

Parent Council Zoom Meeting
September 21, 2020

Welcomes

1. Welcome from Principal Greg Blakeley.
2. Introduction of Jennifer Frans, our new Vice Principal.

Roles of Council

1. Roles of Council are Chair, sometimes Co-Chair, Secretary, Community Rep, Staff Reps, Parent Reps.
2. We vote in the Chair roles.
3. Council often helps with volunteering, fundraising, allocating raised funds.
4. Quorum is needed to vote. If there are 12 members, the quorum is 7 to pass a vote.
5. Council is not for individual concerns or questions. Those should be directed to school admin and teachers.
6. School Action Plan: looks at student achievement. We spend money to help students achieve. We need to look at ways to do that. Last year we improved the look of the school to make it more welcoming and help students feel proud of their school. We purchased books and resources for higher achievement.
7. Next meeting is Monday, October 5th. Email Greg if you'd like to be a voting member of Parent Council, and if you'd like a key position (Chair, Co-Chair, Secretary). Everyone will have the opportunity to share why they'd like a key position, and we will vote if more than 1 person would like the same key position.

Principal's Report

1. The Board doesn't want money to be unspent and rolled into the next year if possible, unless it's for a specific project. The families that fundraise should get to enjoy what they're fundraising for. Because March-June was out of school, we have approximately \$18,000 sitting in our account to spend.
2. Re-organization will take place between tomorrow to September 29th. An email was sent out to families this afternoon to give them advance warning. Admin realize this will give feelings of discomfort. We projected 610 students this year, and currently have 602 enrolled. There are 495 students learning at school, and 100ish learning at home. The lowest class has 14 students and the highest has 24 currently. The ministry allocates 1 teacher for a certain amount of students. When numbers don't line up shuffling has to take place. We will be shuffling 150 students around during this re-org because we are freeing 4 teachers to online learning. Kindergarten will be capped at 26, grades 1-3 will be capped at 20, and grades 4-8 will be capped at 24/26. Notes will be sent home with the students that are affected.
3. We are trying to follow the guidelines given by the Simcoe Health Unit. There are set entry and exit doors to the school, there are directional arrows in the hallways (having a circular school set up helps), class bathroom breaks are scheduled (emergency breaks are still permitted), staff wear masks, grades 4-8 wear masks, grades K-3 are encouraged but not mandatory. Masks are not mandatory outside unless students can't keep the 6' rule. Drinking fountains are closed but water bottle filling stations are open, grab & go snacks bins are available but all hot lunch programs are cancelled for now. All fundraising is cancelled for now, except Terry Fox.

4. School Action Plan: Achievement, Equity & Diversity, Safe Schools. Because schools were closed March to June we are seeing delays and regression. It is normal to see some regression after Summer break but because the length of this break was 6 months, the regression is greater. We are working with students to build them back up, and keeping them engaged. We will be updated as time goes on. More discussion in November as students are assessed.
5. There are 4 versions of learning this year. 1) In school 2) Online (started today, students have a teacher and classmates assigned to them, are given 2 breaks (40 mins each, and are online 220 minutes of the day) 3) Home Schooling (students are withdrawn from the school completely, and it's up to parents to teach, assess, test, and grade since none of that is done by the school), and 4) in School Learning from home (students were in class but kept home, classroom teacher updates google classroom but amount of work and communication varies because teachers are busy teaching in their classes, parents must keep students progressing, and the only way these students can get enrolled online is if an already online registered student leaves the program and a space is opened up). We are hoping students stay in school as long as they are healthy. Students must be symptom free for a full 24 hours before returning to school.

Closing

1. Email Greg with a preferred time for the October 5th meeting. Majority wins.
2. Email Greg regarding Council elections, if you want a key position or to be a voting member.
3. Next meeting date is Monday, October 5th. We will go over elections and the fundraising plan then. Chair/Co-Chair will run future meetings.