

Dr. Elliott Parent Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 7pm

Dr. Elliott Home Ec Room

Attendance: Joan Boles, Jody Toews, Deanna Bailey, Cheyenne Stapley, Cathy Price, Malia Welton, Dianna Gerritsen, Jennifer Aoki, Nelson Bieber, Matt Price

Student presentation: Ian Toews, Alysha Wood

1) Meeting Called to Order – Dianna Gerritsen at 7pm

2) Additions to and Acceptance of Agenda

- a. Dianna clarified that the sports concession being organized by Jen and Cheyenne is not an addition to the breakfast program/free food for the students, but run more like a fundraiser

3) Welcome and Introductions

- a. Jr High Students presentation - Ian Toews and Alysha Wood gave an update about several things happening in Jr High
 - Dance was fun and well organized, Mrs. Ganes included fun activities for everyone. Awards for best costume encouraged people to dress up and boosted competition
 - Sports – Volleyball is wrapping up with zones on the weekend, basketball starts right away
 - Option classes are going well. One of the classes is called Me-ology – Mrs. Cameron facilitates learning about the students' own family history, career exploration, and learning about skills for the future
 - Suggestions for improvements/fundraiser ideas: Jr High girls would like to paint the bathrooms and changerooms, potential to incorporate the Stars sports theme. Benches would be a nice addition to the basketball court area. Joan mentioned that in thinking about benches we do have to be careful about placement, due to that area being a fire lane for the school.

- b. Dianna reviewed the new Executive board positions for the year
 - President – Dianna Gerritsen
 - Vice President – Jennifer Aoki
 - Treasurer – Stephanie MacNeil
 - Secretary – Malia Welton

4) Acceptance of October 11th, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Jody Toews, seconded by Matt Price, carried.

5) Principal's Report – Joan Boles

- Thanks to Parent Council for read-a-thon
- Tri-campus Parent Council met in October via zoom
- Jr High Student Council planned a Spirit Week leading up to Halloween
- Jr. High kids had a good time at the dance, a few students performed musical numbers
- Golden Hills Collab day in Three Hills recently, a great opportunity to bring staff together
- Elementary moving to Power school for report cards
- Elementary students went to Linden Lodge for a costume parade and then had a pumpkin hunt
- Class market in Grade 5-6 class on Oct 31
- Jr High volleyball teams had a great season and zones are coming up. Thank you to all coaches, bus drivers, parents supporting students with their sports
- Remembrance Day ceremony Nov 9, 10:45am at Alliance Church. Mrs. Cameron organized, everyone welcome to attend
- Book Fair happening Nov 13-17
- K-9 report cards going home Nov 13
- PT interviews in person on Nov 16, link to the sign up to be sent out Nov 9
- Hired a new Jr High teacher, Tracy Wilson - comes with Jr High experience to alleviate some really large Grade 9 classes, dividing class into 2 groups. Students will stay with their same core teachers. Staff will work out some new schedules for some of the classes.
- Chris Smeltzer will join in all the K-9 gym times to do karate Dec 18-21
- New Jr High schedule starts Nov 13, copies of new schedule to be sent home
- No school Nov 10 and Dec 8
- Nov 24 lieu day for interviews, no staff or students
- Dec 15 Christmas concert 7pm Alliance church

6) Teacher's Reports

- a. Teacher Report submitted by Chantelle Bieber, read by Dianna
 - Grade 1-2 class received new science books called "Gumboot Kids" with a focus on nature and hands-on activities. LA – kids are spelling words with pebbles, blocks, pipe cleaners, and popsicle sticks.
 - Grade 3-4 class recently completed their dinosaur museum research project. Field trip to Tyrrell museum Dec 1. Growing radish, carrot, and onion seeds as part of science exploration.

- Oct 31 the elementary did a pumpkin scavenger hunt on the playground, and a costume parade at Linden Lodge. Looking for more ways to partner with the Lodge.
- Grade 5-6 class had a very successful class market, great to see all the interesting vendors and the creativity and enthusiasm.
- Preparations for the Christmas concert coming up

b. Teacher's Report - Cathy Price – overview of the Jr High Options classes

- Grade 7 art class working on different pieces that will be up for Remembrance Day
- CTF (Career and Technology Foundations) working on design challenges – shoe design project, kaleidoscopes, finishing up Claymation
- History of Rock and Roll – communications focus working on language skills, building a baseline resume, making an audition tape with WeVideo
- Career Exploration - responding to a challenge effectively, introducing them to a lot of career opportunities and building employable skills. About 42 students will need off-campus interviews, several students would benefit from being interviewed in Spanish. Jen Aoki mentioned she could talk to her Spanish teacher about that possibility.
- Math Challenges –Ian Bogel teaches practical real-world applications for math
- Teachers have got their reviews done and are working toward assessments

7) Treasurer's Report

- Balance General PAC Account: 5097.10
 - Monies in
 - 1,673.92 from Read-a-thon e-transfers, cash yet to be added
 - Monies out
 - 76.21 for Hot Dog lunch
 - 420.00 for Birthday Book program (200 books for Pre-K to Grade 7, other items to be added)
 - Monies promised
 - \$1000 to Jr. High Courtyard
 - \$500 to Chris Smeltzer for Karate
 - \$80 currently left for Birthday Book program (after \$420 spent)
 - Read-a-thon funds to literacy programming
- Breakfast Program Account: 4291.23
 - Monies in
 - 1000.00 (Two \$500 donations from businesses)
 - Monies out
 - 1161.45 for food purchases

8) Breakfast Program Report – Deanna Bailey

- Cost has increased for food, trying to source new donors

-Working on forming more of a committee to get the word out and help the program to be more seen in the community.

-Considering an option of a hybrid program to have a snack basket as well as more of a real breakfast with the community aspect

-Looking for help and ideas for fundraisers

Suggestions/possibilities raised:

-highlighting the program on social media to get the word out

-accepting donations of food items

-setting up an account at the bottle depot and getting the word out on that

9) Treasurer's Signature Motion

Motion to remove Jody Toews from signing authority list for our Dr. Elliott General and Breakfast Program bank accounts and to add Jennifer Aoki (as vice president).

Motion by Deanna Bailey, seconded by Matt Price, carried.

10) Old Business

a. Read-a-thon Fundraiser update

-Prizes: Book fair vouchers - \$5 for each top reader and top fundraiser per classroom, as well as a special event such as a pizza party or donut party.

-Motion to create gift certificates and purchase prizes in the amount of about \$130.

Motion by Jen Aoki, seconded by Cheyenne Stapley, carried.

b. Update on Wilson Ball courts and basketball hoop

-Matt Price looked into pricing and could get turf for \$4.80/sq ft. We need about 319 sq ft.

-Joan had a follow-up discussion with school teachers and staff and in light of cost, they were happy to just have the second court on the grass for now and just not use it on muddy days.

-Conclusion was made to proceed with Wilson ball court on the grass.

-One Wilson ball court scheduled to be put up on Monday, waiting on supplies for second one

-Basketball court will be done in the spring as it is too cold now.

-Picnic tables/benches added near the school generally would need to be chained down, and can't be blocking the fire lane. Possibly in the grassy area in the back of the gym.

c. Food for sport events update – Jen and Cheyenne

-Starting with first home basketball games

-sourcing items from Costco, start with lower inventory and see how it goes

-Looking into meals option from Sunterra

-Will work around basketball schedule, run by student volunteers

-Wondering where they can store dry goods and drinks, Joan said they will do some thinking

-Concession intended to promote community and provide a helpful service for students and families/friends

-Motion to allocate \$200 to get sports concession started. Motion by Matt Price, seconded by Malia Welton, carried.

- d. Birthday book program for Elementary & Jr. High - status update
 - \$80 left for this project until we make another motion
 - Other ideas for Jr. High prizes – swim passes to Acme pool, gear such as Stars bracelets, skate sharpening at Kneehill Auto Sales. Jen will look into options.
 - Questions about how to include all approx. 199 students – students whose birthdays have passed and whose birthdays are in the summer will also receive books/prizes. There are 17 kids from Carbon, some discussion about how to include them and how their PAC might contribute.
 - In response to a question, Joan explained more about how funding for Carbon students works: Funding for students goes to the primary school. Class fees for options are paid by Carbon for supplies to our school. Carbon PAC contributes funds and equipment to the shop program here. We were able to hire another Jr High teacher as Golden Hills Division saw the need with the very large class numbers (our Linden students combined with having Carbon students come in afternoons). There are hopes that having the Carbon kids come here helps them integrate into the Tri-campus community, so that when they get to high school they feel like Acme is their high school and they feel part of the student community.

- e. Review Highlights of Tri-campus meeting.
 - Ryan Hatch Carbon's Principal report – including Jr. High Survival team building day
 - Joan Boles Principal's Report – included Acme's Career Fair and Post-secondary Fair, and the High School Europe trip
 - Jim Northcott - new school meeting went well, bus drivers needed, would love to volunteer in the school
 - Carbon PAC - contributing funding to their preschool, agendas, shop program at Dr. Elliott (\$2000 above class fees, equipment from their shop to support our work here)
 - Acme PAC – activities: Food Drive, Bake Sale, Dance, Turkey Olympics

11) New Business

- a. Big Project/Fundraiser Discussion
 - Project Ideas (mentioned at previous meetings were things like projector, sound system):

-Many school spaces could use updates and painting to make them more student-friendly (e.g. boot room is very industrial but kids hang out there a lot, would be great to make that more welcoming)

-Display cabinets/more places to display bulkier student projects

-Creating some breakout areas for gathering with seating, display cabinets

-Joan talked about a Facilities Committee that was started this year to talk about some of these improvements – painting the lockers, bathrooms, change rooms is a priority. School Facilities can look at funding the painting, Joan has a ticket in with them and hoping to get that going soon.

Fundraiser Ideas:

-Discussion about a booster club and how to get some bigger money-making fundraisers like raffles going. Status of the Linden Parent Association is unclear, this is something that could be asked about at a registries office. Starting a new association/society is an option if necessary but there can only be one association connected with the school. The AGLC license is needed to do raffles, casinos, etc. and that can be a bit more of a process to obtain, but it provides an opportunity to raise much larger amounts. There was interest in pursuing this licensing further.

-Successful past Jr High fundraisers have involved food, fun competition, and a quick deadline.

-Jr. High students keep track of their volunteer hours and are awarded for them, so a fundraiser where they could contribute as volunteers could be motivating

-Highway clean-up was suggested as a fundraising possibility, Dianna will look into this.

12) Meeting Adjournment – 8:32pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 13th @ 7pm

Next Tri-Campus: Monday, February 26th @ 7pm in Acme