

Parent Council Meeting
October 1, 2024

Present: Valerie Arsenault, Justine Carlone, Alicia Childes-Lefebvre, Teena Hardwick, Patrice Lefebvre, Cat London, Christian Muise, Patricia Parks, Vincent Perez, Rebecca Welfare Lister, Patty, Jenni Oomen

Note from Secretary - If I omitted you, I apologize - please feel free to add your name. It will get easier as I get to know everyone!

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of today's agenda and last meeting minutes

Approved

Chair Report

- a. Rebecca was here helping out 2 days last week and had a positive experience.
- b. There is a large puddle in the kindergarten yard and kids are getting wet. Some teachers have said they are ok with kids playing in it as long as they are dressed appropriately, however it was noted that it was difficult to keep kids away from it who were not appropriately dressed. Noted that it might be beneficial for sensory reasons. Suggested to poll all EAs and teachers to ask if they would like it filled in or not.
- c. Rebecca prepared a Planning Document listing all proposed projects for the year with space for estimated funding allocation. This document is flexible and can change with feedback from PC members and parents, it was created with the intention of getting everyone on the same page in terms of goals. Plan to have PC members review and discuss at next meeting in November.
 - i. Side note: fundraising - One idea for the spring is a planter pot/hanging basket from a local farm. **Patty** to look it up and see where it is from.

Principal Report

- a. Director's video - viewed by all
- b. Sandbox update - Val brought the idea forward to the LDSB who are requesting a 2 page proposal for the construction of the sandbox. It may still be built by the school community, but it may take a bit more time. Next step is to get all the kinder staff to agree on a design idea.

	<p>Justine has contacted the kinder staff, but has not heard back and will send a reminder before the November meeting. Plan to follow-up with progress on design consensus and proposal at next meeting in November.</p> <p>c. EQAO results are available on the EQAO Dashboard (https://www.eqao.com/interactive-dashboards/)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● EQAO is provincial testing in grades 3 and 6 to measure performance in English reading and writing, and in math. ● Last year the average last year dropped significantly and there was targeted work done in math. ● This year in math, 80% of students met provincial standards for math in grade 3. This is compared to 57% in LDSB and 61% provincially. ● In grade 3 reading, 77% are reading at grade level or above which exceeds board and provincial results. ● In grade 3 writing, 75% are writing in English at grade level or above and exceeding board and provincial standards. ● Junior division (grade 6) math shows that 65% of Rideau PS students are at or above grade level, which is above LDSB and provincial results. ● In grade 6 reading, 95%(!) of grade 6 students read at or above provincial standards. ● In grade 6 writing - 90% doing at or above provincial standards for writing in English. <p>d. BBQ/Open House - the Lion's club will be doing the BBQ. There will be burgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers and Halal hot dogs, and drinks. A family will do cotton candy like at the family picnic last year. Profits from the BBQ will be shared 50/50 between the school and PC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Volunteers are needed at the table selling tickets for the BBQ and manning the float. Val will help and seeking volunteers to assist as well. ● Open House starts at 4pm and BBQ tickets will start selling around 1620-1630 so that families have time to visit classrooms before lining up for food. ● Suggest create Google Doc for sign up in 15-30 minute increments volunteering 4:20pm - 7:00pm. Teena and Kate have offered to help with selling tickets.
Teacher's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Terry Fox run is next week (all grades participate - kinder run the field, older grades run around the block). ● Cross country is happening now and they are going to Fort Henry tomorrow for the race.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr Cameron and Mr Davison started volleyball for grade 5 and 6 students. ● Most primary classes are going to the pumpkin patch. ● Boo Bash coming up. ● Brave workshops in two weeks.
<p>Discussion</p>	<p>a. Pewter ornaments - A RPS ornament has been available through downtown Kingston and we have an opportunity to order more at the same time as DT Kingston does their order.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● They will reissue the RPS one at cost, which is around \$8 per ornament depending on the number ordered. We do not currently know what the minimum order number is. ● Vincent has offered to make a card insert to recognize the centennial and to accompany the ornaments - a holiday card that adds value at low cost and encourages more donations. Volunteers will be needed to insert cards into ornament boxes. ● DT Kingston sells ornaments for \$10 if you have spent \$25 downtown. ● Discussed offering downtown versus selling directly to the school. If sold downtown may need to align with their price of \$10. Preferred price would be pay what you can, but at least \$12 per ornament. ● There are two different ornament designs. ● There are boxes of pewter ornaments in the principal's office - these need to be counted. ● Agree to try selling 300 ornaments total, including the ones that already exist in the school. This number may change once a minimum number for an order is confirmed. ● If they do not sell out immediately, they could be re-sold at future events. ● For marketing, there is currently no Rideau alumni group but we do wish to get in touch (Vintage Kingston FB group released a photo and there were many comments from alumni on that photo) and find out how many alumni may be present for centennial celebrations. ● Re: the Rideau Tribune - could Alumni sign up/donate to have last year's Rideau Tribune sent to them as well as a copy of this year's Tribune? ● Can we also market to the community of pewter ornament collectors to get them interested? <p>b. Committee Formation</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Question about whether all activities listed require committees or if they can be parent-led initiatives? ● For parent-led initiatives, send the project outline and budget, then share information with Christian to be shared more widely. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Centennial - 3 people have volunteered and Val will send an email to follow-up with others who expressed interest. ii. Library - 6-7 people volunteered. iii. Archives Project - this is a parent-led initiative. It will require some funding and will be a good pilot project for parent-led initiatives.
<p>Boo Bash</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● October 24th and 25th 5:30-8pm. ● The Boo Bash planning document is uploaded and people can add names to items/volunteer activities. ● Last year everything at the bake sale was parent-donated and we need to include a request for bake sale items in the newsletter - send to Val and she will include in the newsletter on Sunday afternoon. ● Bake sale table in the hallway this year to permit better lighting and also encourage people to line up against one wall. ● Likely around 12 tables will be needed. The school will have some for the clothing sale October 20th and Val will ask to keep them until the 24th-25th. ● Alicia to check the staff kitchen for trays. Most bake sale goods came in containers and then were handed out from there. ● There are cases of water that were left behind from last year in the PC cupboard - check expiry date. Water was \$1 per bottle last year and was part of the income for the Boo Bash. ● Some games might be missing pieces, may need a few extra supplies from the dollar store. Alicia has many excellent game ideas: pumpkin bowling, hula hoops, guess how many erasers, etc. ● Photo booth - (Jenni) will do all digital this year - make it \$1 per photo - to be emailed to each family and the money goes to PC initiatives.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Craft tables - check PC cupboard for leftover supplies from last year. Last year KSS students volunteered at the craft tables and earned volunteer hours - need to reach out. ● Plan to do half with lights on, half with lights off - so the first part will be more accessible to little kids and later activities better for older kids. ● Music - just needs a device with a playlist to connect to the sound system behind the stage and one person to monitor/manage it. ● Set up can start after 2nd recess on the 24th and the gym is closed on Friday. ● Alicia to email Christian to put together a sign-up list of volunteers for Boo Bash and make sure it goes on the FB parent forum daily to remind people that we are looking for volunteers. Parents at large would be very helpful for this.
<p>Parent Involvement Council</p>	<p>First parent involvement committee meeting is on October 24th - this is the board office meeting if anyone would like to attend with Rebecca.</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Christian to make a Google Doc sign-up sheet for the BBQ/Open House. ● Alicia to email Christian to put together a sign-up list of volunteers for Boo Bash. ● Val to ask if we can keep tables from clothing sale to use at Boo Bash. ● Cat to follow-up with pewter ornament connection to ask about order size. ● Justine to follow-up with kindergarten staff regarding sandbox design. ● Patty to follow up about planter/hanging basket fundraiser.
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>Next meeting November 6 at 6:30pm. Think about what we want to accomplish this year. Review planning list for this year and next.</p>