École Varennes Parent Committee Meeting
January 24, 2022
Agenda

This land is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and homeland of the Métis Nation. We acknowledge the harms, of both the past and present, that were and are inflicted on Indigenous peoples in Canada by a colonial, exploitative worldview and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in collaboration with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation.

Attendance: Charlene Sacher, Michelle Bacon, McKenzie Luby, Eileen Mueller, Crista Gladstone, Lindsay Lagman

Call to order *(1 min)* 6:37 *pm*

Adoption of minutes:

Minutes from December 20, 2021 *(5 min)* Charlene motion to pass December 20,2021 minutes, Crista to second, passed.

Business arising from minutes *(5 min)*

- Educator Appreciation Hot Lunch – form has been created for Subway. To be shared at staff meeting this month. Deadline to fill out by February 18, 2022
    - Charlene to send link to Michelle to be discussed at staff meeting tomorrow.
- Cost is $8.49/staff member for 6 inch sub, cookie, chips
- Look at donation for drinks
- Eileen could drop lunch off at school on March 3rd 10:45 am (pick up at 10:30 am)
- LRSD Board Meeting – Charlene spoke at the board meeting and brought up accessibility issues at Ecole Varennes, they indicated it was being looked at and based on the initial assessments it appears that the cost of renovations are greater than the cost of a new building. Charlene indicated that Chris Sigurdson indicated he would be interested in assisting with discussions with Ecole Varennes' PAC. This would likely be a separate sub-committee, potentially in February. Charlene will send out something inviting people who are interested, including any trustees who are interested, to join to subcommittee and then give status reports to the PAC.

Set expenses for 2021-2022 school year

Item	Expected Cost	Actual Cost
Truth and Reconciliation Books	$500	$ 493.39
CJS Scholarship	$500	
Retirement Gifts	$300	
Staff Appreciation	$500	
Grade 8 Farewell	$150	
Spending budget for each teacher (including music and phys.ed.)	$2400	

$100/teacher – to be determined based on funds in account		
Gardening	$250	

Reports

Chair *(5 min)* – nothing to report

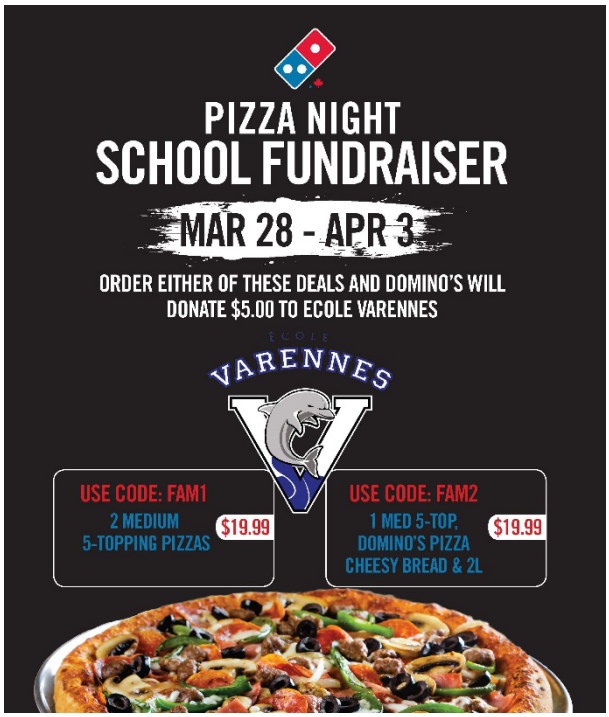
Treasurer *(5 min)*

Current balance: $3543.08 – no changes

Administration *(15 min)*

- All Families are asked to participate in the LRSD Thoughtexchange to add their voice to this year's budget deliberations. Please help your school board know what your priorities are for your children's education. https://www.lrsd.net/News/Pages/Share-Your-Thoughts-on-the-2022-2023-Budget.aspx
- Basketball season is resuming, with practices only
- Family Centre remains temporarily closed
- New recess cohorting for separation (A side and B side)
- Separation of students during lunch to achieve 2 meters during unmasked time. Library, music room and mezzanine are being used to facilitate the 2 meters.
- New snack protocol
- Walls are up in 3 of the open classrooms
- Kindergarten information evening- request for a parent volunteer
    - Charlene indicated she would potentially be able to speak, but would need to know what evening it would be in advance. Michelle to let her know as soon as she knows.
- COVID related absences dashboard and how it works
    - Updated every day at 4:30
    - Teacher dashboard is not up and running yet
- McKenzie update:
    - still doing weekly bread, potato and onion pickup/deliveries
    - still doing lunch/snack program

February events being considered:
Chinese New Year
Valentines Day
Festival du voyageur
National Thinking Day: 2/22/2022
Pink Shirt day



Hot lunch committee *(5 min) – none for the 2021-2022 school year*

Fundraisers

- Pizza Dominos – see attached document
- For locations in Portage La Prairie, Steinbach, Selkirk, Winnipeg
- Sharing information with staff and families (via social media connections, to community centers etc.) send out a week before.
- Charlene to send Amy to include with the weekly Varennes announcement the week before.

New Business *(30 min)*

- Grade 8 Farewell/Ceremony
    - In the past kids would submit 2 photos and a powerpoint would be created and there would be a ceremony in the gym, lunch, parade in school, in the evening they would meet up and go out for supper with their teachers
    - In 2020 there was a drive train to each person's home, presented flower and gift and the staff went to each student's home
    - Last year, powerpoint presentation and meet outside in pre-scheduled times with teacher
    - This year, no plans have been made yet. Waiting for more certainty on any changes in public health recommendations.
    - Lindsay & Charlene have expressed interest in volunteering once more is known.
    - Charlene indicated potentially renting a tent and doing sort of celebration outside. Lindsay suggested renting a picnic site at St. Vital park.
    - Michelle indicated more information on grade 8 farewell will be sent out to all grade 8 parents towards the end of February. High school information will likely be sent out mid February. Parent's evening (either in person or virtual) is for both parents and students.

<u>Upcoming Events</u>

- No meeting for February
- Monday, March 21, 2022
- Monday, April 25, 2022
- Monday, June 6, 2022

Adjournment *(1 min) 7:25 pm*

- Next meeting: Monday, March 21, 2022 6:30 pm