

Minutes of Executive Council Meeting Mon Oct 21st, 2013

Present: Beth Mills, Ryan Rogerson, Shannon Salisbury, Domenica Dileo, Elizabeth Palermo, Joanne Blanchette, Cheryl Hooper

Regrets: Robin Holmes-Smythe, Hannun Lyn

Welcome and Intro.

Read purpose of Council.

Conferences Occurring: TDSB Special Education Council Meeting last Sat. Shannon attended. Next year it is perhaps a good idea to get information out to parents so they could attend. It has much useful information on how to negotiate the system.

Nov 2nd – People for Education Conference @ Rottman Centre on College. Shannon to attend and report back.

Principals Report

Beth has a list of parent's emails. She will give them to Kim.

Student population is at 70. Kindergarten is full. 1-2 is full. 3-4 there is one more space. 5-6 ?

We are receiving inquiries for next year.

Environmental Afternoons: Jolen and Peyton are working well together. Purpose is to build powers of observation, build healthy relationships. There are some challenges around safety that are being addressed.

In order to better facilitate these outdoor activities for children who sometimes don't dress for the weather, it would be useful if **the parent reps could send out a request to the parents to donate some items that their children might have outgrown. Eg: jackets, mitts, hats and boots. Especially for the 1-2 grades.**

Dates for Festivals and Events.

Email sent to parents with a list of relevant dates for the 2013/2014 school year.

Thursday Oct 31 Halloween Celebrations. Parade at 1 30 around the block or in the gym at 12 45 if it rains. In an attempt to emulate Waldorf, non commercial, non violent, no weapons, no masks (could bring mask for parade but not for inside the school). Parents are welcome to join us for the parade if they wish to share in the experience.

Thursday Nov 21 5 30 – 6 30 pm Lantern walk

Meet at Crocodile Island, practice song. Parade lowest grades to highest grades. No live flame. **Council to map out route and request volunteers to marshal at specific locations around the route. Decide on posts and have people in place ahead of time. Have Parent Reps request volunteers from their parents for this task.**

Hot chocolate with mini marshmallows to be available after parade outside junior doors. **Parent reps to request parents to bring snacks.**

Joanne is going to get a book wish list from each teacher (4-5 books per class) and set up a list at Indigo. Parents who want to contribute can purchase a book from the wish list for the school.

Issues as a new school.

Shannon to send out an email requesting families fill out a statement of needs form.

5 year review

Formal/Informal. Possibly near end of school year. Sandy Best (Board rep for Alternative schools has offered to come out of retirement and facilitate. Where are we now and how do those core values fit with what we are doing. Where are we located? Are we within the parameters of the Board Mandate?

Fine tune, develop and define da Vinci. Who are we? What are we doing right now? Why are we here? Where do we want to go? Strike a committee to work with Marg Beard 4-5 people. Couple of faculty, couple of parents. Possibly a rep from each classroom. Possibly committee by Skype. **Cheryl to contact Marg to see how many people she wanted to work with.**

Budget \$1467

What to do about childcare? It eats up a large portion of our limited budget at \$20/hr. Perhaps we can rotate through parents?

Donation vs. fundraising. Cheryl to craft an email to request donations and what the money goes to. ALSO requesting ideas for fundraising. Ryan has many ideas for potential fundraising activities.

Elizabeth to be in charge of a newsletter to go out to parents.

School picnic to occur Sat May 31st

Next meeting dates:

Dec 4th 7pm, Feb 5th 7pm, April 2nd 7pm