

## **School Council – February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

In attendance: Angie Baresich, Heather Baresich, Rachel Bryans, Paula Mitchell, Bill Long, Carla Wilson

Approval of Minutes: Bill Long and Paula Mitchell

### **Principal's Report**

#### **Change in Secretary:**

Tina Blakey has accepted a position as secretary at Hillcrest. She will begin her new position on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Jane Taverner from Aberarder will be our new secretary beginning May 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Technology:**

Using school generated funds, as approved at the last School Council Meeting, the following has been ordered:

20 mini iPads - \$6870.40

6 chromebooks - \$1925.52

8 Wonderkits (ozmos) – \$1310.80 and 6 Pizza Co. Kits \$214.70

2 dash - \$338.98

6 ozobots - \$437.31

Total = \$11097.71

#### **Front Entry Renewal:**

The work on our front entrance has been completed. The tech team is working on creating a slideshow of celebrations and upcoming events that can be played on the television.

#### **Dairy Presentations:**

Booked for March 9 and 10<sup>th</sup> for interested classes.

#### **Cultural Proposal:**

Mme Gray has made a cultural proposal, which has been accepted. Chef Suzanne from Chef a L'école will be presenting to the FI classes on April 13<sup>th</sup>. She will run 3 different sessions to accommodate different grade levels. Students will be speaking in French and communicating with someone who is a Franchophone. They will be following directions, listening to a French story as well as listening to French music while they cook. It provides an authentic, French experience and promises to be very engaging and fun. They get to eat what they prepare and the cost is funded through the board.

### **Water Challenge:**

We are 1 of 20 schools in Lambton-Kent that has been accepted for a water challenge through the Healthy Kids Community Challenge. Forty-Five community partners across the province are funding this. Locally, the city of Sarnia, Lambton Shores, Township of Warwick, Lambton Public Health, and the Township of St. Clair is supporting the Lambton County challenge. We receive \$1000.00 to spend on recess and physical education equipment from a supplier of our choice upon the completion of the challenge. Each student has received a reusable water bottle. The challenge is to drink more water using refillable water bottles. Teachers will do different activities and lessons on the value of drinking water for our health and for one week teachers keep a tally of the number of filled reusable water bottles that come to school each day. That information is submitted and then we receive the \$1000 of recess and physical education equipment that we choose.

### **Trees:**

Mrs. Wilson applied for free trees through the **Tomorrow's Greener Schools Today** initiative through Lambton Public Health and St. Clair Conservation Area. We were accepted. They are donating and planting 8 trees in our school yard. We have to have at least 1 class involved in an educational program and the planting of the trees. They will be planting the trees this spring.

### **Focus on Health and Wellness:**

We are trying to put a greater focus on mental health and well-being and also continuing to encourage students to treat each other with kindness, respect and support. Mrs. Wilson has given this leadership task to our Student Council. They have come up with a focus for each month. In January we focused on strategies that keep us mentally well and posted on our Wellness Wall. In February Student Council cut a paper heart for each student and each teacher assigned each student in their class to write a kind message about another student in their class. They then created a big heart out of the little hearts, which is on display in the main hall.

### **After School Tutoring Program:**

We will again be running an after school tutoring program through the Organization of Literacy. It will run every Monday and Wednesday after school from the week of March 20<sup>th</sup> to the week of May 17<sup>th</sup>. It will focus on literacy skills for 10 selected Grade One students, with parent approval.

### Other Business

#### **Update of Websites:**

Angie brought information from PIC and shared that the board website will be updated and changed by the end of March and school websites will also to be updated and take on a new format around the end of April.

**Pro Grant:**

There is discussion around holding another Pro Grant event next year to engage parents. We can receive up to \$1000.00 again through this grant. Two suggestions are Jump to Math and Bricks for Kids. The School Council is leaning towards Bricks for Kids. Different sessions would be held for different groups of kids. There would be a half hour presentation, followed by 45 minutes of building with different materials and different challenges. Students would also leave with handouts and prizes. School Council likes the idea of running this during the day and inviting parents to join their children in the presentations and building. Angie will look further into the cost of running this program.

**Fundraisers:**

We made a profit of \$1255.00 on the Little Caesar's Pizza Kit Fundraiser and \$1050.00 on the Legion Meat Raffle.

**Lunch Days:**

Wrap Day (for Choir) – April 6<sup>th</sup>

Pizza Days – April 19<sup>th</sup>, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, May 17<sup>th</sup>

**Next School Council Meeting: April 10<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 p.m. in the Learning Commons**