

Tuesday, October 15th 2024 6:32pm.

Present: Laura Gillam, Christina Helmer, Nicole Pitts, Rachel Klinoski, Chris Shaw, Rena Petrik, Deb Thompson, Emily Casey, Adam Jeziorski, Emma Barken. Anna Schukei for the first part of the meeting.

1. Call to Order and Welcome

A few points of order from previous meeting:

- Need to declare that Laura Gillam is an employee of the LDSB, but not of the school.
- Clarification that Christina is vice-chair, as it's not possible to have a co-chair when a chair was nominated, and subsequently elected.

2. Approval of October 15th 2024 agenda. Approved.
3. Approval of the September 23rd 2024 Meeting minutes. Approved.
4. Opening statement (Laura)

-Before moving forward with planning it would be useful to come up with what is important to us as a council. This will help us determine what is important to us, and what guides us. Every school is a little different.

5. Information/Standing Items

Principal's Update and Presentation

-Empower Program presented by Anna Schukei (SST at Centennial)

Empower is a reading program that is now at every school in LDSB. This program is for kids who are really struggling with reading. It is an evidence based reading program. It's very scripted and repetitive; one teacher at each school gets the training. The school has seen huge gains with reading abilities. There are criteria for being accepted into Empower: the child must be motivated to read, must be ready to work hard, as it's very intensive (five days a week, 50 minutes per day). Anna Schukei is starting her third year teaching Empower. There are 8 students this year in the program at Centennial. Only going to be taking a small group of kids, it can be hard to choose, as there are more children who could use it, but they might not be a good fit for that year. Those children remain on the school's radar, and are offered other ways to improve their reading.

-EQAO results (Deb)

Last year the results were quite low and not reflective of the student's abilities. Centennial worked really hard to rectify this, and the scores showed a vast improvement.

- Grade 3 reading scores jumped from 42% to 66%
- Grade 3 writing scores increased from 32% to 59%
- Grade 3 math from 16% to 60%
- Grade 6 reading scores 42% to 53%
- Grade 6 writing scores 55% to 63%
- Grade 6 math scores 21% to 33%

Board wide the board went from one of the lowest achieving on EQAO in the province to somewhere in the middle. This means increased attention from the province, as this is a major achievement.

PIC Information and Update (Rena): the meeting is October 24th if anyone wants to attend.

Budget Update (Adam): No changes. The insurance has been paid, but hasn't come out of the account yet.

6. Discussion Items

Review of survey results from the June BBQ (Laura)

60 respondents, which is a reasonable amount to review.

Good to have translations of the survey as an option, as they were used.

Some of the findings:

- Families heard about events from the Centennial Connection and notes home
- The majority of people agree that the events are affordable, inclusive, and well timed. Some disagree with this though.
- Most popular school events: End of Year BBQ, Halloween dance, movie nights
- Some ideas for other possible school events to be discussed at the planning meeting
- Most valuable things about school events: "participating in fun events and games with my children."

Fundraising/Event Planning for Upcoming Year (Laura)

We used sticky notes used to determine what's important to people in terms of:

- School Council involvement
- Events
- Fundraising (some small, some bigger. Can think about them, come back prepared to talk about it.)

Details about what we said on the sticky notes to be discussed at the council planning meeting on Monday, Nov 4th.

Meeting structure and frequency

To be discussed at the November 4th planning meeting.

PRO grant ideas

To be discussed at the November 4th planning meeting.

7. Business Arising

Halloween Dance: budget approval

To allow up to \$200 to be spent on the Halloween Dance.

1. Adam
2. Laura

→ Halloween Dance jobs will be sent out so members can recruit other volunteers.

End of Year BBQ

→ Deb will see what the Lions club has available for the BBQ for the second week of June.

Oliver's Labels

→ Terri to send information on the account.

Bylaw Review update defer to November meeting.

Movie Night in November: Adam, Laura, Nicole to work on this event. Need to choose a night to ensure the space is available. Choose from films available through Cine Film. Could be Thursday, Nov 21st before PA Day.

Social Media accounts: Facebook account set up. Thanks Virginia!

Frontenacs Games

If we want to do the group sale of tickets, we have some date options in November-December. Could do another date in January-March if we want.

Could set up a time to have Centennial students sing the national anthem. May be challenging to find enough students and families to do this.

Decision to wait and see about doing one round of group ticket sales in Jan-March.

Decision to also wait for "Chuck a Puck" to be available for the next season.

8. Adjournment at 8:06pm and Next Meetings

→ Planning meeting Nov 4th at 6:30pm

→ November parent council meeting: November 25th at 6:30pm