

Gordon Head Middle School Pac Meeting Minutes

28 September 2016

Present

Bonnie Dhimi, Andrea Coppard, Carren Dujela, Gill Millam, Wendy Brouwer, Sheri Yager, Kevin Luchi, Gautam Kholsla, Heather Chan, Alison Stafford, Cindy Zimmer, Liz Lindsay.

19.00 Meeting commenced.

Approval of previous meetings minutes, Carren Dujela seconded by Andrea Coppard.

Introductions of attendees

Feedback on Recent Events

The meet the staff evening on Sept 22nd was well attended by families. It was a great community atmosphere and the food trucks were well received.

The upcoming book drive is in place and will commence 3-7th October Carren is the main organiser and she is hoping that the Grizzlies den will be filled with good quality Grade 4-8 books for the library to use. Any unwanted books by GHMS will be donated to schools in need

Thanks were given to the School admin team for organising the classes quickly at the beginning of term and placing students in their respective class rooms. Parents were advised that the make-up of the school allowed this to happen this year and it wouldn't always work out that quickly every time.

Committee Reports

Fund raising-

The school donation drive has so far received a little over \$4000. More monies are expected and Carren will report the total at the next meeting.

The Save Around books are still being sold. We will review at the end of the campaign whether or not we will do it again next year.

Fairways and Thrifty food cards are back in use, the total amount Thrifty's will give is \$2000.00, whilst Fairways has no limit on monies raised. The projects for this year's money will be for field trips, sensory stools and sporting equipment.

PAC Lunch Program

We now have 4 options for lunch, Mucho Burrito, Pizza, Sushi or Subway. Lunches will happen every Thursday in rotation. Currently Lisa Woo is being paid to carry out the lunch program but

once the volunteers are trained up they will take over. They are Wendy Brouwer and Andrea Jacoby. Sheri Yager is inputting the orders but would be happy to relinquish this task to somebody new.

A discovery has been requested into using an alternative online ordering service. Mr Luchie said he will look into the current school district system and report back. Consideration will be given in 2017 to changing provider.

Emergency Supplies

The Emergency supplies kiosk is fully up to date and functional.

Playground update

In anticipation of the wooden structure being removed a plan has been put into place for a playground committee to be formed. Andrea Coppard is seeking members and is currently heading the project.

So far a site inspection has taken place and approval by the School district reached. Approved companies have visited and are gradually submitting plans of new playgrounds. The intention is to get to 3 playgrounds designed and then allow the students, teachers and families to vote for the final structure. Until this has taken place a definite cost is not available but it is expected to be in the region of between \$75,000-\$100,000.

There is an awareness that the 2 feeder Elementary schools have just been through playground replacements and that fund raising fatigue may have set in. With that in mind grants will be applied for and reaching out to the wider community will be a priority.

Treasurers Report.

Accounts

\$9714.66 GIC (Playground starter fund)

\$4210.05 Gaming Account. (we are expecting a further \$6,500 from them this year)

\$8401.32 Chequing Account.

An approved budget for this year's spending is currently on the School website for parents to view.

Principal's Report

Mr Luchie was happy to report that a smooth transition has happened in the past few weeks with the children, staff and parents. He is enjoying getting to see how the school works and has been joining in some of the classes and working with the students.

Mr Kholsla said that he can already see the school is a compassionate one and he sees great potential in the community.

A shared educational vision of both Principal and Vice Principal is that of a liberal arts education. Attention will be kept to ensure that the lessons taught extra- curricular activities and on- going projects in the school will reflect this ethos. If there are shortfalls in any area, extra items will be brought in to ensure the children have a well-rounded education.

The staff Pro D day was a success with the School district holding a seminar at The Q centre. The subject for the day was why education and schools were present in society. A theme that has been explored with our GHMS students.

With the new curriculum being brought in big changes will be happening in the way children's reports are done. More input from both Student and parents will happen. As yet the system is not up and running so it is a case of waiting to see how this looks when it is rolled out.

With the changes to the curriculum parents are encouraged to visit the Ministry of Educations website to read about the proposed new Curriculum.

Mr Luchie also explained that a decision has been made to email parents for individual events within the school rather than a monthly news- letter. Already this has been well received.

An additional document was circulated within the school that is a parents orientation package. It was decided that it will sent to all the parents in the next week or so.

A technology overhaul is taking place with the school district installing new smart boards and ensuring all of the computer equipment needed for the school will be met. The district is trying to balance out what all schools have to make it fair.

No new business was raised.

Meeting adjourned at 20.15 hrs.

