

Ecole Innisfail Middle School
Parent Council Meeting
November 7, 2017

In Attendance: Ley-Anne Mountain, Melissa Dodd, Jena Rice, Lisa Jacobs, Giselle Meyer, Kari Fox, Danica Martin, Holly Bilton, and Trina Westman.

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm.

Trina Westman approves the agenda with the addition of 7.a) Website; 2nd – Lisa Jacobs

Trina Westman approves the minutes from October 3, 2017; 2nd – Melissa Dodd

BUSINESS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING:

Elections: Lisa Jacobs nominates Melissa Dodd for Vice Chair of Ecole Innisfail Middle School Parent Council, effective immediately for a 2 year term. 2nd – Jena Rice Motion Carried

Cookie Dough: Leanne is waiting for the final invoice but expects profit to be \$8,000 - \$9,000. We sold 237 units at almost 50% return. Grade 8 sales benefit the students individually; the rest is pooled throughout the school.

Gift Wrapping Fundraiser with JWES - December 7th from 5 -7pm and December 9th from 10 – 12 am:

Grade 8 students will assist JWES students in wrapping presents for a minimum donation of \$20 for a pre-determined sized basket of gifts. A confidentiality agreement will be signed by the students and gifts will remain anonymous by using a letter / sticker system. Patrons will be asked to not bring anything especially valuable because although there will be parent supervision on site, there are no guarantees against breakage or that students won't disclose what they wrapped to their friends. All supplies will be purchased from Costco and any excess will be returned.

Profit will be proportionately distributed between JWES and IMS based on the number of volunteers from each school.

JWES is looking for community sponsorship for snacks and beverages that will be provided in the waiting area (Learning Commons).

ADMINISTRATION REPORT: Danica Martin and Giselle Meyer

Staffing:

- Mrs. Meyer is acting Vice Principal while Mrs. Linski is out with a back injury
- Mrs. Millar will substitute for Mrs. Meyer

Leadership Events: Grade 8 Students who attended the Ropes Course and completed their feedback homework assignment were eligible to participate in:

- **Healthy Active Schools Symposium (HASS):** Eight Grade 8 students spoke at two separate presentations on the House Structure at the Symposium. It was a very proud moment for Mrs. Martin to hear students, unscripted and without prompt, speak of the achievements IMS has been able to make since embarking on this path.
- **WE Day:** Schools are able to earn tickets to attend this conference that features many inspirational speakers and musical performances by participating in various humanitarian and citizenship projects. IMS earned 18 tickets.
- **Junior Leadership Conference:** Ponoka is hosting this overnight conference on November 17 and 18. Students will participate in leadership and team building activities.

Report Cards / Powerschool: Report cards will be ready on December 4th (?). Since all reporting is done through Powerschool, paper copies will be available by request only. The parent portal will be frozen for 2 weeks prior to allow teachers to post grades and comments and have them approved by Administration in a closed environment.

Not all teachers have been consistent in posting information. Teachers have been given additional support to learn the Powerschool upgrades so this should improve.

Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Meyer will host an Open House in December to demonstrate how parents should be using Powerschool. This will be messaged out to parents once details are finalized.

School Sports: Volleyball has ended and Grade 7/8 CENNA Basketball tryouts are starting. Since the CENNA league does not align with middle school grades, only drop in sessions are available to Grades 5/6. They will still compete in some exhibition games.

CHINOOK'S EDGE SCHOOL DIVISION: Holly Bilton

At their first board meeting, CESD welcomed three new trustees – Joe-Anne Knispel-Matejka (Sylvan), Melissa Copley (Carstairs/Cremona), and Allan Tarnoczi (Sundre), former Associate Superintendent of Corporate Services with CESD and they elected Holly to serve as Vice Chair. She will also sit on numerous committees that are yet to be determined.

Holly recently attended a family wellness conference and is pushing for more resources. As terrific as our school wellness workers are at CESD, there are still many student who would benefit from the wellness program.

CESD is subject to evaluations similar to the Accountability Pillar for schools. When the results were presented, many accolades were given to Innisfail for their achievements over the last few years.

CESD is in the process of phasing out their attendance at Public School Board Association meetings. Instead of supporting their use of tax dollars to set Boards against each other, CESD is making an effort to collaborate with other school boards wherever possible to share resources, reduce expenses, and enrich student learning and cultural opportunities. This would include things like joint purchases with the Catholic school to received larger discounts, and participating in the same events – Terry Fox Run, etc.

NEW BUSINESS:

Website: Concerns were brought forward that the IMS website is lacking information and calendars are outdated. Administration is aware that the website has not been updated and explained that with Paula moving to division office and with the website transitioning to a new format soon, and with the last minute resignations and staff injuries that Mrs. Martin has been dealing with, it has not been a priority considering that the website is cumbersome to maintain and training would need to be provided. Designated grade team members have been updating information on Facebook. No definite action items were provided.

Meeting adjourned at 7:46pm.

Next meeting scheduled for December 5, 2017 at 6:30 pm.