***Baltimore Public School Council***

***Meeting Minutes – December 4, 2024***

**Members Present (Staff):** Renee Cameron

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| **Members Present (Parents):** |
|  | Rachel Austin |
|  | Kierstin Cochrane |
|  | \*Danielle Dafoe (Chair) |
|  | \*Ashley Daniel (Secretary) |
|  | Jenn Kerswill |
|  | \*Lindsay Logel (Treasurer) |
|  | Brianna Petersen |
|  | Stephanie Ewart |

Minutes from previous meeting (October 23, 2024) were approved.

NOTE: Meeting minutes can be found on Edsby in the Parent Council group and electronically on the School Website <https://baltimore.kprdsb.ca/Community/School%20Council>

* Goals for Parent Council (Same):
	+ Short Term - Trips, Fundraisers, Support Teachers/Classrooms
	+ Mid Term – Technology, Basketball Nets
	+ Long Term - New Playground Equipment

**Fundraising:**

* Order of events:
	+ - October 24th – Pizza Night – Went well!!
		- October 29th – Popcorn Sales – raised $250
		- Holiday Arrangement Sales – everyone loved them!! $2800 Thank you to the volunteers for all their hard work!
		- December 11th – Concert “Best seat in the house/VIP parking Sweepstakes & popcorn/water sales”
		- March 6th – Glo Dance Party – Glow stick & popcorn sales
		- April 10th – Pizza Night
		- May 10th – Baltimore Blooms
			* Bree to work on flyer
		- May TBD – Popcorn Sales
		- May – Talent Show “Best seat in the house/VIP parking sweepstakes & popcorn/water sales”
		- June 3rd – Fun Fair
		- June 12th - Arrowmatics
* Ongoing Fundraisers:
	+ **Mabel’s Labels** - ongoing
* The link will continue to be shared.
	+ **Hot Lunch Program**
		- Hot lunch is going well
	+ **Donations!!**
		- Letter to be constructed by Renee Cameron to handout to possible donors
		- Tracey Lowe agreed to create a thermometer to see the donation progress

**Grants**

* PRO Grants - $1000 grant
	+ Needs to engage the parents
	+ Deadline to apply December 20
	+ Emily working with Dale Road Public School
* Best Buy Grant
	+ Ms. Procee has applied, update will be in January
* Hamilton Township Community Grant
	+ Working with parks and recreation to see if it is eligible to state the park is being used for community use.
* Paul Davis in June
	+ Online safety presentation
	+ Grades 4-6 students during the day
	+ Presentation for parents in the evening

**Yearbook**

* Update provided by Tracey Lowe.
	+ Possibly switching to a new printing company
		- Easier to get the students more involved with constructing the book
		- More pages for the same price
	+ Parents are encouraged to send any photos of sporting events or school trips to yearbook.baltimoreps@gmail.com.

**Principal’s Report**

Update provided by Renee Cameron:

* Playground Update-Our surfaces for most of the playground failed the fall inspection as the ground was too hard. All climbers except kindergarten are closed right now until rototilled in the spring. Once the weather meets winter temperatures they would be closed anyway. School Council pays for rototilling. The surfaces were too hard to rototill in August (no charge then) so a new company will try to make the ground better for play. The junior climber failed inspection and can get removed or some parts repaired. Playground 2 was given a life of approximately 0-3 years. The kindergarten climber has a life of 3-5 years.
* Playground 2 in photo .
* Staff professional learning: Our professional learning in November continued with our focus on grades 3-6 transcription skills, the Elements of Writing Craft: Using Mentor Texts, Writer’s Voice, Narrative Point of View, Word Choice, Literary Devices, and grades 1-2 the Writing Process; Kindergarten has a separate writing focus
* Our Instructional Leader from KPR is here weekly to support students with reaching benchmarks for the new K-2 literacy test. There is a test for students who did not reach the fall benchmark in the Spring. The test is approximately 7 minutes and is new to how we would traditionally assess reading. For example, once you do not meet a benchmark then you cannot complete the rest of the test. Anything that is incomplete is labelled "below benchmark" even if not allowed to attempt.
* School news- We will know soon when Mr. Flay is returning. Mrs. Gagne has been spectacular as a planning teacher and in organizing all library items.
* Mrs. Brazolot is leading the Forest of Reading book club for all junior students. All primary classes are reading aloud the books. In the spring all participants will vote for their favourite books and the winners are announced in Toronto.
* We have Spirit Days the last week in December. They are listed in Edsby. On the 17th, 18th and 19th, we are running winter rotations like last year. There are crafts, games, karaoke and other fun with mixed grade groups. We will ask parents to purchase supplies with a shared google doc.
* Our first ski trip is January. We have 47 students in grades 4-6 registered so far. Forms are due Fri. Dec. 13th for the first trip.
* Our concert is Dec. 11th!
* Our Food Drive ends Dec. 13th and our Caught You Being Kind is raising money for the Food Bank too.

**Teacher’s Report:**

* Included in Principal’s report.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

* The summary and balances for each account were briefly reviewed by Council.
* Mr Duke requesting disco ball and motor – request passed by council.

**Regional School Council Meeting:**

* Pam Graham (and any others interested) will be provided the dates for the upcoming virtual meetings by Renee Cameron.
* December meeting on same night at our Winter Concert, we sent our regrets
* Next meeting – TBD

**Other Business:**

* Discussion re: getting donations of gently used Baltimore Spirit Wear to sell at fun fair.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

January TBD- Fun Fair Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 5, 2024, at 6:00 pm = Council Meeting @ School Library