

Dufferin Parent Council Meeting – Wednesday November 9, 2022

This meeting was conducted virtually via Teams

Present: Carling Mitchell, Daniel Pickersgill, Erica Lapage, Farzana Kausar, Gord McCreary, Lauren McDonald, Mike Long, Brittany Cole, Stephanie Morris

Regrets: Natalie Walker, Saina Tokedon, Monika Van't Spyker, Rachael Kruger

Land acknowledgement:

Grand Erie District School Board recognizes Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, as the longstanding peoples of this territory.

We honour, recognize, and respect these communities as well as all First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples who reside within Grand Erie District School Board. We are all stewards of these lands and waters where we now gather, learn, and play, and commit to working together in the spirit of Reconciliation.

Acknowledgement of October minutes

Minutes were acknowledged via email and a motion to pass was put forward. Lauren McDonald seconded with 8 voting members in favour.

Principal's Report/Financial Report

Financial Report:

- Lottery account \$13.22 and fundraising account is at \$6971.31 (field trip subsidy moved to separate account and \$409.20 for today's pizza day to still come out)

Principal's Report:

Sports and clubs

- Chess, choir and ukulele continuing
- Volleyball started up
- Soccer concluded with bumpy road to get tournaments in but our teams did well

Curriculum (EQAO)

- Gr 3 and 6 last June participated in EQAO which was the first year that all elementary students did the assessment online, completed on school tablets
- Following percentages are % of students who achieved level 3 and/or 4 (meeting or exceeded provincial expectations) combined
- **Our Gr. 3 Results: 82% reading, 71% writing, 71% math**
- (Grand Erie averages in comparison) Reading 62%, 52% writing, 42% math
- (Provincial averages in comparison) 74% reading, 65% writing, 59% math
- **Our Gr. 6 Results: 100% reading, 97% writing, 68% math**
- (Grand Erie averages in comparison) 78% reading, 75% writing, 34% math

- (Provincial averages in comparison) 85% reading, 84% writing, 47% math
- Each student gets an individual page with their unique results that will come home for students in grades 4 and 7 soon
- We are starting the tutoring program in our school, invitations have been sent out based on progress report achievement
- Invitations were extended to students with concerns (Progressing with difficulty) on their progress report, for students in grades 1-4
- We are starting with these students first and then extending it, potentially, to other students based on availability

In other principal news:

- Lockdown drill needs to be done in the Fall, hopefully before the end of November. Email going out on school messenger to let parents know when, as it is only a practice. This drill will be a regular format for practice, we had otherwise been doing a modified version during COVID
- Email has gone out through messenger for Parent/Teacher Interviews to book appointments, if you need the link contact the office or classroom teachers
- Book fair will likely not run this week unfortunately. Delivery was cancelled in light of the job action taking place Friday and Monday. The cancellation decision was made by Scholastic before it was announced schools would reopen. Efforts are being made to see if the fair supplies can still be delivered this week, but it's uncertain.
- Special presenter booked Aubrey Noronha "Colourblind" antiracism presentation for staff and students at the end of November/Follow up session scheduled in January, online for families
- Email went out today about student census that students will participate in next week. There is an online process for students to opt out if you would prefer your child not participate.
- Grade 3 swim to survive program is on again with multiple sessions that are covered, bussing needs to be paid for so small amounts are being asked of parents to help cover the cost
- Dental screening coming early December through the Brant County Health Unit, to opt out follow the link on the letter that came home. The school does not manage that, so you must go through the health unit.
- Two applications were put in for stereo system for the gym and the kindergarten shed, hopefully hear back after the Holiday break as application wasn't due until end of November
 - o Still working on quotes, Long and McQuade only gave an oral quote but Mme. Smith will follow up and see if they will put it in writing
- Holiday open house, brought up at staff meeting – stay tuned for more details
 - o Possible parent council members to help with organization (social committee is happy to be in the loop to support)
- FI review – part of which will be a survey seeking input/feedback from parents and care givers, there will also be focus groups with students and educators sometime in December

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| Teacher's Report |
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Arts update from Mme. Coretti:

- Thank you to all staff and students who helped to make the painting of the themed mural on the crossing bridge (behind Civic centre) possible
- The painting was completed last Wednesday
- The City of Brantford will be posting our submission on their website soon
- Mme. Guy and Mme. Coretti have been working with junior/intermediate students in a vocal ensemble to prepare for the Remembrance Day assembly tomorrow
- There are also two ukulele groups (grades 3-5 and 6-8) that are meeting twice a week

Quick sports update:

- Volleyball tryouts are currently taking place for junior and intermediate divisions. Teams will likely be chosen by next week with regular practices happening daily.

Fundraising Committee

- Poinsettia fundraising up now on School Cash online and are due Nov. 25th
- Pickup/Delivery Dec. 1st

Pizza Committee

- Monika has adjusted the order, so today's pizza day was much better. Some leftovers today due to absences so extra pizzas were given out to classes (on a rotating basis)

Communications Committee

- No new updates.

Social Committee

- No new updates.

Open floor

- No questions.

Next meeting discussion

Wednesday December 14th, 2022

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3a12rJ_PglD9DBI91zGpx1t7z_tetfDkELKmEPZpo1fKY1%40thread.tacv2/1665023575086?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22f4e5b749-8fd9-48fe-b056-79815a973799%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2220414f00-1c94-4c72-84c1-f19bfdae0c14%22%7d