

WT Townshend Parent Council Meeting Agenda

Thursday December 21st, 2017

Welcome!

Attendance: Diane Stephens, Summer Braunig, Sarah Nakamura, Sharon Dunlop, Anneke van den Berg, Susan Morgan, Danny Lee, Ali Hasan, Erin Cleasby, Tina Landry, Meredythe Hertz, Lori Briscoe

Lori Briscoe - Admin Report

Around the School

- Busy at this time with lots of donations received. Thanks for participating
- Door decorating around the school, lots of participation.
- Primary assembly - great turnout from parents.
- January 19 is next whole school assembly - will recognize sports teams, clubs, helpers in the school, introduction to literacy week the following week, WITS song introduction, promote the move-a-thon
- During literacy week will have visitors to the school to bring favourite book and read to students, `stop, drop, and read` event
- Book fair later in January
- Arts night planning April 26th, including dance, art and choir
- Choir singing May 8 or 9th
- Parents night May 10th
- June 8th next whole school assy, music focus with choirs presentations. Dress in theme for the kids
- End of year assemblies the last of June.
- Parking at our school continues to be an issue - complaint to the board about the situation despite the fact that efforts are evident from staff and volunteers. New signs will be made to stop traffic into the ring road. Volunteer will allow people into the parking areas based on passes. Many examples of drivers disregarding rules set out by the school and looking for ways to help achieve improvements to our parking situation.
- Concussion - education and protocol implemented at the school for this.

Around the Board

- 12 days of giving focus, board website is promoting this
- All super-intendants and directors gave blood
- Scott Macmillan re-elected chair of the board

Around the Province

- Survey about EQAO ongoing, you can participate by going online, but it closes shortly

- Ministry of Ed seeking input on student transportation. Province spends much money on this and looking for ideas for improvements. 40% of Ontario students have some sort of transportation to schools.
- New childcare spots being made available in the province.

Fundraising Updates

- Bingeman's night - looking to have 1-2 days this year. Diane has reached out and waiting for feedback from Bingemans. We have requested the Thursdays before PD days
- Chocolates - Laura Secord chocolates (January 25/26 - February 9) Chocolates here Jan 23rd and will be distributed in the following days. Two weeks of selling. Pam has contacted parents that have volunteered to help during the days and based on response we will determine when we will be able to receive money. Will need volunteers to help with receiving chocolates, redistributing, and collecting outstanding money and chocolates. Will send out note to parents prior to distribution to allow parents to opt out, and donate if possible.
- Move-thon - Wednesday March 7th. We have booked Prof Jamz as we do not have resources to run ourselves. Will need volunteers to assist on the day.
- Survey to get input from parents and teachers as to where they think we should be spending our fundraising money. Tie in with communication about upcoming fundraising. Ensure that we are focussing on the right areas.

Use of raised funds:

Moving forward with Hydration station.

Thanks from staff for money donated to field trips and some has already been used.

February Fun Fest

- Quick over-view
- Request Forms for donations
- Committee meeting in January

Promoting date already through facebook, social media. Small committee meeting was held in November and we will take similar approach to last year. Same, similar events and activities. Committee meeting in January to coordinate. Will need donations for the raffle, so looking for all to see if everyone can help to get donation. Distributed a letter that can be used to approach businesses for donations.

Always open to new ideas and activities, so if anyone has suggestions, please bring them

forward.

PRO Grant

- Workshop to be held Thursday May 10th, community resources and keynote speaker

Grant was accepted to hold a Health and Wellness workshop to be held during Health and Wellness week. Event is targeted to include a keynote speaker as well as have community partners present with displays. This is modelled after one done by a school in Cambridge and we have received contacts of relevant community partners from this school. Looking for volunteers to assist with contacting agencies and set up the evening. Contact chair if interested.

Questions:

- Any questions or concerns

Arts night - the performance area was very small and cramped and hot. Suggestion to consider this in designing the evening.

Suggestion for the school or council to run a science fair at the school. We need someone to champion researching this and organizing. Perhaps we could do this next fall. Might be able to tap into some of the teachers that are promoting STEM.

Request to see if there is opportunity to allow drop off or access for out of bounds French Immersion parents to come in and drop off in the ring road. School will investigate to determine feasibility and impact. Lori will find out how many families this affects.

Next meeting

Thursday January 18th, 2018