Dunlace School Council

Wednesday, January 16th, 2019 at 6:30 PM Meeting Minutes

PRESENT:

Dunlace Staff: Principal Julie Kwan

Teacher Liaison Nancy Hanna

Council Executive: Co-Chairs Kate Maw/Farah Merchant

Treasurer Roger Affonso
Secretary Amanda Cepler
Past Chair Dev Benham

Committee Chairs: Fun Fair Chair Loveleen Thind

Special Events Chair Tracy Winter French Chair Elaine Sun

Constitution & By-Laws Chair Julie McAlpine-Jeffries

Grade 5 Chair Rebecca Shen

Parents: Alexei Jessica

Ana Karyn Gould

Absent: Vice Chair Jennifer Wong

Co-Treasurer Betsy Melendez
Extra Curricular Chair Carolina Erskine
Special Events Co-Chair Margaret Hickey
Fun Fair Fundraising Chair Veruska Mano
Pizza Lunch Chair Parsi Mina
IT Chair Liza Culligan

IT Chair Liza Culligan
Safety Patrollers Chair Margaret Hickey

1. Welcome and Introduction

Kate Maw/Farah Merchant

- Kate welcomed all attendees.
- Attendees introduced themselves.

2. Minutes Amanda Cepler

Minutes of the October 17th, 2018 meeting were reviewed.

MOTION: "Move to approve the October 17th, 2018 minutes."

Moved by: Dev Benham Seconded by: Loveleen Thind Carried

3. School Update:

Julie Kwan

- Water Main break
 - Julie thanked all parents and staff for being so flexible and supportive during the

- recent water main break at the school.
- Harrison staff and students were very welcoming and accommodating to our staff and students.

Kindergarten Registration

Will take place in February.

Eco School Update

- We have been a Platinum Eco School for a few years now.
- o There will be a school Eco audit on Monday to keep our Platinum status.
- The school Eco Club appreciates that we did not have plastic water bottles offered at the Halloween Dance.

Upcoming Events

- February 6th is Winter Walk to School Day. Students who cannot walk to school will be given the opportunity to walk outside at school.
 - ➤ The Eco Club would like to provide hot chocolate that day with the support from Parent Council. Students will be asked to bring a reusable mug from home.
 - ➤ At least six parent volunteers are needed in the morning after drop off for about one hour to help make the hot chocolate.

The Big Crunch

- ➤ On March 23rd at 2:30pm, there is a movement to promote health that encourages people everywhere to take a bite of an apple at the same time. Dunlace would like to participate in this by having all students congregate in the gym and be given an apple. Parent Council is asked to help fund this initiative.
- (Vote was held on above two events and budget was approved of \$250 for Eco Club to spend on hot chocolate and apples.)

Clothing Donations

For the months of February and March, Dunlace will be working with an organization to collect clothing that cannot be donated for use (e.g. clothing with holes and tears). This clothing that would normally end up in landfills will be collected and recycled. For every pound collected, money is donated back to the school. This is to promote donating textiles to avoid landfills and to promote recycling. Everything brought in will be weighed on March 29th. There will be an announcement that day at school about the total collected.

Jungle Sports

➤ This popular activity will be back at school from February 19th-22nd.

School Clubs

- There are many in-school clubs that are run by staff such as:
 - French Club for French Immersion students in Grades 1-3
 - Scrabble Junior Club
 - Girls Volleyball and Boys Volleyball
 - Girls Hockey and Boys Hockey
 - Lego and Stem Clubs
 - Kind Club

Annual Winter Activity Day

- Ski, Snowboarding and Tubing will occur on this day.
- o Parent volunteers who ski and snowboard are welcome to join.

Grade 5 Update

Grad photos will be taking place on March 1st.

- o Grad trip will be to Niagara Falls on June 5th-6th. There will be a parent info night about the trip on February 28th.
- o Grad ceremony will be held on June 20th at the Toronto Botanical Gardens.

Professional Development for Teachers

- o Teachers will be working on:
 - Technology in Kindergarten.
 - School Improvement Plan and Site Plan in relation to EQAO. Student results on math knowledge questions have been good but problem solving could use some work. Staff will be looking at the data and coming up with strategies to move students forward. Mr. Moreau and Ms. Kim are taking the lead on this.
 - ➤ Ms. Berman is working on a mental health project. She is looking at the student climate in terms of whether or not students are being heard and the anxiety levels of the Grade 5 students in terms of their transition to Middle School. Ms. Kwan spoke with the Principal of Windfields to get feedback on how students faired with the transition. This will help teachers prepare our current Grade 5 students for next year.
 - ➤ The Kindergarten teachers are working with students on self-regulation and building resiliency.
 - > Grade 1 and 2 French and English teachers are looking at explicit reading strategies to implement with their students.

4. Committee Chair Updates

Special Events

Tracy Winter

Ana

 Dance-A-Thon will be held on February 1st. All students will receive a bracelet. If students raise \$25 they receive a glow ring.

Pizza Lunch

No update at this time.

• Extra Curricular

No update at this time.

IT

Ana is going to look at renewing the Domain.

An outside individual was hired years ago to update the Dunlace website. He
was reasonably priced. He has offered to upgrade our website again.
Discussion was held on whether or not this is necessary as the website is not
used very often. Parents seem to rely on communication from the school that
comes through weekly emails and tweets.

Safety Patrol

- More parent volunteers are needed. Parents who can be on a back up list if someone can't make it would be helpful.
- There will be training for the new group of Safety Patrollers in the spring.

Grade 5 Graduation

Rebecca Shen

 The evening event after the graduation ceremony will be held at the Pickle Barrel (same location as last year).

By-Laws

Julie McAlpine-Jeffries

No update at this time.

• French Elaine Sun

- French Club is held on Tuesdays.
- There are "micro grants" available to be applied for that engage French Immersion students.
- There is a TDSB FSLAC (French as a Second Language Advisory Committee) that provides French newsletters and reports.
- Opportunity for Dunlace students to experience a French language play at the Toronto French School in April.
- The Annual French Public Speaking Contest will be held on May 4th at York University's Glendon Campus.

• Fun Fair Lovleen Thind

- Loveleen presented some information to the Parent Council regarding the 2019 Fun Fair.
- Parents were asked to comment on what they want to see for this year's Fun Fair
- o Students really liked the Carnival games and prizes.
- More details will be shared at the next meeting.

5. Adjournment