

Gandatsetiagon School Community Council (SCC)
Minutes of Meeting – Wednesday November 13, 2019

In Attendance: Principal – John Hamilton (departed ~7:00 pm); VP – Frank Samuels; Erinlee Murray-Fellin (Teacher rep); Megan Wright; Tara Harrison; Kerri Callaghan; Andrea Vaughan; Jennifer Yule, Amanda Singh, Candace Christian, Maddalena Desira

Meeting called to order by Megan Wright, SCC Chair at 6:30 pm

Principal's Report:

- Mr. Hamilton remarked on recent things that have been happening at the school and good community engagement
 - Halloween Dance very well received
 - Remembrance Day assembly – good turnout of parents, guardians
 - Library & chromebooks – book fair on now
- Implementing Culturally Responsive Pedagogy – continuum to make curriculum more relevant and responsive to multi-cultural needs and experiences of the kids
- Parent Teacher Interviews this week
- Bully Awareness & Prevention Week – Nov 17-23, 2019
- Faces on the data underway
- Next meeting – expect updates regarding School Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Wellbeing (SIPSAW) and results of School Self-Assessment

Fundraising Update:

Laura Secord Chocolates:

- Went well overall, very successful in terms of outcome **~\$12,000 raised**
- Down to 18 outstanding boxes/payments; Melissa has offered to help in doing any necessary phone calls / follow-ups to try and resolve

Halloween Dance

- As usual the event was very well received, kids had lots of fun; much appreciation for volunteer efforts!
- Amanda prepared notes on event details/organization for future reference; collected by Megan
- **\$1,527 raised**

Treasurer's Report:

Items approved at last meeting have come out of the SCC account – Silverbirch program and Girl Talk

Expenses for Laura Secord Chocolates still to come out. Following that, there is ~\$9,000 remaining in the SCC account.

Staff Requests / Purchase Items:

Items discussed:

- Class allotment (\$ amount per class / teacher)
- Full funding of Scientist in the School (1 per class) ~\$4,400 (last year deposit of \$1,500 was approved)
 - Discussion regarding the merit in student activities being paid for by students; also noted Scientist in school usually not done by intermediate classes
 - Option for SCC to subsidize Scientist in School for K-6 and subsidize a field trip or something else for 7-8
- Gym doors and wall decal
 - Initial quote for decal lower than anticipated, but more info still needed
 - Also need confirmation on gym painting
- Kindergarten area – lacking larger items for kids play
 - More details needed here on what would be useful

Mr. Samuels noted preference for requests from teachers/staff to come through him or Mr. Hamilton to bring to SCC. He will raise with staff that we are looking for input on items to fund.

Decision to defer any allocations at this time pending more information on the gym, gathering of any staff requests, and to space out the allocations over the year.

PRO Grant:

Candace provided an update on the Regional SCC Meeting that she and Amanda attended on October 29, including the collaborative planning breakout session on the PRO Grant.

What's new?

- Durham region's pool for PRO Grant funding cut from \$100,000 to \$40,000
- Only grants from schools working in collaboration with other schools likely to be funded now

Pine Ridge – working on proposal for a wellness themed event with all Pickering schools invited

As grants are limited to \$3,000, still merit in our school putting together a proposal and looking for other schools in the area to include – suggestion to pursue a different theme than wellness given Pine Ridge's proposal – possibly a cultural awareness event.

Next steps:

- Send any thoughts/ideas to gandyscc@gmail.com
- Revisit at next meeting for decisions on proceeding with proposal
- Proposals due January 15, 2020

Holiday Fundraiser:

Tara provided detailed proposal for a December Holiday event.

- Concessions & Raffle Tickets sold during two Holiday concert nights
 - December 4: Kindergarten (5-6pm), Grades 1-6 Part 1 (6-7pm), Part 2 (7-8pm)
 - December 11: Intermediates 6:30 – 8:00pm
- Raffle suggestion – mystery boxes based on themes containing donated items
- Volunteers needed – during event for sales and possibly day of/evening prior for preparing/packaging food items

Next steps:

- E-mail Megan (gandyscc@gmail.com) if you are interested in being involved / can volunteer

Other items:

- Exploring communication channels for easier co-ordination
 - Remind app – set up SCC as a classroom
- Google calendar to consolidate SCC fundraising events and other fundraising happening at the school

Next SCC Meeting:

Tuesday, December 10, 2019 @ 6:30 in the Library