

PAC MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 11, 2019

1. Introduction and Welcome – Kristin

2. Administration Update – Ken and Liz

- The new term of Brainstorm has started. It is 1 hour per week and is classes such as wartime aircraft, artists on bikes, chess, Just Dance, badminton. There is a partnership this time with someone who is running a fitness bootcamp class. Const. Perry is teaching yoga class with Liz;
- Math games night was bumpier than the YE Marketplace. It was harder to pull off at the grade 8 level. He thought it would work well to have the two events close together so that the rented tables could be used for both events and the pizzeria would be set up but families with kids in both grade 6 and 8 found it too much with the events two nights in a row and it was hard to get enough volunteers. We got a grant to help us to develop the games night so we will debrief and make some changes;
- School goals – a goal is an area that the school as a collective group wants to focus on. The longest goal MMS has been working on was from Ken’s first year at MMS: how do we use technology effectively to support student learning? MMS went from two teachers who were enthusiastic about using technology to now everyone is buying in, finding technology that works for them. Goals should be 3 -5 years and we’ve reached that point now with technology. A second goal is Social-Emotional Development - anxiety is a huge factor we’re seeing – sleep, video gaming. MMS is building in exercise throughout the day. A third goal is Systemic Professional Inquiry and Growth – MMS is planning a Pro-D Day around co-teaching strategies. All of these lead to further student engagement and learning. Ken asked for thoughts on a new goal of “Communication”. One parent was interested in writing skills, one thought it might be too broad, one parent sees university students struggling with communication and thinks it would be a good goal;
- Summer Pro-D Days aren’t generally well received but MMS teachers find it useful and get together for a Pro-D Day at the end of August and then have a day off in lieu during the school year. Ken is looking at having someone come in to present on co-teaching strategies;
- Code of Conduct – the template comes from the Ministry of Education so prohibited behaviours have to be listed. Human Rights is in there, clothing choices. We have a lot around digital technology. Last year we added “words of hostility and threats of retaliation”. We have to say, in general, what consequences are, based on severity of behaviour. The bubble at the beginning is not part of the Ministry wording - be the best you can be. STORM acronym. It is reviewed with the kids and it is in their agenda and is sent home in September;

- Playground climber isn't installed yet. An expert at SD Facilities is injured so we have to wait until he's back to work, hopefully end of April, before any installation can start.

3. School Trustee Q & A – Rob Paynter

- He is the SD61 School Trustee for our family of schools;
- There is an administration and structure that extends beyond the school. He wants to make the district administration more comprehensible and less threatening/mysterious;
- Trustees are there to set policy for the District. They function like a city council and are elected representatives. They decide on things like dress code, catchment boundary adjustment, responsible for the budget (\$250 million approx.). About 90% of the budget is salary and the remaining 10% is maintaining facilities, technology, meal programs, etc.;
- If parents find themselves in a place where we are not sure where to turn, the trustee can help. They are available for guidance or a concern, ie. playground set-up, school concerns. If it is a classroom issue, the child's teacher is the first one to turn to, followed by Principal/V-P then Assoc. Superintendent;

4. YE/Math Fair Pizza Parlours – Kristin and Sharon

- Made about \$1900 profit due mostly to Willows Pizza donating the pizza. We'll send a "Thank You" card to Willows Pizza.

5. BC School Fruit & Vegetable Nutrition Program – Sharon

- It is a program that supplies a free box of produce to schools bi-weekly to expose students to fruits/veg they may not get at home. A parent would need to volunteer to coordinate distribution. There was discussion about whether the school should apply: ie. garbage/compost/recycling issues, school need, volunteer time required. It was decided that MMS won't participate.

6. Treasurer's Report – Kathryn via Kristin

- Kathryn couldn't attend this meeting but she is available for questions. She'll provide a summary of spending at the next meeting (AGM);

7. Grade 8 Completion Ceremony June 25 - Paula via Kristin

- A committee has been formed to work on the Grade 8 Completion Ceremony. Paula and Liz are chairing the committee. If any Grade 8 parents want to be involved, please contact Paula. Grade 8 families bring food for the potluck lunch and grade 7 parent volunteers set it out and help with clean up.

8. Recruitment for coming year - Kristin

- She's already thinking about filling upcoming PAC vacancies. Paula (Vice-Chair and Social Media Coord) is leaving MMS in June and Joanne (Minutes Secretary) is resigning as of June. Kathryn (Treasurer) and Sharon (Fun Foods) have only one year left at MMS so we're looking for someone to shadow them next year. When Ken sent out a newsletter last year to incoming

grade 6 families listing vacant PAC spaces, Kristin got good response so that would be useful again this year.

9. Class Reps – Kristin

- They are now only really needed for the Christmas Hamper program period as most other information is now distributed by Ken. It was decided that it would be better to ask for a classroom volunteer for the one-month period of hampers rather than a full year's commitment.

10. Fall Event/Fundraiser? – Kristin

- It would be great to have some sort of welcome event in the fall: could be BBQ, coffee, potluck, picnic. It would involve some organizing over the summer. If anyone is interested in taking this on, contact Kristin.

11. Next Meeting – May 9, 2019 at 7:00pm (PAC Exec meeting 6-7pm)

12. Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm