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**SCHOOL COUNCIL**

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| Date: | November 26, 2022 |
| Meeting Start Time: | 6:30pm |
| Meeting End Time: | 9:00pm |
| Members in Attendance: | Judi, Jean Marc, Maninder, Sanjay, Rashed, Kalsum, Liat, Sana, Sanjay, Sarah, Muneezah, Alaa, Diana, Candice, John |
| Members Absent: | Sana Farid, Brandy Bayes |
| Follow up for Jan meeting | 1. Judi to share tentative fundraising plan and updates on the “I think” program. 2. Update on school council web page (replace EFTs to Forest Trail) 3. Motion to increase the operating budget of the funfair in May. |
| 1. Land Acknowledgement | * It was decided that all future meetings will continue with appropriate land acknowledgements. Jean Marc shared some tools that students can use to learn about traditional and treaty territories, their multiple histories, colonization and concepts related to land ownership. (Resources: App called Whose land, |
| 1. Judi’s presentation | * Judi L shared Principal’s Report/School administration Report. * Camp Muskoka from May 1-3, 2023. Grade 7/8 parents have been contacted. The exact cost not yet determined but it will be on the wish list and council will be requested to help to reduce cost for students. * The two student Senators are doing an amazing job and inspiring other students to get involved. They might be requested to join one of the council meetings. * Grade 6, 7 and 8 had a great volleyball season. * Attempts to get the grad jerseys out before winter so grade 8 can wear them all year. * The Superintendents were promoting a program through “I Think” a division of Rotman (UfT). A program that helps student solve real life problems. Forest Trail applied, got selected, and got a discount on funding. About 7 to 8 teachers and Judi are going to get trained and work on the challenge of “How to get the school community vibrant again post COVID-19.” * Forest Trail fortunate to have several great digital subscriptions for teachers * Jean Marc has been working on the logos for the school as “Forest Trail Public School.” Updates to google and related websites ongoing. * Students are enjoying the gym equipment that the council helped purchase. (cross nets and bases) |
| 1. Teacher’s Report | * Not presented as teacher away. |
| 1. Pizza/Subway | * Pizza and Subway programs going really well. |
| 1. Mini shop/Muneezah | * Muneezah has been leading the Mini Ship program. So far 110 families have signed up and some great merchandise procured for the event. Mini Shop will be cashless and all purchases will be made through School Cash Online. Students who were unable to participate will get a two dollar ticket to purchase at least one item. * Muneezah requested council members to volunteer time to help prepare for, execute, and wrap up the Mini Shop event. |
| 1. Safety and Wellbeing | * No updated available |
| 1. PIC /Sarah | * Sarah attended the PIC meeting. In addition the parent toolkit there is now a teen’s edition. Last year about 750 dollars were secured to get a speaker. This year the group is still trying to figure out the proposals. * Ministry to provide funds to the Halton board who tentatively plan to use it for organizing a PIC conference in spring. This year’s conference is planned for a school in Milton. The focus is to engage parents and student volunteers. * School councils should also focus on student engagement and learning. Any fundraising activities should help bring the community together including local small businesses. |
| 1. Finance /Rashed | * As of Nov, 2022 there is about 39,000 dollars (Please see Treasurer Report) * Maninder suggested to set aside money for reusable items such as spinning wheels etc. for future funfairs. * Maninder shared that parents responded positively to the pizza/subway programs and some even requested lunch programs to run each day of the week. * Maninder suggested adding cookies to the subways @ 40 cents per cookie |
| 1. Wish list | * Discussion about whether council should contribute to the Grade 7/8 Muskoka trip in order to reduce cost for parents. The original ask was 1300 dollars @$10/student x 130. Other suggestions were contributing 2600 @$20/student or 3250 @$25/student. * Some suggested supporting only those students experiencing challenges paying for it.   Motion passed for council contributing 3250 @$25/student x 130. Motion was brought by Candice, seconded by Muneezah. The motion passed with one vote against. |
| 1. Open House Feedback | * Overall feedback was that open house was a great success with lots of community engagement. Games were a hit. * Some lessons learned could be used to improve the funfair in May. Maninder suggested being mindful of temperatures in future as it got really cold and having multiple stations for the same game to avoid long lines. * Muneezah mentioned not having enough volunteers to help with the event. * Ala suggested moving the event indoors if possible. Alaa suggested simplifying the open house to be more like a meet and greet event with a simple BBQ stand. * Liat commented that the idea of open house is to have parents come and see the class and teachers. School should have fewer activities planned for the open house or increase the duration/number of hours for the event. She mentioned that some parents were frustrated at not having enough time to use the tickets they purchased to use during the open house. * Maninder suggested using all the great feedback from this event to better plan the funfair event in May with better communication with the parent community to get more volunteers. Maninder also suggested having sign up forms for parents to opt for email communication. This would help council reach out to parents willing to volunteer directly instead of relying on school communication. Candice mentioned that she is retaining emails of parents who volunteered for the Mini shop. * Judi acknowledged the feedback and said despite the cold weather and limited time, she received a lot of positive feedback from parents. |
| 1. Next meeting | * January 16, 2023 |