

**Bradner Elementary School
Parent Advisory Council**

Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2017

In Attendance:

Stacey Stinson, Tamara Arden, Kori Wall, Amanda McAllister, Tara Lang, Lynette Haladin; Melissa Yeomans, Jaqueline Slater, Lynsey Howarth, Jessica Craig, Candis Way, Aksana Z, Sarah Goerzen and Faye Christie

October Minutes

- Motion to accept October's minutes made by Stacey, 2nd by Kori, all in favour

Principal's Report

It has been another great month. We have enjoyed the cooler fall weather (sort of) and the surprise snowfall reminded us of the need to wear appropriate clothing. We continue to encourage outdoor play during breaks as often as possible so please ensure your child has a proper jacket, hat, gloves and boots.

We had our soccer meet this month and many, many pumpkin activities (using pumpkins grown by two of our classes last year at the OLC). We had a whole school pumpkin activity (practicing our communication skills as well as our counting skills). We also had a wonderful trip to Mann Farms on the 30th - thanks to PACs generous donation of the admission and transportation cost. Our Halloween parade was once again a success and in the afternoon we had science/art/technology center activities.

We also had our first pizza party to celebrate the cross country and soccer team participants. Two of our Bradner students were overall first place winners in cross country - Kurtis Byers (Gr5boys) and Jordan Bray (Gr4boys). In soccer our Bradner team won all of their games in the mini tournament.

We held our first Ready Set Learn session and welcomed 14 preschoolers! Next one is scheduled for Nov 29th at 2:00pm.

Handbell practice has started and the grades 4s and grade 5s played at our Remembrance Day assembly. We will be starting Christmas concert planning now. Ms. Duma is once again leading these activities. All classes will have a song/dance and there will be group songs at the start and at the end. Handbells will perform (Grade 4 and 5). Div 1 is doing several Tableaus during the transitions.

Our whole school reading program is doing well led by Ms. Duff. We have named it 'BRAT' - Bradner Reads All Together. Grade 4 and 5 students have been matched with buddies and have been working as reading coaches. This happens three days a week right after lunch. The kindergarten children will be added to the program after Christmas.

A student nurse visited all our classes and discussed topics ranging from hand washing to puberty. We have had a few students (and teachers) out with the flu. We ask that students who are not feeling well in the morning (or have thrown up even during the night) stay home as it will help to keep germs from spreading and keep us from having to console an ill child - especially if we can't make contact with a parent or guardian to pick them up.

The first interim reports went home this month as well as sign up for Parent teacher conferences on Nov 23rd. All teachers are doing student led conferences this year. This type of conference aligns with the changes in curriculum as it allows students to showcase/present their learning. Parents can expect to see several other families in the room at the same time. Each class will have a list of things for the students to show their parents. Parents will have lots of time to look at their child's work. The first report card will go home Dec 8th. It will look similar to previous reports with the exception of no letter grades for intermediate students. It will also be a competency based report card. You will still have time to briefly touch base with your child's teacher during these conferences but should you have any questions or specific concerns please feel free to contact your child's teacher(s) or set up a time to meet privately.

Happenings in the neighbourhood are always a concern to us. We will continue to practice and look for ways to ensure our building is as safe as possible. Please remember to sign in when you come in and go out of the building as we MUST know who is in our building at all times. We also would like to remind everyone that we do not want people entering from the east hallway doors. We would also like to limit exiting from this door as it creates a distraction to the classrooms and it also provides an opportunity for entry when people open it to leave. The only point of entry during the school day should be through the front door by the office. Students have been told NOT to open the end door for anyone....so please don't knock. We will be having drills which include Lock Down and Shelter in Place. Teachers will be discussing these drills with their students so please talk to them about them. If you happen to be in our building during any of our drills it is expected that you participate. We also need to consider alternate plans should a lockdown need to be called when students are outside....we do not want them running into the building if it is in Lock Down. We need to find an alternate location we can go to should this happen....we are continuing to figure this one out.

Calling to leave message for students - We appreciate that plans change during the day but it would be appreciated as much as possible if you could communicate who is picking up your child, whether they are getting on the bus or being picked up, that you are picking your child up early, etc. through their planner. We get a lot of phone calls in the afternoon to change arrangements for students. When we get these calls it means we have to disrupt the learning in the classroom to pass on these messages. In addition to this it puts an extra burden of responsibility on the clerical staff and teacher to ensure the message gets passed on. There are times when we will call a classroom up to 5 separate times in an afternoon! I know that with such a late dismissal it can be challenging to get your child to afterschool activities but our teachers are instructing until the end of the day so picking up early means your child is missing something!

Thank you's:

Thank you to Chantal Michel for helping out with our picture day. Retakes were taken on Friday Nov 17th. We had to postpone our Whole school picture due to the weather.

Thank you to the PAC for the donation of the pizzas for our sports teams.

Thank you the donation of the admission and transportation for the Mann Farm trip

Thank you for helping out with the Remembrance Day Tea

Thank you for the Halloween party! - Personally my family had a blast!!!!

Thank you for the dirt! - Kori and husband... the kids are having a great time weeding and planting....

Upcoming Events:

Book fair - Nov 21-23

Parent teacher conference - Nov 23

Ready Set Learn - Nov 29

SMILE - health teeth presentations - Nov 22nd and Nov 29th

Non Instructional Day - Nov 24th

VP from Reimer Visiting PE classes - Nov 20

Other information:

Make sure you check out our school website for calendar and our School District app to get notifications of events. Remember our Twitter page.

Swimming lessons – The School has an opportunity to attend MRC for one week in January for 5 ½ hour swimming lessons. The cost would be \$1500 for school wide lessons and \$1500 for bussing for the week. The purpose of this would be to introduce the children to the water. The children would not graduate from swimming levels, but they would be recommended for a specific swimming lesson level. If the PAC were to support this, the decision would need to be made today. This was discussed and it was decided that \$3000 is too much money to spend on very short notice without enough thought or liaison with parents. Mrs. Christie will find out if there are any future dates available and we will explore this idea more in the future, but we will not be participating in swimming lessons in January.

Treasurer's Report

- Balance at end of October was \$19,720.33 in the chequing account – we made \$2200 from the Halloween party.
- Please see the attached Treasurer's report - the tennis was voted for \$850 and cost \$950 so a cheque was written for \$950 instead of \$850. We voted to spend \$1500 on the pumpkin patch and the cost was only \$1163, so some of the extra money was spent on the extra cost for tennis.
- We were given too much money this year for the gaming account - \$1100 extra based on last year's number of students. The money may be recalled in the future.

Other Business

- Halloween Dance - thanks to Stacey for organizing the event. There was a suggestion that we add 50/50 or twoonie toss next year to increase revenue. There was also a discussion to move the event to a venue where we can supply the liquor to retain more of the profit but it was decided that we will stay at the Bradner Hall and continue with the same plan as the past in order to avoid insurance and permit issues
- May Day update - we are looking for someone to organize the "Drive a Ford" event and the Advertising - we would like one person for print media and one for on-line advertising. Kori will talk to her mom to see if she is interested in helping with the Drive a Ford - she works at Magnusson Ford.
- Donation Update - we have received over \$600 in donations. Thank you to everyone who has sent in a donation. Stacey has given tax receipts to Mrs. Christie to distribute to the donators.
- Book fair – a sign-up sheet was sent around for people to help with the book fair and all the time slots are filled. Thanks to everyone who is willing to donate their time for this.
- Hot lunch - next hot lunch is pizza and milk for December 1st. Hot lunches are going well.
- Gingerbread Houses - Kori, Melissa and Amanda will coordinate the making of the icing for the houses
- Bake sale for Christmas Concert and setting up the stage - the PAC is going to coordinate a bake sale at the Christmas concert with partial proceeds going to the foodbank
- Raffle tickets for front row tickets for Christmas concert - we will sell raffle tickets in the week before the concert
- Christmas gift for School staff – the consensus is to purchase coffee supplies and some type of snack for the teachers in the last week of school.
- Epicure Fundraiser - Jaqueline – Epicure offers a fundraiser pack of 3 dips for \$20 - the PAC gets \$5 from each kit. This is a simple fundraiser that we are going to try to do before Christmas
- Movie Night is switched to January 26th - we need to order more popcorn for movie nights and popcorn days. Suggestion is that we order 5 boxes.
- Bingo Night in February which we will talk about in January
- Discussion on large purchase for schoolyard - Mrs. Christie said that there is a process for purchasing something for the school ground - we have to pay for installation as well as the product and get approval from facilities staff. Please forward ideas to Amanda or another PAC executive member. We will also continue to support experience based programs and opportunities. Roller skating was suggested. Teachers would like money spent on experience based items and opportunities. Bussing is expensive so it is a gift when the PAC spends money on bussing to allow for experiences. The Wizard of OZ is coming to ATMS and the teachers would like to sign up for these types of productions

Voting

- Bussing for handbell tour - Motion to provide up to \$300 to pay for bussing for the December Handbell tour made by Stacey, 2nd by Tamara, majority in favor – motion passed

- Spirit wear purchase- Motion to provide up to \$300 to order spirit wear t-shirts for staff and students made by Kori, 2nd by Tamara, majority in favor – motion passed
- Icing for Gingerbread Houses - Motion to provide up to \$150 to pay for icing supplies for gingerbread houses made by Kori, 2nd by Stacey, majority in favor – motion passed
- Movie License - Motion to provide up to \$400 to pay for the movie license made by Tamara, 2nd by Kori, majority in favor – motion passed
- \$50 gift card for classes to share for school baking – Motion to provide \$50 to purchase a gift card for baking supplies made by Tamara, 2nd by Melissa, majority in favor – motion passed
- Christmas gift for school staff – Motion to provide up to \$100 to purchase coffee supplies and a snack for the school staff made by Kori, 2nd by Melissa, majority in favor – motion passed.
- Popcorn - Motion to provide up to \$350 to buy popcorn made by Melissa, 2nd by Kori, majority in favor – motion passed

Meeting was adjourned at 5:12 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 15, 2018 at 3:30.