

Parent Council Meeting

Monday October 15

Present: Mr. M, Mr. P, Mr. Blizzard, Chairs Kelly and Melanie, Jill, Cindy, Heather, Wendy, Charlyn, Liddy, Louise

Regrets: Jayme

Last month's minutes to be approved November – decision made to have Cindy send minutes out to respective members 1 week before next meeting after approval from Administrators and Chairs

Student Presentation – none

Admin Report – Bus Safety

- Parent was concerned with the following issues on buses – 3 kids to a seat [overcrowding], what's happening at bus stops, after kids get off bus at end of the day, behaviours,
- Administrators of school mentioned that they are reliant on the driver to submit a concern/complaint to the school regarding issues/incidences on the bus. Without a concrete incident and evidence, they are cautious to approach parents regarding 'consequences'
- The school is constantly problem solving, communicating clear expectations with students and striving to seat them in the most efficient and practical way
- There are up to 72 potential riders possible on any given day with actual numbers closer to the 'low 60's' being counted daily by the driver
- Suggestions were made to have older students as a bus monitor
- Confirmation that there is a current bus driver shortage now in the system
- Admin has communicated to students and their parents that riding on the bus is a privilege.
- An email has recently been sent home to bus parents to remind them to discuss with their kids on appropriate behaviour and expectations on the bus

EQAO -

- Focus Area across the province is MATH, particularly in the jr / int grades
- Ministry and Board Focus on October 5 PD day for teachers was MATH
- Email sent home last week from TEC with Ministry resource "how to help you kids with math at home" - also posted on the TEC website.
- EQAO Overall Achievement Results - % students meeting the provincial standard [math; reading; writing] - gr 6 (10% , 62%, 67%) ; - gr 3 (74% ; 81% ; 81%)
- Mr. M shared some key stats – 21 students GR 6 last year wrote the test. 62% of those students are identified with special needs and many have IEP's in math. That's a significant contributing factor.
- EQAO is a snap shot and used with other data [report cards, class observations]
- The gr 6 cohort did not write EQAO in gr 3 [labor action] which makes EQAO cohort tracking not available for this current set of results. TEC staff do strive to 'know their learners'. Every student has a learner profile identifying their strengths and areas of improvement/needs to

close the gaps and this information carries forward year after year. Teachers continually working on interventions to close those gaps and move their learners forward as part of their regular assessment practice

- Staff do have access to additional EQAO data to identify needs and next steps as well
- School Improvement Focus in primary grades is reading – reading proficiency is a key indicator to predict success for life. TEC showing excellent results the last few years. Staying the Course.
- Focus on Jr/Int grades is math. It is an ongoing focus, New Intervention model in place this year allowing two math teachers to work together several periods per week with each class in gr 5-8 [Mr O., Ms. Reid] and also provide 1:1 interventions as needed
- Mandate to move forward is always to close any gaps in learning, which doesn't necessarily get all students above provincial standards as it takes time
- Mr. M showed a you tube video to explain how teachers monitor and assess what observations/speaking/process more than just the result on a test – teacher most important
- New Ministry focus on 'Fundamental of Math' - 5 math strands in Elementary curriculum. Two are highlighted as key learning areas - Number Sense' and 'Algebra / Patterns
- memorization vs automaticity is another key concept for teaching math
- Memorization – committing the results of operations to memory so that thinking is unnecessarily
- Automaticity – relies on thinking about relationships – put # on a number line – show work (example illustrated why 'DreamBox' is an excellent app for students)

PRO GRANT -

- Decision was made to move this item to November meeting as we have not officially received confirmation of our funding - Charlyn asked that members bring ideas on what we could put money towards for next meeting.

PIC REP -

- Melanie briefly spoke of the responsibilities and that she is now back to work and cannot make the commitment any more after serving for two years.
- Louise has offered to be our rep for the coming school year – she will attend the meetings and report back to council

MOVIE NIGHT -

- Save the day Friday November 30 at 6:30 pm
- Heather will review prerelease options as well as older movies and send top two to Mr. Blizzard by Friday October 18.
- Tiger teams to conduct a school wide survey to decide what movie we will show – must be completed by November 18 to secure video for event date
- We are going to charge for popcorn this year \$ 0.25 per bag and Cindy to source out cost for popcorn at Kernels. Party bag to feed up to 50 ppl with share bags included \$19.99 per bag – suggestion 4 party bags. Cindy to book order one week prior to event date.
- Unanimous decision was made to create a poster for families to read/view upon entering our event regarding all the amazing things Halton Learning Foundation gives to our school. Donations will be accepted as well as popcorn sales will go to HLF again this year.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm

Next Meeting: Monday November 12 at 6:30 pm