



## **Maple Ridge Elementary School Council**

**Meeting Minutes October 13th, 2015**

**6:30 – 8:10pm**

### **Attendees:**

Cynthia Allen, Elitza Palator, James Martin, Keith Penny, Tamara Johnson, Natalie Makara, Nicole Guertin-Colverson, Wil Dykstra, Shealee Free, Jacquie Jette, Barbara MacIntyre, Robin Januska and Tracy Murben

### **Meeting called to Order** – Cynthia Allen

Meeting agenda approved. All in favour

Approval of September meeting minutes – Approved by Barbara MacIntyre, seconded by Cynthia Allen

### **School Trustee Update** - Keith Penny (school trustee for zone 8)

- Keith came to discuss some of the trending topics that are being had within the larger school board meetings. These items include:
  - **Early French Immersion**
    - Early French Immersion program and the proposed changes. We have been invited to attend a meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 at 7:30pm. This will be held at Falling Brook Public School. If you cannot attend there is a survey that was both sent out and is house on the board website.
  - **ARC process**
    - ARC process district staff are in a review period at the moment. There has been an ask to extend the review process. There is a web consultant that has been hired to support this initiative.
  - **Committee Hubs**
    - Committee Hubs using schools and also having them serve as community centers. This within areas that do not have a community center. This would also help raise additional funds in the more rural schools where YOY there is a decline in the enrollment.
  - **Budget**
    - Next year there is to be a total of ~8 million dollars I adjustments. The goal is to have no front line personal affected, rather looking at ways to cut cost outside of hours. One aspect that will be reviewed is transportation.
  - **Strategic plans**

- This year the plans have been designed to only focus on 5 areas vs previous years where there were 10 areas of focus. This will allow for more focus on fewer key areas by the board members.
- Keith welcomed us to reach out at any point for questions and/or concerns.

### **Principal Report** – Nicole Guertin-Colverson

- Mrs. Colverson shared the proposed changes to the Early French Immersion program. What was shared was the same information that was sent home and can be found on the board's website. It is strongly encouraged that we participate in this meeting. Meeting will take place on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 at 7:30pm, held at Falling Brook Public School. If you cannot attend there is a survey that was both sent out and is on the board website. There will also be an email sent out to remind parents/guardians about this meeting.
- This year's school council insurance has been covered by the board, our current coverage runs through until October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016. The proof of insurance has been given to Cynthia Allen for the file.
- 2015/2016 school picture day is taking place on October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015. We are using a new company based on feedback that was received last year and based on the level of professionalism and service it appears as though this company will be great to work with.
- Greening is on pace for this fall, we will follow up with Geoff from the board for further approvals. Keith Penny has also offered his assistance if anything gets stalled anywhere.
- Student verification forms are just about completed. This has been a very long exercise needing a lot of follow up, this is going to be done by end of month.
- Maple Ridge "Me to We" team has been invited to send ~22 students to take part in the celebration at Canadian Tire Center in November. There will be bracelets on sale in the coming weeks that will further support their efforts. The cost of the bracelets are \$10.00 – stay tuned for more details.

### **Financial Report** – Wil Dykstra

- 2014/15 review has been completed and everything was approved by Sylvia.
- Within the report you will see that there is a 30k commitment to the school. Although it has not been spent, it has been allotted for.
- "TAM" bags have been approved in last meeting, the receipts have been given to Will for payment.

### **Chair Report** – Cynthia Allen

- Principal's Profile
  - The principle profile has been completed with the only addition made:
    - We would like a principle to be an advocate for a green space and outdoor educational opportunities.

- Council reviewed the profile and it was approved. Cynthia will add in the one revision and ensure it gets to the board.
- School Council Training day
  - All documents from this training day that took place are posted on the website for you to reference. This was a very informative session and spoke about parent engagement and the benefits to a child.
- Entertainment Book Fundraiser
  - Thank you to everyone who was able to help out packing and distributing the entertainment books.
  - We are looking for collection to take place on October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 at 8:30am. If you can make it, please arrive at the school that morning. You can also reach out to Cynthia to advise you will be there to help.
- Butterfly Garden Certification Ceremony
  - The official ribbon cutting ceremony will take place on October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015. We will have the butterfly garden plaque added to the wall that day as well. The Orleans Star paper has been invited to capture this very exciting ceremony.
- PRO grant activities
  - An email will be coming out soon for the November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 event. All student will have to come with a parent, it is taking place at the school. There is room for a total of 90 kids to participate in the event, it will start at 6:00pm.
- Fundraising
  - There was discussion around fundraising and what other ideas could be put forward to raise money for the school. There was discussion around partnering with Bath and body works, really finding new ways to attract engagement with little overhead and time needed. Shealee to follow up with Bath and Body to work out partnership.

### **Wish List**

- Mrs. Dunn has request our support for a Forest of reading book club. For \$1611.00 + tax, we can purchase the books for this year's book club. We did this last year and the feedback was wonderful, the order if approved is to be made on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015.
  - This was approved by council and the purchase order can now be put through.

### **Take away items needing follow –up:**

- Cynthia to send across the links for the information that Keith Penny shared.
- Ms. Colverson will be sending an email out to remind parents about the French immersion meetings that will be taking place.
- Shealee to follow up on fundraising ideas and share the details in next meeting.
- Ms. Colverson to confirm the dates for the retirement dinner this year. Once that is firmed up we will be able to make a decision on the Family Fun Day. – (10.13.2015 still awaiting dates)
- Will to send Shealee and Cynthia a scanned copy of the 2014 / 2015 financial review for the official record.

- If you can come on October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015; we will be collecting the entertainment books at 8:30am.

Cynthia thanked present Council members and motioned to adjourn the meeting 8:10pm.

October 13th, 2015 meeting minutes approved by MRES council:

APPROVED

November 10/2015

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Executive Signature

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Date