CPS School Council Minutes

Date: Jan. 13th, 2025
Time: 7 PM
Location: School Library (and Google Meet for online attendees as needed)

Attendees:
Principal – Sara MacNeill
Teacher Representative – Sherri Cochrane
Co-Chairs – Katie Misener (absent) & Rebecca Hallman
Treasurer – Gena Braun (absent)
Secretary – Kristin Kent
WRAPSC member – TBD
Parents – Kim Hart, Mark Edwards

Agenda Review & Approval

Minutes – review & approval – First motion by Mark and seconded by Rebecca.

PRINCIPALS REPORT – Ms. MacNeill

- Kindergarten registration is now open (Kristin to add to Council Facebook page)
    - Kids born in 2021 are eligible
- Report cards come home Feb. 10th
- Jan 17th PD day is for report card writing
- Term 2 pizza days: Feb. 25, April 1, May 6 and June 3
- Clubs:
    - Grade 7/8 Basketball season has started; lack of teams available – the girls have 2 schools and boys have 4 schools (girls games will double up) to compensate
    - Practices have started and games begin Jan. 21st
    - Basketball Club – grade 7 and 8 (3 teams for intramural play)
    - Dungeons & Dragons club may be starting and is planned for grades 5-8; on hold right now and Sara to touch base with student who has interest in running it
- Assembly this Thursday Jan. 16 with "Saidat" re: kindness, positivity
    - Primary assembly and Junior/Intermediate assembly
    - The "energy team" will be helping get teachers and students involved
- CanSkate has started (grade 1 and 2) on Thursdays
- Grade 2/3 class(es) in April will do Swim to Survive – 3 sessions, parent volunteers needed for transportation
- Jan 13-24 – Foodbank Challenge has started; judging by Woolwich Fire Department and donations go to Woolwich Community Services
- School spirit days – Jan. 31st Summer Fun Day including games; Feb. 10th 100th day of School

CPS School Council Minutes

- Black Brilliance month coming up (February)
- Winter Carnival – Feb. 7th – Hot Chocolate and Vegan Hot Chocolate available; grade 8s will organize with Madame B for French games, etc.
- Gr. 5-8 – Skiing @ Chicopee February 12th

TEACHERS REPORT – Ms. Cochrane

- Crawford Lake – Grade 7/8 trip was good on Friday Jan. 10th learning about indigenous culture
- Ranger Game – 7/8 sang O Canada on Jan. 10th – excellent job!!
- Grade 6-8 – lunches are busy with Basketball club (M/W/F) 1st break
- **STREAM** Club (**S**cience, **T**echnology, **R**obotics, **E**ngineering, **A**rt, **M**ath)
    - STREAM club – assembly this week to introduce the STREAM fair, what they can do, how it will work;
    - starts next Tuesday at 1st break in the library; students that attend will take home a package of information and instructions for STREAM fair
    - Students need to have permission form signed to participate
    - Wednesday March 5th for the day/evening program at school for the displays; Sherri reached out to Science clubs in the city for free advertising; requested to have EDSS Robotics Team; ESQ Wloo Eng; Bookworks, Mad Science, etc.
- Next field trip: January 23rd for Grades 7/8 to WLU hockey game
- Mental Health – Social Worker (Neil Graham) presented on Anxiety to Grade 7/8 today; Porchlight Counselling for 4 Tuesdays starting next week for the Grade 7s re: social/emotional skills, anxiety, etc.
- Skills Ontario – booked for Grade 7 and 8 to do presentation on January 30th on Be Your Own Boss (entrepreneurship)
- Grade 8s will be picking Grade Nine courses one-on-one with Mrs. Cochrane starting in the next couple of weeks; EDSS has added two new courses next year; course selections are due mid-March after confirmation from parents

BUDGET – Gena Braun (absent but notes provided)

- Revenue from the craft fair was deposited ($2327), there was a small Mabels Labels deposit ($55) and we received several HST rebates (as usual).
- Revenue for this year totals $11,135 to date (we budgeted $8110).
- Costs included outstanding gym and recess equipment from last year (details being confirmed), the Brave program, several bus transportation costs for field trips, and gym equipment and a saw for room 5.
- Costs for this year total $7033 to date (we budgeted for $14,785).

CPS School Council Minutes

- The current total account balance is $17,967. In the absence of any unexpected costs or additional revenue, we will have a year end balance of approximately $6800.
- Overall we are on track for revenue/expenses for this year.

Upcoming Expenses:

- Pinnies for Track & Field Day were discussed during last years' council and there wasn't enough time to order them. We'd like to have pinnies/tanks that can be worn by our students when at track and field days, etc. for school spirit, a unified look and easy identification of our students when competing. Most other schools are wearing shirts or pinnies at these events.
    - Sara to reach out to Edna Staebler and/or Northlake Woods PS to find out who their supplier was and we will obtain quotes.
- Ribbons for Track & Field Day – Katie will order based on the numbers required after adjusting from last year

WRAPSC – see WRAPSC minutes for full info

- No attendee from CPS at the Jan. 5th meeting
- Main presentation with lots of information was regarding Nutrition for Learning (NFL) – a nutrition program that provides food/meals to kids in school based on money from the Board and various charities
- CPS does not have this program; huge demand in other schools across the WRDSB and the need far outpaces the budget
- PRO Grant presentation
    - Principals received the info January 7th; applications due Jan. 24th
    - No cap on PRO Grant amount now
    - Various ideas for past PRO Grant events/money can be spent on:
        - E.g. translation services, social bbq, flyers, food distribution, Artificial Intelligence (AI) event, Gender diversity speaker, online aggression (speaker was White Hatter and was an online session), magicians, etc.
- PIC (Parent Involvement Committee) – trying to identify schools that don't have an active council
    - 55% of schools applied for PRO Grant
    - Planning a monthly communication for school councils, e.g. newsletter
    - Pilot parent engagement night
- Large group discussion on the role of WRAPSC
    - Share problems that councils are having so the board is aware of them
    - Best practices so school councils don't have to figure everything out on their own
    - Advocacy
- Next meeting dates: February 5th, April 1st and May 6th

CPS School Council Minutes

FAMILY SKATING

- Sunday February 9th @ 4:30-6:30 at St. Jacobs Arena
- Has payment been sent? Kristin reached out to Gena and will find out where we are at
- Food: Hot Chocolate and TimBits? – Kristin to buy Hot Chocolate at Costco
- Kristin to pick up hot chocolate carafe from school at the end of the day on Friday Feb. 7th and bring Sunday
- Need to advertise on School Day and in Council Facebook Group

BINGO NIGHT – Rebecca Hallman

- BINGO on Feb. 13th at Lions Hall 6:30 pm doors open, Bingo starts at 7 pm
- CASH ONLY
- 18 years and up; anyone is welcome
- KEY POINT: the more people we bring out = larger share of the money that is raised that night

PRO Grant

- Grant proposal is due next Friday, January 24th
- New rule in the application – there's no limit in the amount of money a school can apply for
- Max 10% of the funds can be used on food
- Possible options for PRO Grant application:
  - Binary Tattoo
    - This workshop/information session covers digital fingerprint, the web, security, social media apps for parents and families
    - Cost: $1,000 plus HST
    - We've done this in the past several years ago with a good reception
  - Science in the School – cost is $1650 (no tax, charitable organization)
    - Includes 4 activities, up to 300 participants and 2 student-led activities
    - Offer a marketplace style family night
    - Variety tables in the gym – hands on activities; demos and experiments
    - 90 mins in length on average (e.g. 6:30-8 pm)
    - Activity examples: building a hoopster plane, elephants toothpaste, clothespin car, animal/biology, gravity and water interactions, STROOP challenge, etc.
    - This would be offered in conjunction with the Science Fair night (March 5th)
    - Great for getting ideas for next years STREAM fair and for students to see what it's all about
  - Science in the School also offers a workshop style event but this would require pre-registration from families
  - U of W – still possible, may be free to have them there (e.g. reps from ESQ – Engineering Science Quest)
  - EDSS Robotics would be free and they may be able to bring one of their robots the STREAM Fair evening

CPS School Council Minutes

- Sherri - Stanley Park community centre used to lend out their popcorn and cotton candy machines for free – could be added to the STREAM Fair night?
- Sherri and Sara to fill out ProGrant application and book Science in the School for the marketplace event

PIC Grant ($500)

- Will use this towards the Science in the School/STREAM Fair night if needed

Discussion Items

- **Movie License to have Family Movie Nights at the school**
  - cost $400 for a one-year license (Includes Disney, Marvel, Pixar, Universal, DreamWorks etc.)
  - license is for 365 days once you buy it so we can use it over two (2) school years
  - gym capacity (est. 300) for indoor events – families bring their chairs, blankets, etc.
  - Snacks could be sold to fundraise, i.e. Popcorn (Grade 8s did this in the past to raise money for end of year trip/activities, etc. as allowed)
  - could also be done outdoors on a school wall or in the field with a sheet in the soccer net
  - Teachers can also use the license for special classes (e.g. last day before winter break, March Break, end of year, etc.)
  - Purchase of the Movie License to be voted on at the next meeting

*Possible topic for next meeting: Request ideas for investment from parents and/or teachers since we ***may*** have excess funds this year (e.g. STREAM fair supplies – could be used from the Club line in the Budget; however, depending on PRO Grant amount received this may not be an issue.)

ADJOURNMENT Kristin motioned to adjourn the meeting and Kim Hart seconded.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday February 18th, 2025 @ 7 pm in the Library