

SAC Meeting Minutes
Monday October 26th, 2020
John Wanless Public School in the Library

Attendees

Reorganization

-SAC involvement: SAC is not involved/does not provide any input; It was explained to SAC that staffing committee should be involving SAC heads only in advising how the process runs and the outcome.

Technology:

- Eric has received inquiries re: SAC supporting purchase of new technology as there are some issues with the state of our current technology.
- Large concern exists around losing our technology should schools close/TDSB can take away technology.
- Need to look at possible options such as fundraising/direct donation or potentially asking parents directly to purchase if feasible.
- Definitely experiencing a lack of human resources in regards to acquiring technology. I.e we did not get 5 replacement chrome books that were promised by TDSB. 10 new were also ordered by Peter but global shortage has delayed this. Currently looking at how to communicate the need for technology to parents. Also looking at how to acquire more and how to share technology in safe way.

General Update

-Motion to pass meeting minutes from September 21, 2020 was accepted

Principal Update

-Big thanks to parents for following and respecting protocol seamlessly (appointments, forgotten items etc).

-Of note, JW has second largest elementary in TDSB- 575 students; No cases yet! Very minimal change with the recent reorganization in regards to student placement.

-Reorganization is very defined with clear rules (largely based on seniority etc). 35 kids were affected/moved? ISP mostly affected. Focus was on keeping kids together within own cohort/maintaining social supports.

-Staffing – just completing last hiring needs, afternoons only/half time French teacher. Started last week and had her first day today; teaching mostly grade 4-6. Potentially have 8/11 lunchroom supervisor positions filled, which meets a lot of the supervision need for inside and outside lunch.

Air Filters

- JW is going to be receiving 8 HEPA filters.
- Fresh air (cold) is pumped into school between 6am-8am; temperature does drop quite a bit with this cold air. Likely corner classes are receiving these HEPA filters.

Canine Control:

- JW has issues with dogs coming into school yard.
 - JW is now on list for some security patrol to address/monitor this issue. Signs are already in place.
 - Traffic continues to be an issue around entry/exits. Recent unsafe event was brought to police and is being addressed. Advise admin if you see unsafe driving/other behavior.
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- No formal curriculum night at this time
 - No picture day
 - No courses are being offered at this time as SAC is not authorized to do so (babysitting, safe at home etc.).

Treasurer Report

- Limited d/t uncertainty of COVID pandemic affects on school year.
- TDSB directives says no fundraising, direct donation.
- Carry over from last year are assisting/only real source of money this year.
- Teachers grants (1/2 usual- 250\$) were offered. Second half of funding is dependent on how the year progresses.
- Balance 32000- vast majority going to teachers' grant; SAC feels this is really a crucial way in supporting our teachers.
- Received some budget submission (much less than usual). Music had some costs that were needed to support music in a covid friendly way.
- Emergency/reserves fund – laptops for teachers, smart boards

Fundraising Report

- Mabels Labels continues to be a fundraiser that we are able to engage in. They have a new holiday line as well (return address stamps etc.)
- Spirit Wear- Ideally launching next week. Items include items such as tuques, face masks, raglan shirt, hoodies etc. from a local vendor (fun patterns/logos!!). Will be sold via SAGATO. Likely 2 week turnaround to get order in and then fundraising heads will drop off at personal homes in a Covid friendly way.

Equity Committee

- JW is not immune to these concerns and if they arise, the equity committee will be available to help with virtual options. Do not hesitate to reach out.
- Crucial to create an environment that is open to concerns/talking about any issues that arise.
- Community demographic has changed significantly over the past years and more diverse but it is still felt that equity, racism etc is such an important topic for all our children to talk about and to be aware that these issues exist (racism etc).

-TDSB has very clear protocol in place for time sensitive to address any racism/prejudice events. TDSB has an online course offered to teachers. It is still very much a focus of the TDSB (ie. Not being postponed d/t COVID concerns).

Extra-Curricular & After 4

- Winter session complete next week. Running make up sessions 2 weeks after March Break, due to weather challenges.
- Spring session registration next Wednesday March 6th at 7pm. A few new providers and programs, as enrolment was slightly lower compared to previous sessions.
- Plan to offer babysitting course in the Spring
- T-Ball/Baseball program to be run by Jackie Chan

Curriculum Support

- Limited role at this time d/t safety.

School Support

- Great turnout for our food and academic drive for the Children's Breakfast Club. Thank you to all those collected and donated. There is a great need that exists and it is our hope to continue to run some further drives as the year continues.

Child Care

- 4 FDK and 3 school age spots available.
- Children can arrive any time after 8 am and pick up is 5pm.
- Different entry/exit points to optimize safety and following all health and safety protocol.

Kindy Play Space

- Construction finished March 2019. 14k left over to enhance outdoor space. Ordered 3700 of outdoor learning equipment; this has been put in place. 11K remaining. New purchases:
 - Wagon for each class
 - Gardening and sand and water toys
 - Activity set (balance beams, etc but moveable). Waiting on delivery. Set with be staying on Fairlawn side). Recently cleaned out Brookdale storage space; now functional use of space.