

Alma Public School Council Meeting

Date: May 5, 2022

Council Executive:

Amanda Reid – Council Chair

Paula O'Donnell – Secretary

Betty-Sue Driedger – Treasurer

Jason Boyce – School Principal

Angela Ackroyd – Fundraising Chair

Crystal Schnarr & Betty-Sue Driedger – Snack Program

Council Members/Attendees:

Jason Boyce

Betty-Sue Driedger

Amanda Reid

Paula O'Donnell

Vera Snowe

Crystal Schnarr

Laura Freeman

Charlene Snyder

Veronique Roesink-Dann

Angela Massey

Angela Tearle

Emily Huehn

Laura Ferrier

Welcome (Amanda Reid):

-welcome

-motion to accept minutes from Feb meeting - 1st Crystal, 2nd Angela T

Principal's Report (Jason Boyce):

-1st in-person (hybrid) meeting

-thank you to parents for continuing to do their daily screening

-nice that we're able to mix classes again

-opened a multi-faith prayer room (resource room)

- \$1000 donated by Grand River Agriculture Society - towards snack program
 - 3 TVs have been delivered (funded by Board tech funding)
- milk program is a hit
 - milk cards must be used by end of year
 - any unused portion will be considered a donation to the milk program
 - will be offering a card of 12 from now until year end
- pizza day - still not enough staff at restaurants to be able to accommodate
 - have looked at other options, nothing available this year
 - hopefully for next year
- spirit wear sales are coming before the end of the year
 - order forms will be going home with students
- Upper Grand EQAO testing for grades 3 and 6 will be happening
 - it's done online now
 - smaller assignments, different format than usual
 - longer time frame to complete, now until the end of June
- playground inspection is completed
 - there are a few areas of concern
 - getting quotes for repairs needed
 - the larger climber is aging, need to start thinking about the next steps
 - safety rules keep changing
 - keep in mind purchase and maintenance costs
- the last staff meeting has been postponed to next week
 - new options available for year end
 - grade 6 grad is go-ahead, as much as possible outside
 - conferring with Salem, Ponsonby and Elora to keep it similar
 - date will be Monday June 27th

- haven't had a chance to check with staff yet
- thinking about a school wide get-together in June, BBQ
- 5 things emails will continue
 - June 3rd is a PA day, May 24 is a holiday
- Upper Grand is working on staffing transfers and placements for Sep, no info yet
- Mental Health focus is starting
 - Feel Good Fridays from now until end of year
 - classes will all be meeting to discuss each weeks theme
- Charlene asked if parents will be planning grade 6 grad like in past?
 - it could look different this year, not sure yet
- Will there be a kindie grad?
- Will there be a kindie orientation?
- Will grade 6s get to visit Elora?
 - working on making these happen if possible

Treasurer's Report (Betty-Sue Driedger):

- account balances:
 - school council fundraising general \$1,976.95
 - school council general \$16.35 (account to transfer in/out)
 - school council playground \$14,981.33
 - snack program \$2,928.17
- income received:
 - HST Rebate from 20/21 School Year \$52.48
 - Proceeds from JD Sweid Optimists Fundraiser - \$835.00
- expenses out:
 - \$115 Scientists in the School program for grade 1/2 class (50%)
 - \$115 Scientists in the School program for KA class (50%)
 - \$115 Scientists in the School program for grade ½ class (50%)
- potential upcoming expenses:
 - \$115 for KB class of Scientists in the School

-Amanda asked about grad money?

- \$20 per grade 6 student, \$75 for the ceremony

- motion to approve, Emily 1st, Angela T 2nd

-Donations for Mr B were \$575

- \$200 went towards flowers

- remaining \$375 went as a donation to Green Legacy (as requested by family)

- Green Legacy has already received \$2500 in his name

Old Business:

- \$500 School Council Funds for parent engagement

- parent lending library

- books can be sent home with children

- 2 books per family, for 2 weeks

- motion to move ahead with this idea, Crystal 1st, Laura Ferrier 2nd

- front garden

- Mrs Scott's class has cleaned up what they could

- checked with school greening grounds and call before you dig

- can't have any machinery because of water tanks in ground

- got 4 free yards of mulch

- put around trees at back, and remaining in front garden

- can do small changes, nothing big

- Thank you to Mrs Scott's class

New Business:

- UGDSB volunteer policy is being updated

- likely will be voted in in June

- parents dealing with small groups of students (like field trips, or small group reading), need a police and vulnerable sector check (current within 6 months)

- new process, meeting with principal as well
- volunteers for class presentations don't need the check done yet
- check is done at volunteer's expense
- letter can be provided by school
- field trip planned for ½ class May 19th

Committee Updates:

-Fundraising

- need to submit next year's plan by mid-June
- Angela T is proposing:
 - end of Nov - Santa's Helper & Mom's Pantry
 - mid Dec - Kitchen Cuttings
 - beg of Mar - JD Sweid & Harriston Meat
 - spring - planters/flowers, first aid kits & family fun night
- other ideas to look into: poinsettias, Magic Pebble, cinnabon

Questions:

- Vera asked about track and field?
 - looking into it, difficult with bus shortages
- Paula asked about bike rodeo?
 - looking into it, will check with Optimists

Next Meeting: June 2nd, at 6:30pm

Motion to adjourn - Crystal 1st, Vera 2nd