them done but with the ones we added it should be enough.
- Parent Comment - Raised Beds in Kindergarten - parents wants to head it up. Will be addressed in the agenda later.

2. Treasurer Updates

- Heather asked for \$ 65.55 to purchase 100 cheques - Approved by Kerri and Christine

3. Kinder Project - Charmaine

- Garden Committee has asked for \$300 to add some shrubs to the Kinder yard. Algonquin College student to help out with plan perhaps. Some discussion about if we can afford it. Kate and Christine approved - motion passed.

- Large planting box - Janet has wanted to take on the planter boxes. Vegetables perhaps.
- Compost from the school perhaps - part of the learning process
- Susan King - Kinder Teacher - to see how they can contribute

4. Movie Night

- smaller turnout than expected at Dec. Christmas movie night
- Feb.21 double feature movie night:
 - Older Kid Movie - Maleficent - in smaller Gym
 - 5 and below - Playmobile movie - in the larger Gym
- Parents must attend - all the kids must have a parent, even older students.
- Extra volunteers are needed to have the two gyms and concessions (moved to outside in the hallway)
- Ginette posed the idea to have a social for the parents for the older kids - but maybe at another night.

5. Traffic update

- Photo radar has not been installed yet.
- Galen is trying to organize a multi-school meeting with the other area schools. Cloutier is away at this time so they haven't yet organized that.
- Reviews for crossing guards are good right now.
- 1 school bus has been added so we now have 7 school buses
- Question (Christine) For Kiss and Ride, what is the rule after the morning bell? Perhaps a monitor could be there for late kids? Kelly responded that after the bell, parents need to park and bring their child in.
- Question: Any updates on the bus loop in front of the school? Ginette will look into it.

5. Library Project

- Library committee met recently. There is \$1600 to Elliot to purchase books
- Question: What books will be purchased? Library Tech. Elliot has done a full inventory but he does not have enough time to catalogue and purchase more books.
- A family donated \$1000 for a dedicated MakerSpace for the library. Tammy is working with Ginette, Sam and the Donor to see if it can get done. Also consulting a Board science tech
- Other costs (All funds approved at this time)
 - \$1100 to buy Bean Bag chairs - Mary has the order to ready to go.
 - \$200 to buy labels and print them to identify the books we have donated or others have donated
 - \$500 Art ideas: wraps for the heating system; window decorations; Dewey decimal signs
 - \$600 for furniture
- Question: Can we apply for the Indigo Love of Reading Grant again? Tammy can't do it and it is due February 14th. Does someone else want to do it? Can a teacher assist? Do we have the capacity? Sam is debating taking this on.
- Question (Charmaine) Do we know of any other grants at this time? No not at this time.

6. Fundraisers

- Dance-a-thon - We are still allowed to have the dance during school hours despite strike actions. However teachers cannot deal with the money and handing out the forms. Motion to move this to March.

- Do Nothing Campaign – Post reminder daily in Facebook group. Form should include examples but not the detailed wish list. Take out the iTunes cards.

7. Other business

- Wish List- do we want to approve any of the wish list items tonight? Do we split it evenly for each division? \$400 for each division was approved.
- Also approved was \$100 for Book Exchange purchases.

8. Meeting adjourned.