

Banting PAC meeting – January 22, 2020

Attendees:

Principal Bill Trask, Noelene Ahern, Mimi Yue, Marit Heideman, Mary Lee, Sheila Robertson, Christina Debruyne, Maureen Bolli, Sandra Niven

Meeting opened at 6.01pm.

Principal's Update

- The school tries to limit the amount of communication being sent.
- The school is short in coaches for some of the Sports Clubs, and will probably have to pull out two teams this semester. Parents volunteers are needed to coach some of the teams every semester.
- About 100 people have responded to the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) survey so far. The Survey is still open.
 - There will be team and staff meetings to go over the results of the survey and discuss any possible changes that can be made.
 - The school has also discussed the topic with other schools and department heads, which helps to prepare Banting students for Secondary school (all of the secondary schools use laptops).
 - The survey and experiences with BYOD also allows for conversations with elementary feeder schools, and encourage those schools to develop certain computer skills in their students to prepare for middle school.
- Update on the outdoor classroom:
 - Possible connections through some parents to a company that could help achieve the outdoor classroom.
 - Neighborhood growth and possible future annexes to the school need to be taken into account as to where the outdoor classroom can be placed on the school grounds.
- Grade 8 visits to Secondary Schools are happening, and 2 out of 3 secondary schools have visited Banting. There will be school tours on Friday January 24, and students will start planning their courses.
- Banting will start visiting Grade 5 feeder schools after spring break.
- The principal has noticed a great improvement in student behaviour since the winter break; students have shown growth in maturity over the break. The school tries to maintain a good vibe in the school through setting clear consequences for students, and having a greater teacher presence during breaks.
- The school currently has 17 international kids, 5 new children were added to the school after the winter break. Some of these children come from refugee camps. The students have been very welcoming to the new students and are helping them to settle in, by providing tours of the school, and in some cases helping translate.

Treasurer's Report

- The PAC budgeted \$400 for the gift card fundraiser, but in fact raised \$866.
- Donations to the PAC (via direct donation request to parents) total \$6078.
- Hot lunches are on track as budgeted.
- The PAC has not spent much yet this year, but typically more school requested spending happens towards the end of the school year.

Meeting adjourned at 6.30pm, followed by a presentation of the BC Teacher's Foundation on Social Media.