School Council Meeting St. Augustine's Elementary
December 18, 2023

In attendance: Walter King, Diana Lahey, Lois Vokey, Jenna Vokey, Cathy Tulk, Ashley Arnold, Andrea Clarke
Online/Phone: Joey Somerton (Telephone), Erin Blake (Google Meet)

Regrets: Brad Lawrence, Quinton Johnson, Amanda Murray, Chris Doyle, Lori Pynn

1. Meeting called to order
Jenna called the meeting to order. Diana seconded at 6:07.

2. Minutes of last meeting
Diana Lahey motioned to pass the minutes.
Second by Lois Vokey

3. Principal's report
SAE School Council Protocol Agreement
-was reviewed and those not in attendance at the last meeting signed.
Playground
-A few more donations were made (A few $100 donations were made)
- The town council is going to write a letter of support to the school council regarding the decision of the location of the playground (not to be placed on top of the water line, in the front of the school).

- Chase the Ace will be planned for after Christmas for a fundraiser for the playground.
-40th Anniversary supper for past staff, public proceeds going to the playground

Lunch program
- A letter was given to Hangry Miner and emailed to them stating that as of December 4, 2023, Hangry Miner will only be delivering to our school on Tuesdays and Thursdays and their menu options will be changing to meet the guidelines. Families are permitted to deliver food to their own children, however, they are not permitted to deliver in bulk to others.
- Hangry Miner owners, Amanda and Dwayne Yetman came to the school to meet with Andrea to discuss this decision. Katrina Vanta(guidance counsellor) attended this meeting with Andrea.
- It was decided in a meeting with Andrea (Principal), Joe (Chair), Sarah Burton (School Health Promotion Liaison Consultant) and Lesley Burgess (Eastern Health Regional Nutritionist) to wait until after Christmas because the lunch program ordering was already done. Kirk (DOS) was informed of this decision. Therefore, Hangry Miner is to continue until Christmas but follow the changes to their menu that were stated in the meeting with Andrea and Katrina.

-Sent home a letter to this effect and emailed and gave one to Amanda for the business. After careful considerations, St. Augustine's have decided to allow Hangry Miner to continue until Christmas, however, they are to follow the guidelines for healthy eating. They have not been following the guidelines spoken of in the letter: still serving fries, etc.
- The council has to come to a consensus about if we want to keep Hangry Miner and possibly lose the school lunch program.
- Andrea expressed the importance of the school lunch program as an important asset to the school and that it must be protected. The school has a contract with School lunch. The school has gone against the contract.
-During the Healthy Eating PL, it was expressed that there will be a no "Bulk Orders" policy that will be introduced in the New Year when NLESD changes to NLSchools, Dept. of Education. Right now we have the legacy policies.
- Based on the consensus of the school council, a letter will be constructed and delivered to Hangry Miner
- The general consensus: To keep school lunch
- To put into motion As of January 2, SAE will no longer be accepting orders from Outside Restaurants.
- Suggestion from Joey Sommerton: To outline what CAN and what CANNOT happen in the school in regards to orders outside of the school for lunches. As of JANUARY 2nd:

- No restaurants will be permitted to deliver orders to St. Augustine's Elementary.
- Parents can bring in individual food items of their choice (with healthy eating kept in mind)
- If bulk orders do arrive, the school CANNOT and will not accept the food and it will be returned to the restaurant.
- Other healthy food items (breakfast items) will be available for students whose orders are refused by the school.
- Parents are responsible for delivering food items to their own children.

-The council discussed having more options in the school lunch program for children.
-SAE will look into providing for parents who cannot sign up for school lunch online and provide a paper copy instead.
- Although there is concern over the relationship with this local business but;

- we have to follow healthy school food guidelines set out by the department
- we already have lunch provider in our school that we have a contract with
- School Lunch is funded by the government and families who cannot afford to pay, do not have to. It is available to everyone at whatever cost the families want to pay.
- Schools are not permitted to stop families from what they bring to their children. They can encourage healthy eating however, it is up to families' discretion.

-Motion was made by Ashley Arnold, second by Cathy Tulk for ALL outside Restaurants to stop bringing in orders to SAE as of January 2nd.
-Motion was passed with 100% in agreement.

Christmas Fundraiser
-Andrea applied November 4, 2023 and never got word until it was too late to put out tickets.

School Development
-Healthy Eating (already discussed)
-Andrea discussed how family engagement has gone down. The school team also discussed Healthy eating which is wellness and positive relationships as a strategic issue
- Continuing to look for ideas for family engagement: Christmas Parade float, Tree lighting ceremony, prizes at Akita awards (for every family that comes, their names will be added to a draw to win a prize), parent volunteers to help clean the library up, lunch, parent oversee and help the school feel less intimidating for parents, discuss other ideas, bedtime stories at night with PJs and night time snacks, movie night in the Gym (not the whole school at the same time) : Couch during movie, Spring concert (opening doors earlier because the Christmas concert was so delayed) - Canteen open earlier to sell water and soda, prize for the child selling most tickets when selling tickets

4. <u>Old business</u>
A. Playground update already discussed
B. Lunch Program already discussed

5. <u>No New business</u>
A. Christmas dinner: Students will get buses at 12:30 to arrive at the hall at 1:00. All stakeholders invited
B. Lunch Program remains

6. <u>Date of next meeting</u>
Thursday, January 11th.

7. <u>Closing</u>
First by Ashley Arnold
Second by Cathy Tulk