

Clearspring Middle School Parent Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January-22-15, 7:00 – 8:00

Present: Ed, Cheryl, Fern, Jen, Merilee

Regrets: Viola, Michelle, Tonya, Laura, Stacy, Dawn, Cyndy, Colleen, Judy

Not present:

Guest:

Agenda: handed out at the meeting

Minutes: from last meeting were sent out Dec 5 to the Pac via email, received

Play structure follow up:

Ed Neufeld will compose the letter to HSD tomorrow with Laura to approve on our behalf and send out.

In discussion with Kevin Martens, he has collected funds in large chunks from within the community and sold chocolates in order to raise large amounts of money. Tammy Nye has done several moms pantry fundraisers to do large fundraisers. As yet we are still not able to issue tax deductible receipts to community businesses that may donate to our venture. However we did discuss that tax wise it may be better for a business to just put it under their advertising expense instead of getting a charitable donation receipt as they can than claim 100% of the expense.

We have not heard about whether there are any grants available to us but the dead line for the community places grant was way too tight, so we had to pass on that one this year.

For the next meeting, we felt that it would be a good idea to get a fundraising head person who can make some calls and look into things and kind of coordinate things so that it doesn't always have to come back to the entire PAC and then maybe things can get rolling. Also, we discussed if maybe there is a need to do this in phases as there seems to be no one person who is jumping up and down saying, "Let's get 'er done". This **may need to be a separate meeting** where outsiders from our PAC are invited to be involved in this one area for this short while and maybe get that fundraising committee going.

School Report:

February will be a very busy month as there is a learning trip going on for each grade. Principals have been trying to keep disruptions to a minimum this year in order to not disrupt the flow of learning.

The culture of the school is beginning to lead. If the principals are gone for a short while the school seems to continue on and do the things that this school does, this is wonderful!

Grade 8's are going to be transitioning in the SRSS through multiple things like tours and an open house.

Grade 4's are going to be transitioning in CMS through multiple things like winter fun day at wood lawn and bringing them into CMS for events.

Candace Campbell will be going on maternity leave and will be replaced by Cassandra Momotiuk.

There is a need for microwaves in all class rooms. Cost could be \$2000. Not sure how we are going to make that happen (just go and do it and dip into our own funds or go out and get them donated). **Can the PAC help with that?**

There is a family in need at our school. They will need help with basketball fees and camp Cedar wood. They would need about \$160. **Is this something that the PAC would be willing to donate to?**

There will be a pre-spring break dance this year instead of a valentines dance. This is in order to have the principals there (they have never been because there is an annual conference that they have to be at during that time of year) and to help deter the students from having any romantic ideas about the dance itself. This event will be MAC run and some things will be done to help it run better like improving on timing, changing the date and incorporating some dance games. There will be a Twitter account opening soon for CMS in order to try and keep in touch with parents and students.

Technology day is on Friday. This is to encourage kids to be technologically savvy and teach digital citizenship (looking for teachable moments). This is the day where Wi-Fi will be provided because we will "trust" them to use it smartly and then teach, correct, and discuss boundaries. Wi-Fi in schools is coming and we want to be ahead of that ball. There have been less issues now that the "ban" of cell phones has been lifted.

Financial Report:

Current balance is \$15,377.93

Is there a need to move the \$14,500 to a separate account? This way we have a clearer picture as to what we have to "spend". Right now it looks like we are in the hole. \$14,500 for play structure (according to Dec 5, 2014 minutes. In my own notes on Nov 13th meeting, I have \$10,000 down for the Outdoor learning centre), \$3,000 for water fountains, \$unknown for running of the canteen. We just need to make sure we are using the same numbers so that we fundraise the correct amount.

Canteen:

Mr. Noodle is back on the shelves. Stacy found a Costco that still carries them.

If there is food sold at a tournament it is sold in the gym and it is kept completely separate. There is no selling of canteen food at all.

As per Stacy's email: " I would still love to have more help to split load with me - to have people head up different areas as we have discussed before. i.e. - scheduling, inventory and shopping (which Michelle has been helping out with!! Yay!!), ordering product/vendors/planning hot lunches, monthly features, etc. These are all roles that could use a separate person kind of overlooking each of them. Just not sure where to find these folks."

Do we need a canteen committee? Fern Friesen has volunteered to help with any phone calls that need to be made effective immediately. **Does CMS need to take this over?** Potential committee could look like this: [Inventory – Judy Peters](#), [Shopping – Michelle King](#), [Calling – Fern Friesen](#), [Scheduling – Stacey Harder](#), [Hot lunches/monthly features – unknown/student or teacher from CMS](#)

Fundraising coordinator: As we have no coordinator there is technically nothing to report, other than [we need to get a committee started for the outdoor learning centre](#). We may need to look at doing the OLC in 2 or 3 phases if we cannot raise the rest of the money.

Added item: We did not have a food drive at Christmas but the school sent kids to help at helping hands, etc. There will possibly be a food drive at the spring dance instead of an admission "charge"

Newsletter item this month will be: [Will forward this as soon as it is put together re: fundraising committee](#)

Next meeting will be [Friday, February 20, 2015, 12:00](#) in the conference room by the office.

Meeting adjourned

Minutes taken and sent by Cheryl Peters