18JAN2023 @ 6:30

Attendance. Bruno K, Diana K, Jessica Whitmore, Kyle Salmon, Paul Farrell, Jen Moore, Melissa Sayer, Megan and Nick Hendricks, Quyen Taylor, Stacey Marshall, Helen Lyronis, Jami VanSickle, Natasha Kurji, Ayan R, Sabrina, Terrence Gakman, Nilab, Bob Johnson, later joined by Alice, Katherine, Aylin, Raisa, Aisha, Natasha. (Get full names)

The meeting began with introductions and welcome from Kyle S and land acknowledgement by Jessica W. Kyle S informed the participants that the February meeting was moved to February 23. In attendance were 17 parent representatives plus one parent. Quorum was reached. The minutes from the previous meeting were unanimously approved.

Ms Sayer discussed the school budget, for a total of $87,035. Allocations were explained in detail. Mr Farrell explained that the TDSB expected that the school used most of the budget but a bit could be carried over into the next year. The money for the school sign had been partially taken the year before, and expected to pay the remained after the sign arrived. Teachers were encouraged to take their classes on field trips, but this isn’t mandatory. Other activities were planned, such as coding classes as the school got the CCEL grant again; a maker’s space was also planned and someone will come in for workshops. Quyen T asked about the sports budget and band, Mr Farrell stated that $2K was allocated to Physical Education, part for sports teams and their transportation. Parents can help but there must be a staff member assigned to all extracurricular activities. There were plans from teachers to start clubs after report card interviews were concluded. Ms Sayer advised that the school applied for an Indigo grant, and thanked letters from parents in support of the application.

Ms Sayer spoke about the Equity Plan for the school. It will begin addressing racism, representation at the school from staff and students, identity and experiences. A learning session based on the book “How to be an Anti-Racist” will take place for staff; the purpose is to have everyone feeling represented, safe and happy.

Mr Farrell advised he applied for a crossing guard at Newlands and Santamonica, but process is slow and the school has no jurisdiction off school property. Mr Farrell was looking for a caring and safe schools committee, with a student and parent representative. Mr Farrell spoke to Ms Micallef about presentations featuring the kindergarten classes in the end of February. This was limited due to the gym’s size. There may be a chance to bring in an Indigenous storyteller from British Columbia, but attendance may be limited due to the gym size.

Mr Farrell thanked Jami V for looking at babysitter course providers. Jami V proposed the council subsidize $800 for the program, up to two groups, up to 20 participants per group, to be held in the library. Grades 7 and 8 will be favoured, if there is room, it will then be opened to grade 6. Council voted in favor unanimously. Mr Farrell spoke about pizza and hot dog lunches. As pizza lunches are easier to organize, they will be favoured, once a month is sufficient. Megan asked about how to report violence against children in school grounds. Mr Farrell stated to report to the school and the school will contact Children’s Aid Society, or contact CAS directly.

Ms Sayer spoke about the school improvement plan, EQAO and the goal top increase student achievement to the provincial standards in math. Ms Sayer and Mr Farrell spoke about the diagnostic reading assessment and pillar composing the plan, including wellbeing, equity, indigenous education, cultural appropriation and cultural appreciation. Mr Farrell explained that the next meeting date had been changed due to the TDSB’s limitations on retired principals and therefore he had to depart the school. The council thanked Mr Farrell and expressed concern about the school stability.

Bruno K addressed the treasurer’s report but noted he still didnt have access to the bank accounts; the only new expense was the babysitter course that had been approved. Jessica W advised she secured $1500 through a grant for a garden project. Pizza lunches will be held on February 10, March 10, April 14, May 12. Raisa will add to calendar, Helen and Kyle will help.

Mr Farrell advised the grade 8s would be taking a school trip to Kearny, half would take it in early February and half in June. The school would subsidize part of the trip and Mr Farrell requested $800 for both classes. Jessica W advised $400 was already dedicated in the council budget. Bruno K suggested the pizza lunches fundraisers use gr 8 help. After discussion on fundraisers and available funds, the council agreed to subsidize $750 for each gr8 group.

Jessica W advised she would follow up with Amy Sit for interest in being community representative. Jessica W advised the SSON, used to select a principal for the school, was completed and submitted. Jessica W addressed the bylaws, and that she would not meet the January 16, and would like feedback. She addressed the art show and requested $200 from the council to support the show. Bruno and Diana K agreed to fund the show. Kyle S and Jessica W spoke about the sensory art, and requested $200. Jen M agreed to fund $100, Stacey offered to help as well, and coordinate with Ms Fleming. Kyle S addressed the parent proposal for a workshop, Kyle will gather the information for the admin team, and then turn to council to council to structure literacy programs, free 1 hour workshops. Ms Sayer agreed to update the website contact information.

The next meeting to be held on February 23. End of meeting 8:34pm.