

## Parent Council Minutes: September 22, 2015

- Called meeting to order at 7:07 pm.
- Welcome and introductions were done. There were 25 people in attendance.
- Secretary's report given by Leah Sumner. Report adopted as read, seconded by Larissa Koshel.
- Treasurer's report given by Mr. Freeman, as Twyla Kopytko not available. Report adopted as read, seconded by Shelly Williams. Account balance is \$466.37. Twyla is resigning from Treasurer's position but is available to answer questions. An order of cheques is needed.
- No correspondence at this time.

- Principal's report:

- Currently 435 students enrolled. More students are expected over all grades.
- New staff:

Heather Ponscak – Kindergarten; a fourth K class was needed to maintain class size at 17-18 kids.

- Returning staff:

Hylin McLaren – Grade 4

Ashlee Plett – Early Literacy

- Location changes: the Multi-purpose room (MPR) is now the English room in the morning and Speech/Language room in the afternoon.
- There has been approval for a new grooming room for special needs students. It will have a toilet, shower, change table and a lift. Hoping that construction on the room will occur over the summer.
- Due to a larger student population, morning & afternoon recesses have been staggered. K-3 goes first, with K-1 on north side of playground and Grades 2-3 on south side. Then there is a 5 minute break and the Grades 4-5 play on the south side. Students and staff are adjusting well. Students are reminded to be quiet in the halls, to minimize disruptions.
- School plan:

1) Inclusion of English as Additional Language (EAL) students.

2) All children to feel included and have friendships.

Input on the school plan is welcome. The Canadian and Filipino students sometimes play separately – looking for ideas to have all children play together. Many families only have cell phones so numbers cannot be looked up under the telephone directory. There was discussion of possibly having a sticky note in students' organizer, listing their contact information.

- Terry Fox run was organized by Mr. Freeman. Over \$1000 was raised. A thank you goes out to Neepawa businesses that supported the HMK Terry Fox run!
- DFS fundraiser – HMK's fundraiser for the year. It is not mandatory. On Oct 6, packages will be sent home. Orders are to be returned by Oct 22. Delivery is the week of Nov 23 with pickup of orders Dec 2-3, during parent/teacher conferences.
- In October, forms will be sent home for HMK clothing. This isn't a fundraiser and there is no obligation to make a purchase.
- In 2-3 years, the south playground structure will need to be replaced. Mrs. Plett is heading the playground committee, applying for grants and applying for local support. She is in the process of asking for recommendations from different companies. The estimated cost is \$75,000-\$100,000. \$30,000 has been raised. The new playground will also be for the community, used after school hours.

- Discussion

- Location of Grade 5 students – no decision made at this time to move Gr 5 from HMK. Current Gr 4 population is almost 100 students & NACI is almost at capacity. Lastest communication from government has indicated an addition to NACI, not a new middle school but these are not finalized plans. Having students attend Brookdale or Eden schools is on the discussion table.
- The 20 student cap for grades K-3 is mandatory by 2017. Currently at HMK, there are 6 classes over 20 students and 8 classes at 20 students or less. The largest class at HMK is 24. It was shared that in the Philippines, class size are 60-70 students per class.

#### **Parent Council board for 2015-2016:**

The following members are remaining in their positions:

**Vice President: Larissa Koshel**

**Fund raising: shared by Shelly Williams**

**Secretary: Leah Sumner**

President & Treasurer positions are vacant.

**President: Joanne Greer** (motioned by: Larissa Koshel, seconded by: Myla Ignacio)

**Treasurer: Leslie Dyke** (motioned by Shelly Williams, seconded by Nena Latag)

- Meeting adjourned at 8:14 pm.
- Next meeting November 17, 2015, 7 pm.