

***Barriere Elementary Parent Advisory Council***

***General Meeting Agenda***

**February 6, 2018**

**9:00am**

Attendees: Jen C., Juliana, Cory, Colleen, Sarah D., Sharon T., Michelle J., Rhonda K.

**1. Call to order 9:02AM**

**2. Approval of agenda -APPROVED**

**3. Approval of minutes from last two meetings -APPROVED**

**4. Reports:**

**a. Principal's Report (attached)**

-Community Forests Grant \$2800 bought snowshoes second set for primary, gutter and rain barrels for water capture (Dick Pullen) for gazebo, composting safely considering donated soil and dirt (Mrs. Peterson) and gardening could be supported by Urban Systems Foundation (Jen C. Requested \$2000)

Mrs. Eustache getting drum making materials partnered with Ms. Dunstan for drum making once snow melts, elders will come down to teach drumming

-4 TRU practicum teachers coming in April

**-Funding Requests:**

-YM/YWCA Y Strong Kids loonie/twoonie drive or ask PAC to donate \$200 and get four 3-month family passes to Y campaign flyer submitted, will ask parents

-FN Lit Circle has found funds elsewhere so request deleted

-STEM kits Mr. Boulter looking into robotics and should know by Feb. 23 what costs are, Edison Bots compatible with ChromeBooks for programming, \$54 each, looking at getting 20, BlueBots are better for K-2, computer mice seem easier than track pads for younger students but may be too expensive

**b. Chair Report**

-Fun Day Meeting being set up, Ashley booked bouncy castles

-Need notes for Bylaw, hoping to get for next meeting

-Library committee met with Ms. Kennedy

-Lindsay submitted fundraising ideas

-Feb 9 Chase is doing an outdoor classroom info. session, info. Will be put on Facebook

-We are to get 2 water filtration systems before the end of the year, bottle filling station, replace fountains

**c. Treasurer Report**

-Purdy's Rebate \$564.94, Tupperware online \$8.80, chargeback for hot lunch was taken from regular acct. This is fixed and paid up to date.

Regular \$12791

Gaming \$3886

Hot Lunch \$2499

Outdoor classroom \$837

**d. DPAC Report**

Water fountains being replaced with filtered water filling stations, Askable Adult April 23 is tentative date, Edge came in to replace DARE, Darren will do a few session on social media misuse next week with 6/7, Girls group going well with Amanda Bigsorrelhorse, WITS program getting set up now, Health Nurse willing to come talk health with intermediates, this summer laws around drugs are changing and we encourage all parents and service providers to start a conversation.

**5. Special Initiative Updates:**

**a. Hot Lunch** (*Juliana*)

Average 80 orders, will continue in Term 3, always looking for volunteers, will post to Face Book

**b. Scholastics** (*Colleen*)

Feb orders due next week

**c. Fundraising** (*Michelle, Jennifer J*)

Steeped Tea \$1466 Profit \$662.40 Kicking Horse \$1466 Profit \$447.80 Couple weeks until receive delivery.

Cupcake fundraising for Feb. 14

Vesey's seeds/bulbs coming up Mar/April

Track & Field and FunDay concessions

**d. Library Committee**

Met with Ms. Kennedy, want to see it be a more meaningful interactions place with more parent volunteers helping students pick books and read to them and supervise them, student book recommendations up in hallway, May get more shelving/display options donated by her husband, she

has great ideas and we would like to help. She has flexibility in how much time she spends here and the highschool so we benefit from that usually since we have more students. Ms. Salvati goes into classrooms and helps with research projects since interest is not in using print resources but rather Chromebooks. Parents have observed BES Librarians seem to just do book exchanges rather than working with a class in Library. Unplug and Play was successful but teachers know to anticipate that event and make time for it.

**e. FunDay Committee** (*Sheshawna, Candice*)

-not present at meeting

**f. Parent Sessions** (*Sarah*)

-timing was late last time, will set for earlier time 5:30 or 6 next time

**6. Old/New Business**

**a. Play Equipment i. Broken Slide** (*Split cost with District?*)

-for slide the District does not typically cost share but no answer yet until quote rec'd. Rhonda says Barriere would not be at top of list for District to fund playground. Budget coming down in 3 weeks.

**b. First Nation Lit Circle Book purchases** (*request of \$362.30*)

**i. For the 23 books requested: \$244.17**

**ii. Including additional 6 books: \$342.33 (REQUEST CANCELLED-FUNDING FOUND )**

**c. Grade 7 move Consultation** (*Report handout and dates*)

-letter attached from District, info. Session at high school Feb 15 at 6:30 pm, online forum will be open the next day and an opinion poll will open up, Mar. 14 Most of the Board will come out for a one-item meeting and feedback session where parents can voice concerns, staff will write a report and April 23 will be a vote on starting Grade 7s at high school in September, schools will be filled over capacity before considering portables, we would lose our meals room or part of library if we went too far over capacity. high school is at 50% capacity, we are at 107%, Rhonda says this does not have to happen and is not a done deal, but there is research showing a lower drop out rate for grade 7s who enter into high school. Teachers who specialize in their subject may be better equipped to help students grasp the subject material. There is a better student to teacher ratio at BSS. Concerns there is not a music program (teacher dependant, could be implemented if enough interest) or playground at high school. Cory says District looking at sharing a band teacher in North Thompson depends on numbers. Rhonda says this is a very valid question to come and ask. Course selection is being done soon and music could be requested by students.

**d. Add library to the list for September teacher incentives? APPROVED \$100 for literacy initiatives**

**e. Head lice package** (*Treatment package available for students of limited funds?*) Notice goes home to all class members if found in classroom so as not to single anyone out, these kits have been covered if needed from school hardship fund, we cannot change note going home as it comes from health unit. Treatment info. Is available on District website.

**f. Student Safety Concerns** (*effectiveness of the Codes of Conduct in addressing current school safety issues*)

-has been brought up by many parents, some parents feel code is not working over the last year and a half.

Students are fearful and we do not want daily violence to be a given in our school. Principal response is that staff involves with family right up to district support services (have come 4 times) and any other service providers we can provide for children regardless of any diagnosis. Safety plans mandated provincially by WCB, staff visits this every meeting, we try to provide a safe learning environment for all students. We have an inclusive environment and legally we cannot close our doors to any students unless and until we have demonstrated that we have used every available resource to keep them included. We have to ensure all students are getting the support they need.

Parents concerned all students cannot move freely about the school at all times due to safety concerns. Parents wondering why we do not send students home when they are acting out. That is not a school policy according to Rhonda. Cory says the student code of conduct changes when dealing with special needs students due to human rights and legal concerns. Cory says it is a very complex situation with no manual and he shares parent concerns. Letters with concerns should be addressed to Principal Cory Carmichael, and he will forward them on from there. He says the best letters are written over a cup of tea with a level head and trying to come up with solutions and resources.

**g. GOgrants** (*Outdoor field trip support – due Feb 15th*)

Cory is looking at it but wants to finish another one he is working on, will ask Leeann if she wants to apply

**7. Next meeting date: March 6 8:45am**

**8. Adjourn 10:36AM**