

Held at 6:30pm on May 31, 2022 by Zoom

Present:

Sarah Charters
Janet Theunissen
Karen
Quinn
Taya Leybman
Shah Ruby
Mark Duwyn
Xandi Neville
Annick Cardinal
Kate St. Cyr
Alison Attanasio
Kate L.
Jennifer Black

Regrets:

Frances Anderson

Janet opened with a land acknowledgment.

Principal/Vice Principal Update

Ms. Neville talked about the School Model. She noted that the school model and planning documents were shared a few weeks ago. There will be 22 classes in the 22/23 school year. The number of expected students fluctuates over the summer and because of fluctuation, there may be some reorganization in the fall. The number of teachers, classes, etc. are based on a model which is never perfect but is as good as can be. Placements are currently being finalized.

There is an imbalance in the number of English and French students: 40% are in the English stream and 60% of students are in the French stream. The goal is to have a balance in the classes in terms of which students will work together well, the level of support needed for students etc. Because there are two language streams, it's almost like having two small schools in one building, hence there are a number of split grades simply because the number of the students in each stream is limited. Classroom placements will not be available when report cards are sent home because of the expected fluctuations over the summer. Families can expect to hear about placements towards the end of summer.

JK/SK is always modeled as a split class because of the development of children at that age - it is best for the younger students to have other more experienced students to be mentors to the younger children.

Mr Duwyn noted that now that French immersion starts in JK, the French streams will also have combined JK/SK. He also conveyed that with changes to COVID restrictions, recess is much more open and energetic: kids are able to move and run more than when they were in assigned spaces. Also, sports and pizza lunches are back and kids are really enjoying it. Primary (grades 1-3) intramural activities are going on and Junior students (grades 4-6) have clubs, choirs, etc. as well as sports to participate in. The staff are trying to offer leadership roles to older students (i.e. Grade 6).

Safety at school is always a big question for the community. Mr. Duwyn noted that the front doors are always locked and the students have practiced lockdowns and fire drills. Further, visitors aren't allowed in unless they have appointments.

The school plan infuses Indigenous and racialized community culture and knowledge so that students feel included, welcomed, and recognized. A big part has been purchasing resources including for the library. The school will continue to support students and augment resources and support going forward.

SAC update

Finance Report from Karen:

Approved funding of \$27,000 for the year. 50% is spent so far and in conversation with the Administration, supply chain issues are making it difficult to spend the remainder and it will likely be carried over to the next school year.

Council has raised \$12,000 so far this year, through the pizza lunch, parent social, and Willy Reads.

Janet thanked everyone for the participation and generosity around the Parent Social. Sponsorships and donations were wonderful and made a big difference.

There is a textile drive next week: clothing, foot ware, household linens, bags, back pages, etc. anything that is soft. The school gets paid by the pound. It's a one day event on June 9th.

In two days JuneFest happens. Almost all volunteer spots are filled (107!!!) which is an incredible display of generosity and enthusiasm. There are two platinum sponsors which relieves some of the financial pressure and makes it be more of a community event. Richards Group and Beaches Sandbox.

The Staff Appreciation Lunch will happen in late June. We need a coordinating volunteer. More information will be available shortly including signup lists.

Janet thanked everyone in what has been a really difficult year. The staff has been amazing helping each other and the students. She also thanked the volunteers, parents, and council members

