23FEB2023 Minutes (pronouns are assumed, please advise any corrections)

School representatives: Gayle David, Ms Micallef, Melissa Sayer.

Parent representatives: Bruno K, Diana K, Jess Whitmore, Kyle Salmon, Terrance Gakman, Alice Rankin, Ayan R, Jami VanSickle, Stacey Marshall, Sabrina Viber, Quyen Taylor, Bob Johnson, Natasha Kurji.

Non-rep parents: Timea Perozak, Mike Perozak.

1830 introduction and land acknowledgment. Quorum is reached. Minutes from previous meeting are approved.

G. David thanked for the welcome into the community, advised is working well with Ms Sayer. Advised students are at the centre of every decision made, and advised bringing forward the 4 Danforth Garden mottos: Be safe, Be mindful, Get help, Own it. The mottos are now part of announcements, will be in assembly and will have student classes create posters for classrooms and halls. Cash online already has 477 families enrolled, and 200 families have not signed up yet for different reasons; staff are helping families set up their accounts and minimal cash will continue to be handled at school, as exceptions are made. Ms David and Ms Sayer are available to support families, and parents should reach out to teachers first.

Ms Sayer spoke about the STEM activities in the school, including robotics, as a grant was obtained for more robots and coding. All children in school will get to experience technology in the school. There will also be math engagement, providing open ended math problems and encouraging students to answer them.

Ms David encouraged the parents to participate in the welcome to kindergarten night to introduce to parents how to get involved in the school. Ms David asked for the donation of board games to be used in classrooms during inclement weather.

Bruno K advised he finally got access to the bank account, and the treasurer report was accurate. The amount approved for the babysitting course was $800 but only $660 was spent. The pizza lunch resulted in $680 profit, dedicated to fund the grade 8 trip. Ms David advised the students loved the babysitting course. There were no questions regarding the trasurer’s report.

Jessica W advised she had run bingo nights before. The council agreed to spend funds from Mabel’s Labels to fund board games. Jami VS advised 33 students attended the babysitting course, from grades 7 and 8. Kyle S and Jessica W advised about workshops for parents, with a group called Role Change. They submitted a motion to begin the program, which was approved. Jessica W updated the council on the Art Show, and provided options for leftover items.

Jessica W advised the merged the template provided for the bylaws with what had been previously approved. The bylaws were approved by the council. Jessica W advised they can be revisited in 3 to 4 years. Jessica W advised that she got approval for the balcony gardens for $1500 and will contact Ms David to continue the process. Feed Scarborough and Access Alliance are options. Jessica W and Stacey M will work on the sensory garden.

Kyle S explained the FunDrive donation drive for Value Village. Jessica W will bring more details about the fundraiser to the council.

Kyle S and Jessica W advised they want to assemble a list of what the council does and their dates. They advised Helen offered to streamline so the council wont miss dates for grants and fundraising. The council decided to look at the calendar in June. Ms Sayer advised that in a staff meeting, pizza could take place on the last Wednesday of each month.

Kyle S introduced the parent request to run initiatives with the council: readathon, spirit wear, top up funds for library. Mike P explained the Readathonheld last year. He also explained the Spirit Wear and advised the school logo and colours would not change for this spirit wear, but these and a different company could be considered for the next school year. He also explained the library top up and requested $300 from the council and admin for the remaining amount. $450 was already allocated in the council budget for library co-curricular activities. Ms Micallef advised that Prologue had a Haida Storyteller who will be in Toronto in 1st week in May. Cost is $975 for 300 students. She suggested splitting the students into two groups and pay an additional $500 for half an hour with the younger students. After debate, Stacey M offered to fund $100 for the sensory garden, so $100 can be directed to the readathon.

The motion for the readathon and fundraising was approved. The motion to run the spirit wear was approved, and Bruno and Mike will work for any changes for the next school year.

Mike asked about the school policy in informing parents when there are police cars in front of the school, which was explained by Ms David.

The next meeting date is April 03, and there will be consultation to hold it in person. Kyle S asked the council to consider the next council meetings on May 04 and June 06. End of meeting.