

Home and School Meeting

January 26, 2015

In attendance: Shelley MacLean, Haley Green, Beth Keyes, Nancy Hossack, David Ripley, Natacha Gillis, The Ha Family

**Introductions were made and a Welcome was extended to a new Family in the Lakefield Community – the Ha Family*

Updates:

Hot Lunch: *Nancy*

Hot lunch orders are going well; enough volunteers are showing up to assist with the processing of orders each week. Nancy presented a survey being put forward by a parent (H. Bowen), which is looking for feedback on the relevance of moving towards an on-line lunch program. In this program, parents would order lunch on-line and schools would pay 10% of profit to the company, some of which theoretically would go to help support less able school programs. The committee discussed this once again (it was brought up last year as well but the costs involved did not appear to be worth it given the effectiveness of the current program); and agreed that it was not something we would likely move toward at this time as any funds raised currently go directly back into our school in various ways. The committee did agree to complete the survey, and Nancy would do that on our behalf. It was suggested that perhaps this is a direction the new school may wish to pursue given they will be starting from scratch.

Library: *Natacha*

Nothing new to update other than the large pile of old resources that had been stored at the back corner in the library are being cleaned out, freeing up some space and resulting in a neater appearance for the library.

Finances: *Haley and Beth*

Haley reported that nobody has come forward expressing an interest to take over as Treasure as yet. The current amount in the account is approximately \$17000, with several expenditures yet to be processed.

Tutoring: *Beth*

We will be starting another section of tutoring after the March break. David will ask teachers to recommend students for tutoring, and Beth will coordinate the placement of the UNBSJ students for these tutoring sessions. We have budgeted approximately \$1200 towards tutoring this winter term. Parents, students and the Tutors have all expressed very positive feedback on this tutoring initiative.

FFD: *Shelley*

Shelley has started to plan for Family Fun Day. The date is set for June 6th. Shelley will need to find someone to oversee the planning and organizing of the games as Terri-Lynn cannot do the games this year. Natacha indicated that she will again organize the Vendors for that day. Haley said she would get the new Tickets that will be needed as all the old ones were thrown out last year. It was discussed that the costs this year to prepare for FFD will be quite high (over \$5000), and it was hoped that we can at least break even (profit last year for

FFD was only in the low \$4000 range). There is still much planning to be done to prepare for FFD, and David asked Shelley to meet with him to plan in more detail. They will update at the next meeting

Fun Run – Haley

Haley will be going with an “Amazing Race” theme again this year for the fun run. She set the date for May 24th. Further details to follow as plans begin.

Movie Night – David

There was discussion on whether we will host a family movie night this winter. There would be free admission but snacks available for purchase. The date of February 20th was discussed (details to be finalized in the next few weeks. Haley, Shelley and Natacha indicated an interest in organizing this).

External Grant – Beth

Beth asked if the committee wished to offer an external grant again this year. The group in attendance felt that it was better to keep funds in-house this year due to the limited amount of fundraising initiatives and the potential of FFD being a larger expense to set up than planned. Discussion then went to perhaps investing some funds into the Library; enhance its appearance and furniture to provide more appealing atmosphere for the students and classrooms using it regularly. David agreed to meet with Angie Sanford (Library Coordinator) to discuss this and see what costs might be involved. He would update on this at the next meeting.

Alumni Scholarships – The committee agreed to once again offer Scholarships to Lakefield Alumni (2 @ \$1500 each). Applications for these will go to high schools later in the term.

General School Activities: David

Literacy week this week; read my t-shirt day on Friday; guest readers all week.

February – kindness month; Pink Day Feb. 25 or 26th – sock hop/grilled cheese & tomato soup; kindness bags made by kids (to donate to homeless)

Feb. 10th – winter fun day outside; hot chocolate

March – Math Olympics (March 26th); Parent-teacher night so math activities will be out on display

Elementary Drama Festival (at Fundy High). The date is April 22nd (also Earth Day). Grades 3-5; Choir involved & individual parts will be assigned to those interested.

May 29th – School will be sending out invitations to new incoming students; inviting them to Lakefield (school sends the bus to get them); kids will indicate a child they know who already attends Lakefield; they will get a tour of the school & have a BBQ lunch; and then get bussed back to their school. Parents also invited at 12:30-1:00 to tour the school (*Home & School reps will be there too to welcome new parents to the community*).

A “Good bye” to students who will be re-zoned and leaving Lakefield will happen on June 4th (the K-4 grades)

Volunteer Tea on June 3rd

June 18th is the grade 5 closing

Update: Isaac is getting a service dog in a year; and there is a new policy on having service dogs in schools (which has been reviewed with school personnel). Further information on this policy will be shared as the time nears. The School is also considering purchasing a “comfort dog” to be housed on-site. This is being explored as a support for students transitioning into the new school, or dealing with anxiety and other concerns.

The New School Name will be revealed later this week in a formal announcement. Some Lakefield students will be going up for the announcement & photos.

Home and School will need someone to oversee and organize Teacher Appreciation Week this year. If anyone is interested, please contact B. Keyes or M. Snow.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by B. Keyes