

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Meeting Agenda - DRAFT

December 8, 2021

7 pm - Zoom Meeting

In Attendance: Graham Arts, Bryan Haigh, Sarah Kalnay-Watson, Annie Casson, Katie Johnson, Dianna Neill

Regrets: Susan Fitzky

Action Items:

September

1. Graham will create a parent feedback survey that will include questions about inclusion
 - Not sent out yet but it is in draft form
 - PAC survey to go out first, then Graham's survey (postponed)

November

1. Susan to reach out the Rainbow Coalition and Disabilities Council for their recommendation.
2. Graham will reach out to Jean Marie to inquire about funding.
3. Graham will talk to Frederic to see if Julie's input would be helpful.

December

1. Graham to offer up to \$100 to teachers for purchasing books for classroom libraries.
2. Shelley to coordinate Treats for Teachers through Birchwood Cafe.
3. Sarah to post looking for recycling coordinator.
4. Graham to purchase gift for John Stephenson.

1. Welcome and approval of agenda and previous minutes (November)

2. Quick Standing Updates

a. Principal's/PAC Financial Report

- Approximately 100 titles about diversity in the library currently
- Writing a proposal for reading materials to support literacy programs
- GSA - Mme Allison did ECE training (Graham completed earlier this year), staff had training in August, GSA meeting happening in January to plan next steps
- Treats for Teachers - thanks to Shelley! Will happen on December 14th, tried Barren Ground, Birchwood will be supplying treats, Shelley will purchase and be reimbursed

- WITS/DIRE - still waiting on teacher's guide
- Posters going up before holidays, teachers introducing common language about problem solving
- Will not be bringing in community role models until restrictions ease, at that point may have police officer, fire fighter, etc
- Starting first schoolwide blitz on positive behaviours (respect, responsibility, success) - emphasis on outside play and making good choices, providing concrete examples
- Students will be recognized with a "wolf", classroom have set individual targets to earn a class reward, if the school gets to 200 wolves, then there will be a school wide reward (ie theme day)
- Spirit week - coming in January in order to give enough time for families to prepare
- New website! New URL coming with next weekly update
- On track to start school wide virtual assemblies in January - will include presentations on WITS/DIRE themes as well as arts performances
- Subway day still going well - thanks Nawsheen! We have been contacted by another school to learn about our system
- Still waiting on storage containers for outdoor play equipment - should be ready by mid-January
- Will be implementing a student cell phone policy - generally speaking, there will be no student cell phone use between 8:20 and 3:20, no recording of photos, videos, voice, etc, without prior approval of staff to allow for appropriate educational use
- School naming committee is done - matter is now in the hands of the trustees - Graham makes a presentation to the board on December 14th, names still under wraps while the trustees consider them, final decision rests with the trustees
- b. Trustee's Report
- Will be looking at school renaming
- Committee work is beginning

3. Hot Topics

a. Inclusive Safe Schools

- Potentially offer classroom teachers up to \$100 to purchase books for their classroom library related to diversity (in any form, including but not limited to race, culture, abilities,

gender, sexuality, and neurodiversity) - if they could provide a quick email update about how they used the books that would be great

ACTION ITEM: Graham to ask classroom teachers if there is any interest, they would submit proposed books to him.

Question: What is meant by gender diversity?

Answer: Books with characters across the gender spectrum, different types of family structures, books that teach about diversity, anything that would fall under the LGBTQ2S+ banner.

Question: Is teaching about the gender spectrum a political issue, rather than an educational one?

Answer: It is important that all of the students at JHS see themselves represented in the books and resources in the school. As the school community includes families and students who identify as LGBTQ2S+, it is important that classes have books that reflect this.

- b. Outdoors Committee - no update
- c. Plant Sale and Seed Sale
 - May not be able to hold the plant sale without a keen teacher - restrictions limiting parent access to the school will make it too hard. Last year Julie Downes took on the bulk of the work
 - Jocelyn will have information about the seed sale, ready to start in January
- d. Parent Information Sessions - no update
- e. Arts at JHS
 - No update, will have to wait on being able to have volunteers in the school
 - Starting to think about time capsule possibilities, will need to wait to hear more about the new school naming and opening
- f. Treats for Teachers
- Happening December 14th from Birchwood Cafe
 - g. Subway lunches
 - h. Communications
- Sarah will do update posts rather than a one page summary
- About 70 members in the JHS PAC Facebook group - please invite your friends

4. Other Items

- a. Recycling Program

- Need a “green” coordinator - Sarah will make a post recruiting someone, did not hear back from Monique
- b. Gift for John Stephenson
 - In the works, Graham will be purchasing this week
- c. PAC Survey
 - Only 7 responses - people may be burnt out at the moment
- d. Music Program
 - Graham will provide a program overview at January meeting
- e. Ski rental
 - Need someone to organize the skis and boots so they are ready to go for distribution
 - If we can't find someone to do it on Monday, December 20th, Graham can arrange to have the sea can open on the weekend for someone to do it then.

Next meeting - Wednesday, January 12, 7:00 pm