

CLEARSPRING MIDDLE SCHOOL PAC MEETING

Thursday, April 11th, 2024

12:00 pm Board Room

Attendance: Merrilee Plett, Sherri Trinh, Melissa Thiessen, Janelle Unrau, Carla Barkman, Tanya Penner, Adrienne Penner, Marian Hiebert, and Candace Campbell.

1. Welcome - Melissa Thiessen

- Call to order at 12:01 pm

2. Adoption of Minutes from March 7th, 2024 Meeting - Melissa Thiessen

- Moved by Carla Barkman. 2nd by Marian Hiebert.

3. Adoption of Agenda - Melissa Thiessen

- Moved by Janelle Unrau. 2nd by Marian Hiebert.

4. Financial Report – Janelle Unrau

- See handout. Balance as of March 31, 2024 is \$1343.21.
- Interest of \$0.06. Member Bonus \$0.05
- Teacher Appreciation is \$2.16.
- Cheque was written for \$336.00 on April 1st as a rental deposit for Grade 8 Farewell Party. This money will be reimbursed once funds/donations start coming in for the Party.

5. Grade 8 Farewell - Melissa Thiessen

- June 26th. Friendensfeld Hall was booked instead of Neufeld's Garage due to large Grade 8 classes.
- Merrilee Plett is going to see if receipts can be handed out for donations.
- CMS will transfer \$1000 back to PAC account as a "cushion" to help with the Farewell Party. Again, PAC will be reimbursed once funds/donations start coming in.
- Second meeting is Monday, April 22nd at 6:00 pm in the Library.

6. PAC BBQ - Melissa Thiessen

- Friday, June 21st.
- A Planning committee is needed (Finance, Volunteer, and Food Coordinators).
- The school will look after the food order forms.
- PAC will supply freezies for kids that will be given out that afternoon.
- Volunteers are needed and Tanya will put that request in the PAC "Meeting Minutes" Email.

7. HSD Board/PAC Liaison Meeting - Melissa Thiessen

- April 23, 2024 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm Supper will be served.
- This is open to any PAC members. Please let Melissa know if you are interested in attending.
- Topic: Student Policies for Attendance.

8. School Report – Merrilee Plett

School Events/Activities:

- *Badminton*: Grades 7's & 8's. There are 100 signed up to play either competitive or recreational. Lots of teachers are helping make this work.
- *"Seussical" Musical*: Grade 6 Musical. 2 casts so that more kids can be involved. April 24 & 25.
- *Track & Field*: Coming up for Grades 5 & 6, and Grade 7.
- *Band Recruitment*: A Parent and Student meeting is scheduled for Grade 6's.

Grade 7 & 8 Provincial Assessment:

- Results will be mailed out in 1 - 1.5 weeks.

French Survey:

- All of the HSD's Grade 7 & 8 parents will be asked to fill out a French Survey.
- The division is looking for parent input if students in Grades 7 & 8 should be required to take French or have an alternative option.
- Division is finding it harder and harder to get teachers who are "qualified" to teach French.

Teacher Shortage:

- It's becoming more difficult to find teachers. Teachers are retiring and some are not coming back.

Grade 7 Presentations:

- Mrs Plett is in the Grade 7 classes and presenting on "Kindness", and that student's words to others matters. Encouraging students to step in when they see others are being mistreated.

Supply Fees for 2024:

- The school received great feedback on charging a supply fee vs families buying supplies this past school year and will do so again for the upcoming school year. Fee is \$40.

School Transitions:

- School is working on the transitions for students who are coming into Grade 5 from the Elementary schools as well as our Grade 8 students who are leaving to attend SRSS.
- Noticing a lot of anxieties from both groups and trying to do their best to prepare the students for the transitions.

Healthy Lifestyle:

- Grade 7 parents received information today. Presentations will start April 29 for students and a Parent Presentation will be held on April 16th at the school.
- Grade 5 parents will receive their information May 6-8 and the Parent Presentation will be on April 22nd at the school.

Online Safety:

- Joy Smith Foundation will be making their presentations to the Grade 7 & 8 classes on May 13.
- Sexual Exploitation Online: "How are you safe?"
- A presentation for parents will be on May 13 at 7:00 pm at the school. Presentation will be adult focused and students are not encouraged to attend this one.

9. Questions/Response to Principal Reports –Melissa Thiessen

- A parent stated they found the SRSS presentation night (for those going into Grade 9 in Fall) to be very well done and informative.
- A parent asked how the racist comments have been in the last month. Mrs. Plett and Mrs Campbell both mentioned that they have seen huge improvements since the email was sent out to parents.

10. Meetings - Melissa Thiessen

- Next Meeting is Thursday, May 9th at 12:00 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 12:48 pm