

Dundas School Parent Council Meeting – June 13, 2017

Attendees:

Parent Council – Sarah Johnson, Kelly Power, Hongmei

Staff: Georgia Chatzis, Laureen Gale

Parents: Jason, Michelle, Anne, Laura, Liam, Anna, Jennifer, Stephanie, Tracy, Erica, Adele, Kiersten, Laura, James

Agenda Item & Discussion	Questions/ Decisions / Action Taken	Person(s) Responsible
<p>See appendix A for Principals Report (provided to Secretary as a separate document to be included)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Question re: cooling? Answer: Most schools built before a certain date don't have AC. All classes have a fan.</li> <li>- Question re: new gym to support expanded growth. Answer: Every class will get a gym class with Ms. Landry. We used to have to share the gym with first nations so although our population is growing we don't have to share the gym anymore). No impact to gym.</li> <li>- Question re: lunch room size with expansion of the school? Answer: Ms. Hardills room can be used as a common area that can be used for lunch etc. possibly having juniors have their lunch there). Currently JK/SK eat in classroom.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Georgia</b> can ask about the possibility of Air conditioning.</li> <li>- With regards to the science learning centre in Appendix A: <b>Liam</b> offered to help implement the science learning centre and transition. <b>Georgia</b> to connect Liam with Michael Waldman.</li> <li>- Georgia will share the</li> </ul>

	<p>Primary eat in the gym at 11:30 and then swap with Juniors at 12pm.</p>	<p>time of the talent show with the parent council so <b>Parent Council</b> can include it in the Dundas Digest</p>
<p><b>Financials Update – Hongmei (Treasurer)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- See Appendix B below for budget details</li> <li>- \$3k+ raised in raffle money – needs to be used for school supplies. Was planning on using it for a smartboard but now the school board no longer supports smart boards. Georgia suggest getting a flat screen we can link to apple TV which can be used for Junior grades.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Question: How would an Apple TV be used for education? Answer: Can be used for Apps, Skype etc.</li> <li>- Michael is the STEM and technology consultant – review in the summer and present and review with the council next year to discuss if it’s the best use of funds raised</li> <li>- Trying to figure out how can we link technology into those classrooms especially given there is access to plugs and wifi.</li> <li>- Do we have google chrome books? Yes some. We also have Elmo’s.– will do an inventory of technology and share in September so we know what is needed for</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Georgia and Michael Waldman</b> can share their ideas on how an Apple TV could be used in the classroom at September parent council meeting</li> <li>- <b>Parent Council</b> will engage parent community to discuss and recommend best use of dollars raised</li> <li>- <b>Georgia and Michael Waldman</b> to provide an</li> </ul>

	technology (Michael can come to the meeting)	inventory of schools technology so we can see what the needs are
<p><b>Garden Update – Laura Khoo</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Laura will be taking a 1 year break</li> <li>- Grant from Evergreen - \$3500. Slated to buy new planters (currently we have 6). On hold because of the master grounds restructure. We bought the planters that were currently on our grounds from First Nations. Greenhouse and canoe will be taken by First Nations.</li> <li>- Laura talking with Elin – consider getting another herb bed and a small shed to lock up garden items</li> <li>- Watering plan for the summer – circulated a document on what the plants are and how to keep care of them. This document will go home in backpacks. Encourage kids to get involved with families to water and harvest the garden.</li> <li>- Next Year – need to discuss if we have Elin continue as our garden educator (she is with us every second Tuesday and it worked out really well this year) – Grant money can’t pay for educator. \$5500 to have her here for the whole year every second Tuesday (it was split 50/50 with PC budget and school budget). Will need to figure out next years plan. School budget is decided Sept / Oct but Elin needs to know beforehand so she can set her schedule. Likely that the school can do half again but not the full amount.</li> <li>- Georgia has connected with Louisa (head of the kitchen) to connect gardening and the food the kids eat</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	<p>Suggest that the school pays 50% for her for the first half of the year which would allow her to start with DSPS and also allow the parent community to have an informed discussion about if the fundraising dollars should / can go towards the other 50% of her educator costs. (agreed that we can’t make that decision now given turnover with PC, it not being on the agenda so not giving all parents opportunity to be involved in the discussion).</p> <p>Laura suggested flower bulb fundraiser as a way to help support Elin’s pay</p>	<p><b>Parent Council</b> to add it to the first meeting agenda in September</p> <p>Dundas Parent Council to review at first meeting next year</p>
<p><b>Fun Fair Debrief – Sarah Johnson</b></p> <p>Adele – Food Lead</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AMAZING – used the heating unit so it</li> </ul>		

<p>was all warm and ready to go (samosas, lasagnes etc)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ran out of food at 2pm / Early – more food next year if it's nice weather.</li> <li>- Hard to get donations because same date as many other school fun fairs</li> <li>- Next year likely will go back to June but will look at the Ramadan</li> <li>- Teacher involvement was low – how can we encourage when we raise money for them and the school?</li> <li>- Kiersten – Volunteers Lead</li> <li>- Challenging to get the amount of volunteers we needed (Parents had a lot of conflicts)</li> <li>- TCAC didn't volunteers</li> <li>- Less high school volunteers</li> </ul> <p>Games</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Suggest getting a stamp for participation as well as winning</li> <li>- Water from dunk tank was getting all around the games area especially the cake walk and make it – likely not in use next year. Do another sponge toss – very popular.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Can make it more contained to help volunteers man more games at a time and make it feel more busy</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Concert Inclusiveness – Jason</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spring / Winter – some classes do one and some classes do the other</li> <li>- Laureen comments:</li> <li>- Incredibly important for parents to see their kids on stage. Allows kids to shine</li> <li>- Staff time consuming to prepare . Teachers don'ts have to do a concert because it's extra curricular. At this school we are lucky that the teachers agree to do 1 of the 2 concerts. Also there isn't enough space in the gym to house everyone. On so many levels it makes sense to have more than 1 – it's inclusive bc it allows everyone to get to participate.</li> <li>- We ask the teachers to sign up for one at the beginning of the year</li> </ul>	<p>More transparency with the process so it's not so confusing. Can include the information at the beginning of the year so parents know what's happening</p> <p>Parent comment – it was done the same way at her former school.</p> <p>For future – better housekeeping. Strollers taking up a lot of space, can we cycle the parents? Ticket the event so we know how many people are coming? Could consider using Queen A or Eastdale auditorium that is larger.</p> <p>Volunteers for stroller valets</p>	<p><b>Georgia</b> to include in a Principals letter at the beginning of the year</p>

	and ushers	
<p><b>Elections / Nominations</b>  Sarah Johnson – Co-Chair  Vacant – Co-Chair*  Kelly Power – Secretary / Erika Reid Co-Secretary  Vacant – Treasurer*  * will do another election in September at first Parent Council meeting</p> <p>Other volunteer leads:  Laura – newsletter lead  Jennifer – helping with bake sales – Adele can support and transition</p> <p>Would like to discuss how we can get classroom reps going again.  Would like to have people represent the different communities within the school.</p>		

**Appendix A – Principals Report**

Principal report for June 13, 2017

Facilities update- Architectural plans from TDSB Thomas Schlossin were shown to me and internal renovations will be done to room 132 and 134 over the summer. The rooms will have their own washrooms and cubby storage for students. TDSB is in the process of putting a tender out to get bids to award to a contractor. Architectural drawings are finished.

Playground update –tender has gone out to get bids to complete the revitalization project for approx.. \$215 000 along with the DPC playground structure

- hope to get the work started over the summer according to Richard Christie who I met on June 5 at 2pm.
- also received a donation for \$10170 from MLSE via Melissa Armstrong and which will go towards the basketball nets on the tennis courts and current location of basketball nets on Queen Alexandra side
- Kim Kirkley and I met and Native Child will put in a proposal to purchase two benches for our kindergarten children

Our gym was painted – it took about one week – cost was approx \$10 000.

Moving to our heating being replaced from STEAM to water and this will also take place over the summer. This has been awarded to a contractor already.

We are also in the process of cleaning and preparing four classrooms on the third floor of our heritage building and the kitchen on the first floor to be converted into a STEM inquiry room. These rooms will have our junior classrooms on the third floor.

AED – Automated External Defibrillator- installation TBD

Numbers:

Our kindergarten numbers are at 54 and our French Immersion are at 40. As well our grade four extended French are at 25.

Staff Changes- Loreen Gale has been seconded to TDSB to be a Health and Safety Inspector and Janet Campbell who was 0.5 surplus won a position during our rounds earlier in the month and will be going to William Burgess to teach grade 4/5

In the process of hiring for our FI grade 1 program.

Sports and Extra Curricular

- Ultimate Frisbee made it to semi-finals this year for the first time
- Track and Field – sent about 30 students from grade 4 and 5 to Birchmount CI
- Silver Birch – 15 students go in May 2017 to Harbourfront to vote for their favourite book and to meet authors
- Concerned Kids-non profit org. do a puppet show on bullying and integrity
- Soccer girls tournament hosted at Dundas PS
- Soccer boys – games held after school
- Badminton tournament at Chester PS for junior students
- Talent show coming up on Wed. June 28, 2017

Academic

STEM workshop took place in April and again on June 20 to look at how we can use hands on activities to support our students oral language.

Grade 4 and 5 students participated in STEM competition and won at York Mills “Rethink the Box”- built a hydraulic arm

Grade 4 and 5 students also went to UofT engineering to be part of a Coding Conference

Sara Escot- works with Informa Theatre Art group and she worked with our primary teachers (20hours) to integrate self-regulation and drama- prepared a proposal with Sara to do the same thing next with 30 hrs of time allocated to our school

Visit from Wenjack Family and Mike Downie to film Ms. Campbell's grade 5 students in a documentary on social justice – grade 5 students wrote letters expressing sympathy and support for the Truth and Reconciliation changes to integrate Aboriginal peoples culture in curriculum, ECE programs, labour etc....

Speech Arts competition was a great success as judges – John Campey, Miss Toronto(Alice Li), Librarian – Sam- from Queen Salter Library and Kirsten MacDonald –new VP selected the winner Olga H.