

Agenda

Introduction: 7:03

In Attendance: Ivano, Tricia Fung, Kim Lauridsen, Christine Knoll, Scott Young, Pam Fletcher, Kim Egli, Laura Cain, Pam Deppiesse, Koreen Garofalo, William Ng, Janet Kampf, Deidre Pattenden, Chris Towers

Approval of minutes from September 14/09: Christine Knoll, 2nd by Scott Young

Reports:

Treasures report:

No deposits yet

Jody cannot make Tuesday meetings

Principals report:

Thanks to Janet for the 4 on 4 tournament and the upcoming Parents Dance & Halloween House

Re-organization of classes: main reason we received staffing is the district avg must be 21 or less, we were at approx. 21.1 so we received another teacher. Were able to change the ¾ class to a 4/5 class. 4/5 are down to about 26, grade 3's are at about 16 except Ms Hodges as she didn't need to be changed at all so stays at 21.

75 – 80% of the kids benefitted from the change by getting a smaller class.

Interms will go home 1 week later now because of the re-organization to give teachers more time – will go home Friday Oct 16th.

Room 14: Rainy Days early drop off. On the 2 rainy days it has been fairly well used. Help to alleviate traffic congestion.

Bus is also changing its route so they can avoid the loop and help traffic

PAC funds going to school initiatives: highest priority by staff is for new science equipment, new microphone, another program similar to hip hop dancing, new inside equipment / games for inside days

Updates:

Net book/Laptop for PAC use Christine Knoll:

Christine's husband did some research on laptops for us. 10.1" screen, full sized keyboard approx \$500. Hold off until end of Nov as Windows 7 will be coming out.

Christine make a motion to spend a max of \$600 on a Notebook for PAC use, 2nd by Janet,

One apposed motion passed.

Trisha suggesting just using a memory stick instead.

Photo Night:

Barb Mulligan has taken on a large portion of arranging this. Pam will put some posters up. Closer to the date will need some volunteers to help coordinate on the night of. Very simple, just to be here and keep things running smoothly.

Saleema Noon:

Ivano says teachers are in favour of doing this again this year. Want it open to all students, parents well informed. Want signed permission for kids to participate, alternate arrangements will be made for students not given permission. Want permission slip to include detailed information on what will be covered at each grade level. They are open to dates available. Trisha will look at Spring dates with Saleema and work with the school schedule. We will also do the parent info night.

Fruit and Veggie:

Going well. Kids enjoyed broccoli and were open to trying

Emergency Prep:

Laura Cain: nothing has been done yet. Laura will be meeting with Lori soon to walk through the position. Using Room 3 to store supplies this year, but next year will need this room so we are going to need to find a permanent position for these supplies.

Grade 5 leaving:

First meeting tomorrow night

Fundraising:

Looking for feedback on hockey tournament: all feedback good. Kids loved it. Only suggestion is to get the teams in earlier so the scheduling will run a bit smoother.

Parent Dance: introducing Dave from Caddy's DJ. Form went out today. Few hiccups to getting things out on time. We need 50 people to break even and we are confident that we will get more than that. Gym capacity is 350. Craig Perry is a dad here and he is a bartender and is going to bartend for us. He is also going to help us with the purchasing decisions etc. We will need volunteers to work the doors and setup etc. Dave will start moving stuff in at 3pm on Friday 16th. Will need to look into whether or not we can use the smoke effect. Ivano will book an extra caretaker until 3:30am to help with cleanup – this will be a cost to us. Should have access to the staff bathrooms by PAC kitchen.

Movie Night: Oct 30th – ET

Dec 4th – no movie picked yet, proposing a Bingo/Book/Bake sale to be incorporated into the Christmas Movie Night. Can donate left over books to Books for Charity.

Janet would like to add something into our Parents newsletter, looking for our untapped talents that can help into PAC events

Recycling Program: parents have been asking about where our recycling goes after the events. There is a program available through ENCORP, they give you the bins, kids would need to help each day to empty the containers into the sink and take the empties to the school bins. They will even pick up the bins. Ivano is concerned about the rodents. ENCORP will pick up once per week as long as you have the stuff ready. Janet mentioned Bigger Bottle who will open us an account, you can just drop it off after events. Families can also put their recyclables on our account there. Once or twice a year they will issue us a cheque. Green Committee looked at a recycling program last year. They surveyed the staff. Biggest school concern is the storage. Bottom line is you need someone who will be committed to managing this and ensuring recycling is cleared from the school grounds regularly.

Laura question where our "extra" funds go to and if we give to other more needy PACs in the area. Good idea to explore.

Janet discussed the fact that Birchland has a Volunteer Coordinator position who helps with the entire school. We could create a form for the school to show parents where else in the school help is needed eg. In library.

Parent Education: Kim sending out a form on Learning Disabilities soon

Green Committee: No meetings yet this year. Scott has spoken with Ivano about the hand prints project. Perhaps need to look at it as a grade 5 project each year. Scott has spoken with Gary Mulligan and he says he can get either a donation or discount from a concrete supplier. Need to ensure the funds are in the budget – there is \$500 for Green Committee. Gardening Club met with resistance from the grounds crew when trying to improve the landscape, so right now that is on hold.

Traffic and Safety: discussed new Rainy Day drop off earlier in meeting. Haven't had enough rainy days to get feedback. Younger kids are allowed to stay in and head right up the stairs. Older kids need to go around to their regular door

Hot Lunch: Gina not here, but Kim says it ran smoothly. We have snack day this Friday.

Minnekhada Liasion: Minnekhada doing the Wizard of Oz. Hannah Young is the Wicked Witch of the West, Jacob McRitchie is Uncle Henry, quite a few other Leigh alum are involved. Hoping to put on shows for all the feeder schools in December

New business:

Halloween haunted house: Setup is on Oct 29th 9am, tour on Oct 30th. Scott available on 30th. There is lots of decorations under the stage that need to be gone through. Bails of hay are needed. Email Kim if you can help out with setup.

Halloween night at the school : Scott not available for night patrol on Halloween night. Rick says he will patrol and is recruiting volunteers

Halloween for Hunger: Jen Smith will coordinate this. Suggestion that the forms that go home to be handed out be a bit bigger and highlight that it supports local food banks.

Grade 5 get active cards: forms went home last week.

What are we fundraising for: still focused on new playground equipment.

Motion to adjourn: at 8:18 by Christine, 2nd by Pam, all in favour