

Dr. Elliott Parent Advisory Minutes
Wednesday, Dec 6, 2023 at 7pm
Dr. Elliott Home Ec Room

Attendance: Joan Boles, Dianna Gerritsen, Jennifer Aoki, Malia Welton, Cheyenne Stapley, Nelson Bieber, Chantelle Bieber

1. Call to Order

Dianna called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

2. Welcome and Introductions

3. Additions to and Acceptance of Agenda

Motion to accept the agenda

Moved by Dianna Gerritsen, seconded by Jen Aoki, carried.

4. Acceptance of November 13th, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Motion to accept last meeting's minutes

Moved by Cheyenne Stapley, seconded by Nelson Bieber, carried.

5. Principal's Report - Joan Boles

- Remembrance Day ceremony was Nov 9 at Alliance Church, went well
- Book fair was a great success, thanks to Cheyenne and all volunteers
- Parent-Teacher interviews happened on Nov 16, lots of parents came out
- Basketball in full swing
- Grade 2-3 and Grade 3-4 took a field trip to the Royal Tyrrell Museum on Dec 1
- All 3 Tri-campus schools took part in Alumni volleyball tournament Dec 1-2
- Christmas concert will be Friday, Dec 15 at Alliance Church 7pm. Next week the kids will go down several times to the Alliance Church to practice.
- Jr. High Council headed up by Tracy Wilson is planning a fun Countdown to Christmas theme week for Dec 18-22.
- Leanne Price has organized a trip to the Linden Lodge to sing Christmas concert songs on the morning of Dec 20
- Chris Smeltzer is coming that week before Christmas to do karate during normal gym times.
- Dec 23-Jan 7 Christmas holidays

6. Teacher's Report - Chantelle Bieber

- Field trip to Drumheller a recent highlight for Grade 2-3 and Grade 3-4 classes, participated in fun

activities such as fossil casting and building a raptor leg to use in a relay race

-Monthly connection times with the Linden Lodge continuing, Christmas concert songs being performed on Dec 20 along with letter writing, etc.

-Gifts for Grandparents - fundraiser today where kids brought a toonie

-Jr High teachers are running a "bad caroling" fundraiser on Dec 20

-Grade 5-6 class is really focusing on practicing for the Christmas concert right now

-Grade 3-4 class doing a Christmas market Dec 22 as part of their financial literacy

-Grade 5-6 doing a potluck and Secret Santa to build community and promote positive relationships

7. Treasurer's report - read by Dianna

General PAC Account

Money In: \$2,670

Money Out: \$95.95 and \$64

Balance: 7,607.15

Breakfast Program Account

Money In: \$750 (donation from the Elks)

Balance: \$5041.23 account

Read-a-thon raised \$4,403.92 which will be allocated toward literacy.

8. Breakfast Program Report

-Donation was received from the Elks

-Currently continuing with previous plans as mentioned in the last meeting

9. Old business

a. Read-a-thon fundraiser update - Dianna

-Handed out \$5 gift certificates for top readers and top fundraisers at an assembly Nov 13

-Also put on an ice cream celebration for the winners later that week, Dianna read to them during their lunch and handed out treats

b. Food for sport events update - Jen & Cheyenne

-Grade 5-6s were excited to volunteer

-First concession time made just under \$100

-Popcorn was most popular, little fridge worked well for drinks

-Wondering how often they should deposit money - there was agreement that once the amount reached a certain number it should be deposited with some kept aside for a float.

-Instagram posts occasionally reminding people about the concession will be posted

Discussions following update:

- How to designate money earned from the concession. General agreement was that it should be used for athletics, and it would be great to have a sign at the concession stating the goal.
- What types of school improvements and updates come from donations and fundraising (bleachers, speakers, screens, etc), and what comes from the school budget.
- Getting signage and branding for our Stars sports logo in place
- Discrepancies between our school and others, that kids are noticing

Decided to take the month for people to think and ask about what would be a good goal for these concession funds and come back to it next meeting.

Motion that when concession funds reach \$500, \$400 will be deposited to the bank account, and \$100 will remain in the float. Moved by Jen Aoki, seconded by Cheyenne Stapley, carried.

c. Birthday program for Elementary & Jr. High Update - Dianna & Jen

- Jen received the Scholastic Book order and was very happy with the quality of books, diverse mixture of fiction and non-fiction
- All of the books have been labeled by PAC for the birthday program and are ready for school to distribute
- Regarding Jr. High birthday prizes, Acme swimming passes were quoted at \$5 per pass which is cost-prohibitive
- Jen proposed that a cost-effective, community-focused idea could be to take all the Jr Highs to Three Hills swimming pool, possibly on Jan 30 when the term changes. Joan said staff were all on board with that idea. It was suggested that a birthday treat could be provided as well (while considering allergies)
- Joan updated that Joan Holmes made a list of all the birthdays in the summer and they have a system for catching up the birthdays that have passed. Started giving out books beginning of December, the kids are excited.

MOTION: Allocate \$600 towards a Jr. High activity afternoon sponsored by Parent Council to cover bussing and Three Hills pool rental for January 30 or an alternative date. Moved by Jen Aoki, seconded by Nelson Bieber, carried.

-Jen will call the pool and talk to Joan about bussing.

-Dianna suggested we consider buying more birthday books so we can keep the supply up, as more kids start choosing books.

MOTION: Purchase four more sets of books to keep our birthday books in good supply. Moved by Cheyenne Stapley, seconded by Jen Aoki, carried.

-Jen will get these books ordered after receiving a cheque

d. Project Discussion - update

i. Project - Space improvements

Joan gave an update on what school maintenance has been working on:

- Schools are always working to improve and maintain space for students. Lots of repairs done to our walls, playground fences, touch-up and repairs throughout the school
- Most recently Maintenance has been working on fixing the wiring for some of our heating updates that weren't working properly
- Teacher committee has come together for school improvement. One of the first things identified was matching lockers for school continuity. Painting the elementary lockers turned out to be quite a big project as they are no longer being manufactured by the same company and would need to be taken apart to paint the doors, so that project is put on hold for now.
- Joan has asked Maintenance about painting (specifically elementary washrooms, and changerooms) and a timeline for that, Maintenance has said they will talk about it in the new year

Discussion/questions:

- Building needing improvements and our limitations with space and breakout rooms, etc.
 - Possibility of writing grants (Cheyenne may look into this)
 - Discussed the school budget - 96-97% goes to school staff, and the rest is service & supplies which needs to be carefully prioritized
 - Talked about the types of things a parent council might contribute to versus what is a school budget responsibility. Joan gave some examples of what parent council have contributed to in the past or other schools: classroom libraries, technologies, instruments, special projects.
 - For painting, maintenance will come in and support with labor, and the school buys the paint
- A broken swing on the playground was mentioned, Joan will check on that and make sure a ticket is in

For next meeting, parent council to think about a capital project and the possibility of approaching community partners, come back with ideas.

ii. Fundraiser Ideas

a. Highway Clean-up

Dianna looked into the Highway Clean-up project.

- Ages 9 and up can participate
- Highway sections can be requested based on availability
- 1 adult supervisor per 2 kids under 14, or per 5 kids age 14 and up
- Safety training video is required for all participants; supplies are provided.
- They pay \$100 per kilometer.

Something to consider for the next meeting but we would need a large supply of parent volunteers.

b. LPA or new organization

-Joan Holmes communicated that they are filing a revival for the Linden Parent Association. Jen is hoping that we can start moving with this in the new year. Jen will try to chat with Joan more soon. Ultimately what we are hoping is that when we get this in place this other group will be more involved in fundraising aspects and the parent council will move to more of an advisory role.

10. New Business

a. Classroom Libraries

- Jen proposed that for Christmas we gift each classroom a classroom library from Scholastic from our Read-a-thon funds.

Motion that PAC purchase 6 new classroom library book sets for our K-9 classrooms.

Moved by Chantelle Bieber, seconded by Cheyenne Stapley, carried.

b. Christmas Reading/Reading Club

-Discussed the possibility of starting a reading club once a week during lunch breaks. This could be a good way for parents to be involved and come into the library to read with kids. Consensus was that a reading club would be a good idea if we can get it going. Assess the volunteer pool and come back with some more detailed ideas in the new year.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, January 10th @ 7pm

Next Tri-Campus

Monday, February 26th @ 7pm in Acme