

## **Monday, March 4th, 2024; 7:00 pm; In Person-HCPS- school library**

**Attendees:** Jennifer Said, Jeff Gervais, Meghan Schuler, Courtney Parent, Samantha Lee, Katie Buck, Angela Alguire, Kristen Guptill, Rachel Roesner, Dawn Disdale, Ginette Taylor, Rachel Roesner, Cheryl Arnott

**Regrets:** Stephanie Adkins, Shari Fisher, Katie Payne, Amith Horra, Laura Shirley, Donna Coutts & Alexis George

**Approved meeting minutes from Feb.5<sup>th</sup> 2024:** Angela & Katie

**Agenda Approved & Meeting Commenced:** Cheryl & Angela; 19:02 hrs

**Introductions-went around table:** all attendees introduced themselves and children within school

### **Reports/Committees:**

**Principals Report Jeff Gervais: Term 1 reports went out in Feb, no allotted time for formal interviews** for teachers this round, but parents can still reach out to respective teachers to discuss student progress and or 2<sup>nd</sup> term goals; **Term 2 IEP's** (Individual Education Plans) went out today electronically

**Successful junior ski trips (2 days) to Mount Pakenham-**weather cooperated-awesome job by Mr. Flipsen who organized; Carp Arena-students over to arena for skating-will try and start earlier next year; last week **4 classes to Bill Mason Centre** (West High school-outdoor education) gr 3 &4's-habitat community workshops and ways to find w maps; Mrs O'Neill organized **Rocks & Rings** (Kits in our gymnasium for a week) students got to learn and practice curling; Scientists in School-starting w primary classes and juniors to come;

**Solar Eclipse-school closed to students on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 24 (no EDP, no buses)** but staff professional development-PD days no longer school driven (very little choice), mostly Ministry tells or directs schools accordingly;

**Prelim projections-601 students for next year-**with that class and staff allocations in April, anticipate 5 kinder classes but JK is always the unknown, very tricky as could be ongoing and always last-minute changes right through until August (families moving in/out, etc.) encourages all parents if they know of families coming or going to reach out to school to advise. **Now 584 students this year** (the projected number for this year was 550); **Class list creations will commence, will be sending a google form** to parents to provide their **exceptional requests for classroom placements** for next year

### **Teacher Report (Meghan Schuler for Donna Coutts):**

**Sports Events** The junior girls tier one team had a bordenball tournament on February 6th

- On February 15 our tier 3 junior boys & girls bordenball teams participated in their tournaments.
- The intermediate boys had a volleyball tournament on January 10.
- On February 1 the tier one junior boys participated in a tournament.
- The intermediate students are engaged in playing basketball.
- The junior students have started intramural basketball and their tournaments will take place on March 20, for the boys, and on March 21 for the girls.

**Clubs** Lunch monitors and bus monitors are working well to help our kinder & primary students

- Leadership club for intermediate students
- Chess club for junior and intermediate students
- Environment club
- Rubik's Cube club
- Lego club for primary students
- Huntley Howlers is the choir for grades 6 - 8

- The musical is well underway
- Rainbow club for intermediate students
- Social time for students observing Ramadan during nutrition breaks.

**Special Events** Grade 1-6 have been enjoying free skate at the W.E. Johnston (2 classes at a time).

- On February 7 and 23 many of our junior students visited Mt. Pakenham for skiing or snowboarding. Thank you very much to Mr. Flipsen for all of his very hard work.
- The junior students who stayed at Huntley participated in a Winter Fun Day.
- Our grade 8 students participated in an open house at West Carleton High School
- On February 15 the grade one classes hosted a Foire de Famille event.
- On February 29 and March 1 our grade 4 and ¼ classes visited the Bill Mason Center to participate in some outdoor education and will be learning about how animals adapt to their habitat.

**Upcoming Events** Students will be learning about curling this week in Physical Education classes

- Laura Brown will be reading her new book to our k-3 students on March 6
- On March 7 our k-8 students will have access to a virtual performance by Kellylee Evans. She is a Juno Award winning singer from Ottawa and she will be teaching our students about the history of Jazz. Thank you very much for this performance.
- On March 8 Will's Jams will be performing for our k-3 students. Thank you for providing this opportunity.
- Scientists in the School for grade two students on March 20 -22 and for grade 3 students on March 28

**Teacher Wishlist (Jeff Gervais);** 2 pots of \$; essentials come from school in their budget predominantly allocated in teams ie supplies for primary, junior & intermediate based on their identified teacher needs and wish lists ie copious amounts of glue sticks one year, monies towards Arts programs and sporting equipment, etc. vs what Parent Council allocates for school ie Arts Program special events and for ex Scientists in School, teachers also have opportunity to bring to Council any special requests i.e. Mr. Flipsen proposed we/P Council run canteen at soccer tournaments last September to specifically off set costs of expensive junior ski trip days

**Vice Principals Report (Megan Schuler)**-nothing to add

**Food Cupboard (Katie Buck):** going well, hummus and fruit cups added, no need or shortage forks/spoons, apples donated by Old Huntley Orchard (Lee family) almost out-requested/reminder to not buy McIntosh as kids don't like them.

**Treasurer's Report (Dawn Disdale): 19:36 hrs**

As at Feb 9<sup>th</sup>, 24; \$149, 485-all paid up to date in account balance, allocated to Greening total \$107, 422 to date, but some fundraisers have not yet been allocated. All fundraisers \$24,974 raised this year excluding hot lunches and milk-(mostly from Bazaar and Auction). Expenses paid to date \$5,238.33

**Open Action Items (Jenn Said):**

**Hot lunch session 2** launched today. Every other week offering choices i.e. **Mad radish/pizza** (50/50 wheat/white crust to meet Boards dietary requirements) (Village Pizza not Carp Pizza this term to share the local business) & **Subway/Chicken Fingers/Salad** (also Village Pizza) on Thursdays w **Mazzola's** on Mondays (can pay and pick as you go different food or p-re sign up and same for **Lunch Lady** on Wednesdays. All at first lunch -will see how goes

**Grad Committee: 19:53 hrs** Grade 8 Parent Committee is all gone from previous years, some planning required to see what needs to be done and contact names for ie hall rental, etc. Jeff Gervais to look into

**McDonalds Fundraiser: April 17<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 8 pm-Kanata North March Road location.** This time will offer paper and additional electronic method for ordering to hopefully ease w traffic flow and convenience. Made approx. \$1200. last year.

**Dunrobin Nursery Fundraiser** (supporting local business) being organized by Shari Fisher-pre orders online form for seedlings (vegetables and flowers too this year) will be posted on website and FB page for pick up at school one day or nursery itself for May long weekend typical planting season start.

**Movie Night Fundraiser tentatively planned for May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024.** Several parents have volunteered already and in process of setting up. Anyone else interested pls see Jenn for details. May be pizza and popcorn (our machine blew up last year, to look at borrowing one again from Anita Gibbons and or replacing buying our own-because such a hot popular item w student's

#### **New Business:**

**Other fundraisers: "Created by Kids"**-flyer passed around, turns student's art into ie mugs, shirts etc. might consider for next year fundraising, 30% back to Council.

**Internet Safety Workshops:** Jeff Gervais looking into-guest speaker by name of **Paul Davis from TO comes to school and puts on sessions both for parents and one also for students (in the gym)** on internet safety and awareness as its an everchanging world-hard to keep up-proposed **for next September**, might be option to use yearly Parent Involvement Grant \$1500 towards said workshop. Kids are now accessing media platforms as young as grade 4 on school Chromebooks and have access to their school accounts on personal at home devices outside of classroom as well.

**Other potential workshops** discussed for future might include **Rideauwood (drug and rehabilitation Centre)**

#### **ROUNDTABLE:**

**Technology & Media Smarts (Jeff Gervais)** Whole school staff discussion meeting after March Break around purpose of technology in the classroom and how it is being used as a tool for learning. Teachers to dig deep, looking to develop something concrete for school, to discuss philosophy and teacher awareness-including how we might better supervise kids on chrome books- and have clearer expectations in place including usage in and out of classroom i.e. on lunches etc.

**Lengthy Discussion ensued 20:18 hrs, regarding online incident (Feb 20<sup>th</sup> and again on 21<sup>st</sup>, 23) in the classroom in which some students in EF56A were exposed to online adult content of an explicit nature (male masturbating) through a website called "FTF live".** It was determined that a few students had actively accessed this site and had a live chat w an unknown unidentified male while other students joined in or saw this content when they passed these students in class, and then most of the remaining students had heard about said incident from their peers. One student then on Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup> of Feb, in the afternoon, finally reported to the teacher what had happened, before Mr. Gervais was notified and began his investigation. Apparently, there was some concern that some of the students involved feared afterwards that the man would know who they were and that they attended our school. On Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, in the early evening (but after school hours), the parents and families of said classroom received an email from Mr. Gervais advising them of said incident, notification that the

website had been blocked, next steps and encouraged parents to discuss with their children and an offer of support.

Parents expressed the following questions and concerns (not limited to):

- Communication from the Principal was too vague, too little and not prompt enough-too late ie (initial email and nothing since-no follow up to parents close to 3 weeks later), was unclear what steps had been taken
- How could inappropriate website itself be accessed in first place
- Complete lack of teacher supervision within said classroom and others i.e. Gr 6efi, not limited to use of technology, includes while out on recess and lunchtimes, students are not safe
- Complete student body lack of respect for teachers, physical violence towards staff and student physically fighting in and out of classrooms, appears to be little to no repercussions, what if any resources are available to assist and a complete absence of consequences and or visible disciplinary action taken by school Administrators, they are sending a very poor message to other students-'You can do anything and get away with it'
- Lack of consequences for any and all students involved in this incident, i.e. They lost computer privilege for a day but were given back immediately the following week-next day
- The overuse of technology within the school (kids are accessing chrome books constantly for any and all subjects-they are forgetting how to write, no creativity, relying solely on tech for say example music and or dance classes
- Student safety as a whole, and why police resource officers were no longer an option

Mr. Gervais explained the following (not limited to):

- Delay in sending first email to parents, detailed timeline and steps taken to carry out initial investigation; i.e. Had to determine who involved and had accessed site (exact URL address), OCDSB Business & Learning Tech Department was contacted to block site immediately. Site was not categorized as pornography site but rather social networking platform w chat groups and as such being a chat site the filtering system employed by Board did not pick it up. Safe School Department at OCDSB was also contacted and Ottawa Police Service information report on website discovery and incident involving minors.
- Typically, expulsions not allowed for primary grades period, difficulty in junior and intermediates in that students eventually return to school and need to eventually deal with so approach is to try and rehabilitate within, often expulsions from school are viewed by students as a bonus they get to stay home so goal is to avoid, little to no extra resources i.e. staff and or teachers to assist with behavioural outbursts and or incidents.
- Both he and Ms Schuler had been making impromptu visitations to said classroom but all appeared reasonably in order to date
- All students were to have reviewed w parents and signed Tech and Media expectations at beginning of school year, but will clearly need to be revisited again
- As above, looking at internet safety workshops for next year both for parents and students
- Upcoming staff meeting to discuss Computer Tech Use (also detailed above)
- Many students on IEP's need said tech-regular access to Chromebooks
- Student privacy rights, and currently school has limited ability to access one's online history even if using school property devices, but recognize there are some expensive systems/programs available that can allow teachers to monitor all classroom screens activity

**In summary; Council agreed to the following:**

- **Chromebooks be removed immediately from said classroom, not to be reintroduced until very clear and concise boundaries established, checks and balances in place, proper supervision and consequences for improper usage**
- **Complete review of all tech usage and safety at school as a whole**
- **Better communication with parents (more detailed follow up and more frequent)**

**Meeting Adjourned:** Jen & Angela 21:52 hrs

**Next Council Meeting: April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Future Meetings: May 6<sup>th</sup>, June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024**