

Clearspring Middle School Parent Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
Friday, December 5, 2014

Present: Ed, Cheryl, Laura, Stacy, Dawn, Cyndy, Colleen, Judy
Regrets: Viola, Michelle, Tonya, Gina, Jen
Not present: Merilee
Guest: Sean McMann

Agenda: handed out at the meeting

Minutes: from last meeting were sent out Dec 2 to the Pac via email, received

Play structure presentation:

The estimated costs were as follows:

1 large berm which includes a tunnel, climbing wall and stone steps would come in at about \$30,000

- There is a possible reduction in price (\$5000) if we can get the fill from the condo's being built behind the school for free.

2 small log features come in at about \$5,000-\$6,000 each

- this is with pea gravel, to save cost

1 recycled tire path (700 lineal feet) would be about \$10-12 a lineal foot so about \$10,000

Final cost \$50,000 - \$55,000

Ed Neufeld will help compose the letter to HSD requesting permission to commence construction in spring. This letter will assure HSD that we will be working with Sean McMann @Valley West. The goal is to start building in spring. A committee may be formed after Christmas in order to figure out how we will raise the outstanding \$20,000 for this project. Discussions will be had with Kevin Martens and Tammy Nye as they have past experience.

Ed Neufeld will contact HSD/Kevin Heidi about whether we can issue tax receipts for parents or businesses who may wish to contribute to this community structure. **Laura Oswald** will research if there are any grants available, possible through Manitoba Hydro, Manitoba places, community places, Recycling. She will do this as soon as possible as some of them may have a January 1, 2015 deadline. PAC currently has \$14,500 for this project. CMS has about \$14,500, \$2,500 may be available through HSD which leaves \$18,500 to come from grants, additional fundraising and donations.

School Report:

As the school has about half the EA's from last year and will possibly lose another half of what we currently have, the staff are for seeing some possible issues next year; particularly, in lunch hour supervision. It may be that HSD needs to look at the employment standards and **the principles** will encourage them to do so. A short discussion was also had in regards to the fact that they may need to also look at the disability definition in this regard and that maybe EA's are being let go based on an inaccurate "definition".

Christmas concert December 4, 2014 went very well!!!! As many of us were wanting to see success with very big shoes to fill, we were very impressed and pleased with the results. There was a definite focus in the concert of learning and all enjoyed the bits of Christmas music that were included.

December is always a tough month behaviourally for students and this year is no different. However, there is still a feeling of things going well and is also so positive.

December 19, 2014 at 10:00 will be the Big Show. This is an amazing event put on by the grade 8's and completely student run. We are invited to come and watch and be entertained as all students are putting their heart into the making of it.

Financial Report:

Current balance is \$14,500.00

Money was just given out today for gift cards (\$500) to purchase items for the canteen as well as some outstanding cheques.

Canteen:

Canteen is running smoothly. One parent has resigned their position but it will be covered by grade 8's and it should be an easy transition as the students are trained and responsible.

One issue that remains is a lack of communication about whether canteen food is being sold at tournaments. This leads to questions such as: Is canteen food being sold and at what cost? Is outside food being brought in? Who gets proceeds...etc..? **Ed Neufeld** will look into it with the staff.

Mr. Noodles are no longer available at Costco so Stacy and Laura will look into whether or not there is another possible vendor to get them from. As this is not the healthiest option for lunches but it is very cost friendly for some, **Judy Peters** will look into whether there is a possible alternate item that is equally cost effective from grocery stores.

Fundraising coordinator: Nothing to report

Added item: teacher breakfast

The PAC would like to provide breakfast to the staff again this Christmas. Laura will do the ordering and bringing of the items to the school in the morning at around 7:30 – 8:00. Ed will get the date that would be best suited and the number of staff to Laura. Possible 40 staff members and on Friday, December 18th?

Newsletter item this month will be: Nothing was discussed

Next meeting will be **Thursday, January 22, 2015 7:00 – 8:00** in the conference room by the office.

Meeting adjourned

Minutes taken and sent by Cheryl Peters