Castlefrank Elementary School

School Council Meeting

Tuesday April 30, 2013

Attendance: Nilay Ertemur-Bhatti, Ron Henry, Carmen Bubacher, Carol Mothersill, Wendy Hyde, Josh Kemp, Kim D'Angelo, Dorothy Forsyth, Shelley Marriner, Stephanie Nasmith  
  
Meeting called to order at 7:03pm  
  
Approval of minutes by Nilay Ertemur and Shelly Merriner  
Approval of agenda (remove OCASC as Josh was unable to attend the last meeting) by Dorothy Forsyth and Kim D’Angelo

**Chair report** (Carol Mothersill, Carmen Brubacher)  
**Calendar of Events**  
Yesterday the CLIK kids were lucky enough to attend WE day. This was the first of its kind in Ottawa and a huge success.  
Thursday - grade 1-8 field trip to the NAC - Ventures in Canada's north  
Next week, is education week. (Details about the 10th ... See Ron's notes)  
The Earl of March Global Awareness Group is coming in to speak to our grade 7 and 8s and raise local awareness.  
Talent show, Moved from May 31 to May 30  
Grade 8 trip is a go!  
  
**Year end celebrations**  
Plans for year end celebrations at Castlefrank include the leaving celebration picnic and bush planting, fun days (the idea is to pull the kids outside for various activities, using the older grades to organize activities and run them) and grade 8 grad (note - will be looking for grade 7 parents to help out with cake and beverages). For the past few years the lunch has been catered by Mucho Barrito, with a dance two follow. Note that the money given by council goes to food, plates, decorations, awards and such. More info to come at our next meeting.  
  
The Yearbook...(Shelly). It is very much in the works...classes, clubs, and all school photos have recently been taken. In the works right now are the principals message and grade 8 message.  
It is mentioned that the form needs to be sent out soon so we know who wants to order yearbooks. The transition committee is discussing options for a "deal" if you get a tshirt and a yearbook.  
  
CES, KES Festival...It is mentioned that a flyer was sent out to all students a few weeks ago. Food will be served starting at 430 and everything aside from food will be FREE! Watch for the next flyer to be sent home with additional details, we are looking for volunteers! The more the merrier, teachers are very much encouraged to come with their families as well as volunteer.  
  
Teacher appreciation... In the past, parents have brought in food for a pot luck. Carmen suggests calling it something different this year in order to acknowledge that several teachers are leaving this year. Is there a way to say a more formal "thank you"? It is suggested that perhaps we can do something for the PA day on June 7th, and a burnch is decided on. We will use sign up genius to put a call out for certain menu items. All school staff will receive a gift (aprox 30 staff) and a meal, with an opportunity to sit down with their collegues and take a break from report cards. Note: gluten free options. Kerrig coffee.   
  
  
**Principals report** (Ron Henry)  
At board level there is no further word on what may or may not be done in terms of construction within our school and the moving of supplies, but it is known that much of the moving will be done in the summer. Ron wants the lockers GONE!  
  
**Big exitus day**! May 10. All of our grade 3-7 students are going to KES for a chunk of the day, and we are having the incoming students from KES and Glen Cairn at 11am for a day of activities here. All of our remaining students will get together in the gym, Ron will say a few words, students will be paired up and encouraged to make new friends. The grade 8s will help give tours for incoming students. Lunch will happen with everyone together, and the incoming classes will get to experience our lunch and recess life.  
  
Tomorrow the first vacancy list comes out for **teaching positions**. 8-9 of our teachers will be reapplying for positions. There are 6 positions that need to be filled here next week. 5 primary, 1 kindergarten.  
The next council meeting should reveal staff for next year.  
  
**Grade 8 trip** - the grant Ron applied for was awarded! The trip originally cost $240/pp....it will now cost $40!! The money that was previously raised by the grade 8s will be given to the grade 7s for their sports day at Carleton University.  
  
Ron revised a **school profile** in September which includes proposals for the year ahead. It has finally be released by the board and is available in the office should anyone be interested in a copy.  
  
**Council Money Update** - the kindergarten money went to Rock the Arts, which came into the school last week. The remainder of the money will be spent to bring in Scientists in the Schools.  
The primary money will go to a Zumba presentation, and Reptile’s Rock, and again they will be taking part in Scientists in the Schools.  
Junior money is again subsidizing Scientists in the Schools, and there is more to come.  
Intermediates, the art program is still be decided on, the students also attended a presentation by a holocaust survivor at Bridlewood.  
The big trip for the whole school will happen this Thursday at the NAC.

Mr Henry's vision for Castlefrank **next year** as a primary school is to have more parent involvement. Another local school brought forward the idea of having a parent room, a break room for parents when they come in to volunteer. He really wants this to be a welcoming place. Also, he would like to see school council take on more advisory roles within the school. This was originally the reason school councils began. He would like to see us step up to this undertaking, and have council members on his committees as well.

He is also "welcoming" money to move to iPads for the students rather than computers. The net books would be moved into the grade 3 class for typing skills. His budget should allow him to purchase 20, enough for one class, at the end of this year. He will be doing a formal presentation for all teachers, to get a feel for how they feel about it. There are pilot projects happening at various schools at this time. (The reason he leans toward iPads is only because the board has taken on iPads. However he is open to other options.) Teachers would have to be given training, and the wifi signal, or lack of, is brought up as an issue.  
Shelly asks if this is just for computer time. Ron explains that there could potentially be a rolling computer lab, or there could be a few in every class.   
The computer lab situation currently in place doesn't seem to work. This would be a better technology and time saving strategy.  
  
  
**Teachers report** (Wendy Hyde)  
This half of the year has been so much busier than the earlier months!   
**April** held the following activities: kindergarten Rock the Arts program. Special thanks to Carol Mothersill for organizing.  
Several classes visited KES book fair.  
Clik vow of silence went very well.  
The grade two and three students heard about upper Canada and early settlements.  
The holocaust survivor talk mentioned above.  
Pie the teacher was on the 26th.  
On the 29th clik went to WE day for free the children. All the kids were very excited about it.  
**May** - trip to the NAC  
On the 6th, jump rope for heart kick off and music Monday, all the students in Canada are supposed to collect and sing this song by Chris Hadfield.  
The 6th and 9th, healthy eating habits presentation for the JK and SK students by public health nurse.  
May 17th junior track and field (23rd rain date)  
May 24th jump rope for heart  
On May 30th the school talent show  
31st grade 7 trip to Carleton University  
  
There is a grade 7 soccer team and a basketball team in the works.  
Junior boys recently attended a Borden ball tournament  
  
**June** will bring the grade 8 trip! And kindergarten fun day, the teachers are all very thankful for these to help the prepare for the movement.  
  
Grade 3s are going to upper Canada village. The date is to be determined.  
  
  
**Treasures report** (Josh Kemp)  
This is an estimate : In reguards to the end of year finances, it looks as though we are breaking even (although we hoped to run a deficit). With the movie night added, we should have more in surplus than originally thought.  
  
  
**Fundraising** (Carol Mothersill)  
Movie night was the biggest ever! We ran out of food. We received much feedback that the chips and candy were a great alternative to popcorn because it was a lot cleaner.  
  
  
**Communication corner** (Nilay Ertemur)  
Note that Caroline has stepped down and we wish her all the best in what comes.  
Subscription numbers went up after stickers were sent home. Nilay is posting in a way that people get notifications when something is added.  
Notebooks will be set up at upcoming functions to encourage people to sign up.  
  
  
**Spirit committee** (Dorothy Forsyth)  
Recently, the school celebrated international day, they did doors, and most participated. No more spirit days, as we have noticed that there is so much going on that teachers are already swamped. Now the focus will be put on the fun days.  
Ideas....movie days, outdoor activities, scavenger hunt. Details to come.  
  
  
  
**Adjournment**...8:55  
  
**Next meeting, May 28th, Will be the last for the year.**