****

**Laronde Elementary Parent Advisory Council**

**MINUTES**

**Friday, September 20, 2013**

**9:00 am**

1. Welcome, meeting called to order by Lisa 9:00am.
2. Fresh Slice representative showed up with a few pizza samples looking to offer their hot lunch services etc.
3. Approval of Agenda. **Moved by Ana, seconded by Martine. All in favour, motion carried.**
4. Review and Approval of Minutes from May 24, 2013 with changes from Erin. **Moved by Jenn, seconded by Polly. All in favour, motion carried.**
5. Principal report
   1. 402 students, same number of divisions this year. Expected to grow. Many of our classes are very full at this time. At 450 we get a VP.
   2. Parking, good feedback from Amble Green, we’re doing better. Asking for help from parents to patrol 8:25 and 2:35 for 15 minutes. Asking for 40 parents to do 1 shift per week. Maidra will summarize volunteer need and distribute through class parents.
   3. Bike safety program will be offered to Gr3 – Gr 5 students, one session in the classroom, 1 on their bike on the basketball court
   4. Athletics calendar – Sept starts with XCountry and Soccer. Need parent coaches for soccer, volleyball and need coaches for basketball in Jan-Feb.
   5. Technology update – have ordered the 10 iPads for library and apple tv, have not yet ordered the TV pending update from PAC on pricing. 20 MacBooks have been ordered, not yet received. Have also received 5 sets of projector, document camera, apple tv, now may have enough for 1 for class by the time everything is dispersed. Received 25K as part of a technology research project, ordered another 30 iPads, plus cart and covers. Sound field is now in most K-3 classes, we have a few portable units that teachers are using. Mme Fortin will discuss with teachers as to whether other teachers need them in the class as they are 2K per classroom. Q: What training is being provided to teachers to use the technology? A: Some teachers are doing extracurricular work through the universities, pro-D, and sharing among themselves. Q: Does the school still want the additional 10 MacBooks (request for 30 last year, PAC could only fund 20). A: Yes.
   6. Artist in Residence – Quebec mosaic artist, trying to get 3 schools to cooperate to bring him out and he would come for 3 weeks (1 week at each school).
   7. Cultural performances - one for October, many coming
   8. PE Activities – instead of 1 big one, 2-3 smaller (cheaper) throughout the year. Pickle Ball, super cheap ($20/hour for 3 coaches). They will have a tournament, medals for the winners, other activities coming maybe Zumba &/or golf.
   9. Science and Math – High Tech/High Touch, Mme Metcalf is coordinating. Reminded Mme Fortin that PAC money can support any science related activity, not just High Tech/High Touch.
   10. School Mission & logo initiative is ongoing. This year Maidra and Jill (parents on committee) and 3 teachers will work on making the mission more present in our school lives and tackle logos and school team names.
   11. Upcoming events: Terry Fox run – Terry Fox’s brother Fred is coming on Friday at 11am, wrap up assembly. Wear red to the Terry Fox run. Will start collecting money on Tuesday. Run is on Thursday. First Aid course coming Oct 1, 2,3 for Gr 6, 7s. 20 Grade 7s will be attending We Day.
6. Chair Report – Lisa Clarke
   1. Welcome new members to PAC, Tanja, Jaime, Vanessa, Cathy.
   2. Register on larondepac.ca to get all the PAC information.
   3. Fundraising - Cheque writing campaign to support PAC initiatives (technology, playgrounds, extracurricular activities, Science activities, cultural performances, P/E activities etc.) will be starting up in October/November; will issue tax receipts to donations over $20. Recommended donation is $50 per child (but we will be happy to accept any amount). We have Cob’s bread (Ocean Park location only) set up as a passive fundraiser, just tell them you’re from Laronde and a portion of your sale will go to the school.
   4. Need volunteers to run all our exciting programs, looking for a Spring Fair Coordinator or 2.
   5. After school programs: Art with Ellen (Wednesdays in October 3-4:30), Mad Science (M/Th end of Sept). Red Cross Babysitting Course, grade 5,6, and 7. Nov 8 all day Pro D Day.
   6. Looking for School Planning Council member – Ana Kozak has volunteered.
7. Book Fair report – Polly. Thank you to our healthy team of volunteers. We sold $3700 in books, which gets $1000 in money for library and $700 in books for the school. **Moved by Jenn and seconded by Cynthia to donate 10% of funds raised at the book fair to our sister school. All in favour, motion carried.** Q: Would people want Scholastic French book fair? Polly will look into this.
8. Financial report – Kate Tobin – funds available for distribution $19K, this is misleading as hot lunch needs 15K from that and also doesn’t include $500 for the first aid course. This leaves $3500 for distribution. Leanest in years because we spent $53K last year on technology and other initiatives. We’ve always been very fortunate in the past to have a healthy balance and we should encourage everyone to participate in hot lunch and the cheque writing campaign. Gaming funds have not yet come in, will likely come in Oct. Limited in ability to spend the gaming funds, we will probably spend them on Spring Fair. Due to our current financial situation we have to be very careful with the money committees ask for. Parents should look for company charitable giving programs to donate to Laronde. Laronde can be the charity of choice for United Way giving.
9. Committee Reports:

* + - * 1. Fruit & Veggie – Kerry Martin & Tanja Phillips- would appreciate additional parents to help out.Blueberries went well, will try to get a schedule together.
        2. Hot Lunch - Andrea Granter & Kira Angus new hot lunch coordinators –Kate Tobin reports that hot lunch is in full swing. Need a few hot lunch teams. Hot lunch teams set up tables and bins and get supplies out, go to Save On Foods to pick up milk, cookies, hot dogs etc. Need to supervise and roll with any challenges. Sometimes vendors are late, short a few chocolate milks, etc. Generally it runs pretty smoothly. It’s one morning every 6 weeks, 8:30 – 1pm commitment. Would love 2 more teams. Marilyn is willing to come and train the teams on the first Friday. Vanessa volunteered to run a team. Hot lunch is asking for 15K. **Kate moves that we give hot lunch 15K, seconded by Tanja. All in favour, motion carried.**
        3. Intramurals - Jenn Ackerman - will aim to start mid-October. Will hit up class parents for volunteers for specific age groups. Has a list of games and activities for ideas. Have Gr 6/7 helpers, parents are mostly there to supervise.
        4. Outreach – Jennifer has stepped up to take over the good work Julie Beck has done. We are a pretty flush school, but you don’t need to go very far to find kids who go to school hungry. Activities to help, winter clothing drive, Christmas hampers, sports drive, and breakfast drive etc., always looking for volunteers.
        5. Craft Fair Nov 28 –crafts made by students, sold by students, looking to have someone step up to coordinate this year’s fair. Need to order tables, set up, advertise, it is an administrative job really. Ana Kozak will do it this year if no one else steps up. Ideally looking for someone who can commit for the next few years.
        6. Spring Fair May 16: **coordinator(s) needed**
        7. School Planning Council (SPC) - Cynthia Springate – nothing to report at this time. Council will convene in the next few weeks.
        8. Lice Check – Jaime Clinker & Michelle Fuller – will be organizing a lice check in the next little while. Will be looking for parent volunteers.
        9. Yearbook Committee: Karin Brown (editor) – excited to have the whole year to work on it rather than the 3 weeks they had last year. Will be organizing a place to drop pictures from the class available to class parents and teachers. Using Life Touch this year but will be looking into a new vendor for next year to allow for more creativity. Looking for parents to organize event pages or division pages. 3-4 hour time commitment per volunteer with a few meetings. Deadline is in April/May. Concern brought up about privacy for photos, they will be password protected.
        10. Emergency Preparedness Committee – Container on playground 1 with emergency supplies for 60 people for 3 days. Survey last year showed that we need to up it to 180 per day for 3 days. Need a few people to help out with shopping, stocking, etc. Will likely meet soon to update the supplies. Susan Jensen will be leaving soon so they will need a new coordinator. Currently 6 on the committee right now.

1. New Business - a parent brought up the idea to auction off a parking spot in the parking lot to the highest bidder, front row tickets for Xmas concert. Would need someone to spearhead this idea. No one volunteered.

1. Old Business – Discussion around washroom cleanliness and hand washing campaign.
2. **Move to adjourn by Tanja, meeting adjourned at 10:40am.**