

DPAC Monthly Meeting: 1 Nov 2022

Nicole Woods called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

In attendance: 9 people

Chris Wright	Nicole Woods	Cyndi Whaley	Nic Green
Jodi Green	Brandy-Lynn Nott		

Staff: Cindy Harte, Jennifer Cox, Ashley Walman

Minutes:

- Nicole did the territory acknowledgement
- Chris & Jodi approved the last month's minutes
- Round table introductions.

Old business:

1. Class reps: We now have class reps for every division now. Nicole sent preliminary emails to them.
2. Doncaster wear: Extended the deadline, not as busy as in previous years. It's now closed and unknown how much money was raised.
3. Created by Kids: Wrapped up smoothly, and art got picked up last week. Delivery of products is the week of Nov 14-18. Unknown how much money was raised.
4. Thrifty Foods Kids Run: Went really well. Exceeded goals in what they wanted to fundraise (~\$300). All the kids got a medal. 22 kids from Doncaster signed up, and 8-12 were in the photo.
5. Halloween dance: Thank you to Cyndi, Tony, Crista, Mikyla, Nicole, and all of the volunteers who worked that night. Line-ups were slow and long, and too many choices slowed it down further since people were deciding when at the front of the line. Pizza was 30 min late as well. Stream-line food and keep it simple next time. Maybe have people pre-order food, or don't offer pizza next time, just snacks. Suggested to have a donation, like a can of food, as admittance fee next year. Open doors in the gym to keep it from getting too hot.
6. Parent education coordinator: No one has taken the job at Doncaster yet, but the Braefoot PAC president has been in touch with Nicole, and gotten the grant and found the speakers that they will share with us. Speakers lined up are: Allison Reese, on the topic of social-emotional anxiety and self-regulation; and Moms Against Racism. Both will be in-person.
7. Growing Smiles winter fundraiser: Nicole will send out the communication tomorrow. We can order right away, until Nov 14th. Dec 1st delivery.
8. Craft fair update: Google doc for ~25 volunteers will go out in the next week. The night before setting up the tables, and during the day, volunteers needed. Will be held Saturday, Nov 26. It has in the past raised \$6000-8000. This year, we expect it to be smaller since it has new organizers. They want to avoid using the back hallway. When does the school open in the morning? 7-10am. For next year, they want vendors to pick a time to load/unload. They will be allowed to park on the blacktop this year.
9. DPAC website: It's been updated, and now Warren needs to start updating it. Cyndi W. has now given him full admin access.

New business:

1. Garden coordinator: Erin Prescott (parent) and Abigail (teacher) were the garden leaders last year. Erin is no longer in this role. Abigail could use a parent volunteer to set up the parent volunteer signups and communicate about the garden work parties. It's a mainly fall and spring job, but needs to be filled before the spring.
2. Movie night: 6-8pm on December 1. Cyndi W. will organize, but needs help from Doncaster staff for setting up the projector that night.
3. Purdy's fundraiser: Laura Mercer is running that. Online orders will be sent out shortly. Nov 26th order deadline, and pickup on December 8th (about a week behind the winter greenery/growing smiles).
4. "odd fellas" casino and dance fundraiser event (Nic & Jodi Green): Rescheduled for Feb 4th for a later time to promote the event better. Already sold ~\$300 worth of tickets. After Christmas, they are ready with communications, etc. At the event, "funny money" is used for gambling. There is a full service bar. \$35 ticket gets you access to the dance party and some funny money. If you run out, you can buy more fake money to play. There are good prizes for winners.

Principal and Vice principal reports:

1. School goals: How to grow our school through a collaborative process with staff. Outdoor learning grew into Outdoor Education. The staff determined that outdoor education, and social-emotional learning, and indigenous knowledge are the goals for this school year. A new professional standard around committing staff to truth and reconciliation process in Canada. How the 7 indigenous teachings will impact the social-emotional wellness of students. They need to report back to the district on how they are assessing the growth. Are other schools doing this too? Other schools do share goals, but there's quite a variety. Always working towards literacy and numeracy as a given. Cindy emailed families to communicate about this. They want to get feedback from parents on the topic of goals.
 - a. January ProD will have the staff making drums. Turns out the DPAC funds can't be spent on the drums that staff will make (which are \$1600) and gift to the school. They will be kept in the classrooms once they are made. Therefore, DPAC funds could go towards something else. There are 7 Indigenous songs that have been gifted to the district to use.
2. Second author (Christy Jordan-Fenton) visit of the year is coming up on Nov 9th, in person. Has written children's books about residential schools. They already had an author visit, virtually, on orange shirt day.
3. DPAC needs to spend money that falls under the gaming grant (\$8800 that can be spent on physical education, and some other categories, but we only have 6 months or so left to spend it, the ~\$4000 that remains).
 - a. Requisition for a quote for the lower basketball hoops outside. They never got back to Cindy H. with the quote. Cindy H. will go back and revive the process at the district level.
 - b. Scooter parking was on our list for spending the gaming grant too. Big range in price. Currently, scooters are stored in the courtyard.
 - c. Other ideas include a covered bike rack, a bike mechanic station.
4. Affordability fund: ministry money; \$28,000 for Doncaster, which can be used towards offsetting costs for families in need (needs to be spent by end of June). January and June check-ins on how that money has been used to help families. Cindy emailed

families already, but no one has responded yet. Please spread the word. One plan is that every grade 5 student gets a Tshirt or a hoodie. Jennifer & Cindy H. will try to find out how many kids didn't order one. Cindy L. will let them know how many have been ordered in total, and they will cross compare with how many grade 5s there are. They are also planning to buy winter coats, boots, and extra clothes, to have on hand to give out. Hilda feeds some kids-in-need daily, so she knows several families in need. The PAC has been buying some food for this, but we can pause that, so that the affordability fund money can go towards that. All up-and-coming field trips will include a blurb about not having to pay. There is a lot of need this year.

- a. Suggested to communicate again on this topic, including more information, such as examples on what it can be spent on.
5. Question about consolidating the emails that the school sends out to families. Some parents aren't getting some of them. Myhat(?) (which Cindy H. uses to email) versus messenger (that Barb uses to email) – the latter has some parents missing these.

November newsletter – things to include:

- Parent volunteer to co-lead the Garden project
- Craft Fair volunteers needed.
- Growing Smiles ordering
- Purdys ordering
- Please connect with Cindy & Barb if your family, or you know of a family in financial need.

Next meeting: Tuesday, 6 December 2022, on zoom

Nicole Woods adjourned the meeting at 8:09pm.