
Baltimore Public School – Parent Council

Meeting Minutes –May 10, 2023

Members present: Renee Cameron, Jane Oulahan, Trisha Litchenberger, Breeann Cochrane, Cait Miller, Anthony Bassutti, Chelsea Neill, Jen Pendergast

- Minutes from the previous meeting were approved. Several decisions made between meetings via e-mail:

- (1) Spring Fun Fair Budget approved - \$6037.50 (Motion carried April 3, 2023)
- (2) End of Year Bus for Toronto Zoo Trip - \$650 (Motion carried April 28, 2023)
- (3) Bus for Grade 6 Trip to Ganaraska - \$650 (Motion carried May 19, 2023)

- President discussion re: goals for future
 - Short term – school trips, etc.
 - Midterm – school lab, etc.
 - Long term – New equipment, climbing wall, etc.

NOTE: Fun Fair to assist with long-term goal of new equipment. They have attended to inspect the playground, and both playground areas were measured. There was a discussion re: including the students to vote on what they want to see in the playground. We need to determine the goal level and depending on prices, we may only be able to do one structure at a time. Grants discussed. There are several community grant requests we can apply for within the township. For example, one option relates to if students are allowed to play on the equipment outside of school hours or grants related to accessibility and parks and recreation.

Fun Fair needs more volunteers. Trish said that she would send out the donation letter to council along with the Google doc and volunteer survey. Tickets are to go out on school cash online for people to start purchasing. Raffle license can be applied for by the school or as parent/teacher organization. Another Baltimore parents is assisting with the process with the Township and will advise of the proper application process.

Dominoes Fundraiser: This fundraiser was a success, raising \$840.

Yearbook: It is near the end of completion. One final blast to be sent by Jan prior to the deadline.

Update as of May 18, 2023: "Yearbook was finalized and sent to print yesterday afternoon. 164 orders!!" Tracey and Rachel noted that they have big ideas for next year to make the process smoother for teachers, and to ensure there is ample time to put it together. They wanted to thank everyone for their help.

Healthy Hunger: Booster Juice went well. Although it was a bit late (10-15min), it should be okay for next week. Cait and Brianna may put out a poll to see if there is something that parents would like, but will decide further next year.

Grade 6 Grad: The Grade 6 Grade committee requested \$500 from council for décor. All in favour and motion was approved. Grade 6 grad shirts were discussed with Renee, who noted that the school would be going forward with them.

Treasurer's Report: Jan is working to include the transfers for people who have been spending the \$200 for classrooms. Renee noted that there are 5 staff left to utilize this, and they have until Monday to finalize their decision. \$1200 has been spent and there is around \$12,000 remaining in the council fund. \$500 received for Fun Fair and Donations.

Teacher's Report: Incubators were purchased for the kindergarten classes and there are six chicks to date. Mark purchased a ukelele for the classroom/ukelele club. Jane purchased magnetic tiles for her classroom. Derek purchased books and boardgames. Holly purchased math and 3D shapes. Other purchases included bus for school trips, caterpillars and calculators.

Baltimore is currently undefeated in athletics this year. 3-pitch, Ultimate and the Talent Show is underway. Gr 1 and 2 bike rodeo is on May 19. They will have 9 stations for skill development. Track and field is coming up, and there will be a play day in June. Baltimore will be celebrating Red Shirt Day of Action for AccessAbility and Inclusion on May 31, 2023, to show their support for disabled people and their families, celebrate the achievements of disabled Canadians, and to pledge their commitment to help create a fully accessible and inclusive society. Year end trips are also starting.

A question was raised re: the Crockadoodle tiles the children completed following the pandemic. Mr. Duke has offered to make holders for the tiles. They are hoping the tiles will be up soon.

Principals Report: On the PA Day, staff had Mandatory H&S and additional training to learn about Islamophobia. The school board had a live stream which included the National Council of Canadian Muslims.

Renee has applied for the President's Choice Children's Charity Grant. Jan has been running the school nutrition program, and Renee informed that this grant has approved \$7000 toward this program for next year.

EQAO has started this week, though they won't be able to discuss the results until the fall when they are provided with more information. The tests are not the same, though they are comparable. If a student is away, they are not counted (whereas previous years absences have impacted school scores). Students have until June 6 to complete the testing.

Renee also said that she has secured exercise bikes for the kids. She said that they have one and are getting three more. The bike fleet will be located in front of the office, and they plan to have something playing on the TV. Once the bikes are there, teachers will be provided with a pass for two kids to attend at a time to ride for 20 minutes. Renee noted that this will benefit many kids to allow for a break before returning to class.

Other Business: None noted.

Next meeting TBD. No specific date set at this meeting.