
Baltimore Public School - Parent Council

Meeting Minutes - December 6, 2023

Members Present: Renee Cameron, Tracey Lowe, Breeann Cochrane, Ashley Daniel, Danielle Dafoe, Pam Graham, Emily Murray, Steph Ewart, Jenn Kerswell, Lindsey Logel

Minutes from previous meeting (November 8, 2023) were approved.

Meeting minutes can now be found in the Parent Council group on Edsby and at the school website <https://baltimore.kprdsb.ca/Community/School%20Council>

- Goals for Parent Council
 - Short Term - Trips, Fundraisers, Support Teachers/Classrooms
 - Mid Term - Technology
 - Long Term - New Equipment, Climbing Wall
- Parent Council Funding Support for Classrooms
 - \$200 for each teacher re: classroom needs
 - Additional requests: proposals to be submitted 2 weeks prior to council meeting date to Mr. Duke which he will forward to the treasurer
 - A reminder about this funding will be sent to the teachers
 - Renee advised that the School Board will not allow the teachers to create an Amazon Wish List because they can't monitor it. Classroom materials and textbooks must come out of the school budget.

Fundraising

- Update provided by Breeann Cochrane
 - **Mabel's Labels** - ongoing
 - The link will continue to be shared.
 - **Hot Lunch Program**
 - The Food Handlers Course still hasn't been announced. Renee will advise as soon as it is.
 - A Google doc was created for parent volunteers to sign up to help with getting the food ready and out to students on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The sign up sheet has been working well.
 - It would be helpful to have two parent volunteers on Wednesdays.

- **Holiday Fundraisers**
 - All sales for the Dieleman Fundraising, the Fundscrip Gift Cards and the Holiday Sweepstakes were due on November 22nd.
 - The winners of the Holiday Sweepstakes were announced yesterday.
 - It was suggested that if another Sweepstakes is held that ballots are only sent home with the eldest child of each family.
 - A total of \$4,904.81 was raised from the Holiday Fundraisers.
- Other Fundraisers planned for the 2023 / 2024 school year:
 - Domino's Pizza Nights
 - Kernel's Fundraiser
 - Spring Market
 - Potential dates are April 13 or 14, 2024
 - The Best Western has agreed to donate a room that would fit up to 9 vendors or they may be able to provide a discount on a larger room that would hold 20 tables. More information will come next week.
 - It was discussed that a small entry fee be charged.
 - Tweekie Tuesday Spirit Days
 - The first one took place on December 5th.
 - \$274 was raised for the teachers' fund.
 - Hot Dog Days
 - Would need to have Food Handlers qualified people.
 - Would be part of the junk food allowance days.
 - It was suggested that all natural options are looked into.
 - Family Trivia Night - May 5th during Education Week
 - Renee will be doing the trivia.
- Breeann also mentioned that Jim's Pizza is interested in doing a fundraising night.
- Arrowmatic Foods (Luke Herron) has also discussed a fundraising idea with Breeann where 50% of the cost of their spice jars would be donated back to the school.
- These fundraising ideas may have to be part of next year's fundraising as the fundraising for this year has already been planned and approved.

Yearbook

- Update provided by Tracey Lowe.
 - Approximately 20 kids have joined the "Yearbook and Media" Club

- The club was made open to Grade 6 students only.
- The first picture taking day was yesterday for the spirit day.
- There's a schedule for every day for the next two weeks and this will be scaled back in the New Year.
- The kids are using the iPads.
- Tracey is working out the logistics and checking the quality of the photos.
- Tracey is hoping some of the pictures can be put on Edsby and the TV in the front hall.
- Parents are encouraged to send any photos of sporting events or school trips to yearbook.baltimoreps@gmail.com

Regional School Council Meeting

- Update provided by Pam Graham, who attended the meeting on December 5, 2023.
 - Shared information around grants, best practices, fundraising, etc.
 - The guest speaker at the meeting was Colin McKeen, Senior Finance Minister. He discussed fundraising and the process for getting new playgrounds.
 - Upcoming Meetings:
 - February 6, 2024 - Pam Graham has offered to attend
 - April 16, 2023 - Jen Pendergast has offered to attend.

Treasurer's Report

- Update provided by Danielle Dafoe
 - Approximately \$22,000 plus additional \$12,000 from Fun Fair Fundraising that was provided through cash donations. KPR maintains donations in a separate account.
 - It was discussed that individuals can make donations to the school through School Cash online. This option should be promoted.

Teacher's Report

- Tracey advised that there have not been any new requests from teachers.

Principal's Report

- Update provided by Renee Cameron
 - Breakfast club- an average of 25 per day; highest day 38
 - Upcoming events

- Dec 11 Gr 4-6 Author visit-Shane Peacock; CYBK Candy Canes- celebrating kindness at school and home
- Dec 12- Jack in the Beanstock
- Dec 15- Bus Safety Presentation
- Dec 18- Winter Fun Activities: Each day, mixed grade groups rotate to:
 - Hand bells, jingle bells, bell necklace
 - Candy cane scavenger hunt
 - Baking cookies
 - Marshmallow igloo building
 - Gym- Reindeer Games
 - Karaoke Dance Party
 - Bucket Drumming
 - Kahoot- Winter Movie Trivia
 - Make a Santa Box, Tree ornament
 - Make a penguin craft
 - Make a star ornament or candy cane
 - ** School will share a wish list for families to donate materials for these activities
- January- Renee is organizing 2 trips to Brimacombe on Jan 11 and Feb 1; cost increase due to gas. We are offering support to families that need help to pay.

Other Business

- The April 26, 2024 PA Day has now been moved to April 8, 2024 due to the Solar Eclipse.
- School Equipment Update:
 - 2024 Community Grant for Hamilton Township
 - Renee and Pam will be doing the presentation on December 12th.
 - The grant would help fund the swings on the junior side (a 4 seater with one inclusive swing).
 - Hendersons has been to the site and provided a quote of \$16,000 which included reusing the pea stone.
 - Another quote was received for \$24,500 and this would include resurfacing the ground.
- It was determined that schools don't qualify for the Ontario Trillium Foundation grant.

- The Parents Reaching Out grant is due December 21st and the Ministry will provide schools with \$1000 to host an event to connect parents on how to overcome obstacles with teaching kids.

Next Meeting: February 8th, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at CJ's Restaurant in Cobourg. PLEASE RSVP re: attendance so we are able to make reservations.