

Minutes for Buckhorn School Parent Council October 14/21

In Attendance:

Mrs.Duffus A.Garbutt E. Karaj T. Therrien

Mrs.Hill A. Schultz S. Robbins

1. Frew C. VanNoort. S. Guest

Next meeting scheduled for December 2/2021 at 6pm via WebEx

Principal's Report

Mrs.Duffus spoke of recent purchases of iPads/computers for bucket stations set up in classrooms to augment learning. Jk-grades 1-2 will be getting iPads, while older grades will be getting chrome books.

RAZ kids and IXL math programs have also been purchased for the children to use both in the school and at home.

The breakfast program will be starting again in the school. Due to COVID restrictions, this will look different than it has in the past. Instead of the children meeting in the gym to eat and socialize, coolers with individually packaged food items will be brought to classrooms in the morning. Children will then eat safely at their desks. S. Swanky has once again generously donated her time and energy to ensuring the children have healthy snacks available to them each morning. There is a need for volunteers to help package and distribute these food items. Volunteers must have a valid police check, forms are available from Mrs.Duffus.

Remembrance Day ceremonies will be held outside again this year. Teachers and staff have many activities planned for the children.

Communication with families is very important. Currently the school is sending updates via Edsby and Twitter. Mrs.Duffus is also setting up a private YouTube channel where parents will be able to meet the teachers, and virtually explore classrooms.

The Buckhorn Lions club, with the help of donations from Buckhorn Sand and Gravel, were able to weed, tidy up, and plant new trees in the front gardens of the school! Thank you so much for making our school beautiful!

Some trees were removed near the road, when bus drivers discussed being unable to see properly when pulling out of the school.

A new portable is being installed at the school due to an increase in the number of students attending! It should be arriving soon, and once installed, some classrooms will be moving.

A Disc Golf set has been purchased by the school with some funding from the parent council. Some of the school staff have found experts who will be coming to teach the children how to use the new equipment. We are excited to learn how to play!

The school board gave Buckhorn Public School funding for more childhood educators due to the student attendance numbers increasing.

Mrs.Duffus spoke of the need to establish a web portal where Parent Council minutes and information will be easily available to families and the public. A.Garbutt (secretary) and Mrs.Duffus will work together to update the Buckhorn Public School KPRDSP webpage and ensure that the information on it is kept current. With parents being unable to come inside the school like in past years due to COVID restrictions, it is important that families are kept up to date with what is happening at the school.

Council discussed the Hot Lunch Program, which has been very popular in past years. The program runs on community donations, and is free of charge to every student in the school. Pizza Alloro will be providing slices of pizza to each student in the school, with additional slices being available for a small fee. We will also be needing 2-3 parent volunteers with police checks, to bring pizza to the classrooms and help distribute.

Treasurers Report

The school trip account has a balance of \$1,848.38 to be used towards class trips.

The Hot Lunch program currently has a balance of \$331.32

The School council account has current balance of \$2,886.39

Donations

Council discussed whether donations made to the school need to go through the school board in order to get a tax receipt. S.Robbins stated that yes, in order to get a tax receipt for a donation, the donation must go through the KPRDSP.

Council also discussed whether a school could be registered as a charity, or something similar. Council at large was unsure, and further research will be done.

1. Robbins will be restarting the school cash online program. Parent council will be funding some exciting programs for the children, including Jimmy the Breakdancer, and the Forest of reading program. Requests for money donations for these programs will be made through the school cash online program.

Fundraising

The Parent Council has some exciting plans for fundraising for the school.

1. FlipGive is one way that Parent Council is encouraging families to help raise money for the school. FlipGive is an easy-to-use cash back app that we have used in the past to raise money for extra supplies, additional technology, outdoor play, school trips, and educational guests just to name a few. The school earns cash back when parents buy things they need online. We have already set up the account this year, and we encouraging parents to use the app to purchase gifts cards for the stores they would like to buy from, and then use the gift cards to pay for the items that they purchase through the FlipGive app. By both using the app to buy the gift card and then once again using the app to purchase, we earn extra money. There is no extra cost for families to use this app. Simply buy through the app and the parent council earns cash to help get extras for the children. Perfect timing for the holiday season! Emails with further info will be given to parents. You can share the code with anyone that would like to help support our school. Team name is BUCKHORN PUBLIC SCHOOL 2021/2022 And the team join code is: 5CYF77
2. Jamie Stephenson, owner of Style Your Nest in Buckhorn, has once again generously volunteered to host a fundraiser for the Parent Council. Jamie will be selling selected items from her store, and also will be selling scentsy products. Stay tuned for details
3. The large play structure in the kindergarten play yard had to be dismantled this summer as it did not meet safety guidelines. The parent council would like to put a new play structure in its place, that is safe and fun for the children. The cost of the play structures are quite high, and council will be seeking donations and will continue fundraising efforts to support this as well. We would also like families to have input in to what they would like to see put into the schoolyard.

Quote # 1:

**Keep in mind all the quotes have flexibility and things can be altered if necessary.

**I believe ground level games deem playstructure inclusive.

References provided.

Site prepared by us.

Little Tikes PlayStructure. Will still require proper diagram and image of playstructure. CAD drawing. Great to work with and very responsive.

Quote #2:

Henderson, great company.

Incredibly difficult to get this quote but once received it looked great.

Installation and PlayStructure included, no site preparation is included in this quote.

Better looking images.

Quote #3:

- Exceptionally detailed quote laying out different age groups and challenge of playstructure. Installation details, site prep if necessary.
- Blue Imp appears to have similarities to Henderson. Established company.
- References provided from Municipalities and School Principals.
- Site preparation cost provided. They took the request and added more to fit the space.
- Quote is the most expensive but most detailed. Offers the most games and is the largest of the playstructures.

Quote #4:

- This company recently installed a playground in the City of Kawartha Lakes, Lindsay. Logie Street Park. Contact information obtained from City of Kawartha Lakes. Amazing person to work with.
 - Ages 18months – 12 years
 - No site preparation included in this quote.
 - Ground level games included for inclusiveness.
4. Pizza Alloro has teamed up with Buckhorn Public School and BPS Parent Council with a fundraising initiative. Every Wednesday between December 8/2021 and the end of March 2022, a percentage of proceeds will be donated to the Buckhorn Public School! Looks like Wednesday is the new pizza night in Buckhorn!

Parent council encourages parents to attend our meetings if possible, and would love to have more parental involvement, we hope you can attend our next meeting December 2/2021 at 6pm!