GLEN WILLIAMS SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

February 4, 2014

In attendance:

Vince Cundari: Principal; Sheri Binsell: Chair; Lisa Gombocz: Co-Chair; Kara Jackson: Teacher Representative, Joanne Collier: Secretary , David Sullivan: Parent Representative, Tracey Bastedo: Parent Representative.
Regrets: Tasha Evans, Rev. Orear, Vanessa Legair

Guest Speaker: Jen Hall – school financial advisor

- Implementing cashless schools in 13 new school and Glen Williams is one of the schools (takes effect on Monday February 10)
- All events must be available to pay cashless; parents still have option but preference is for cashless payment (e.g., field trips, milk, lunch orders)
- All schools by September 2015 – trying to get money out of the schools and reduce amount of time spent counting etc.
- Use same technology and security as the banks
- Halton.cashlessschools.com – go to this website and sign in and then find child in system
- Once you log in, choose child and it pulls up all fees that are available – choose fee to be paid, adds to shopping cart and then have option for how to pay (cashless account, through bank account, interac online)

Acceptance of February 2014 minutes – Sheri Binsell and Lisa Gombocz approved the minutes

Principal's Report:

Shared Belongingness Survey from October 2013

- 86% felt they felt safe at school always/often
- All reported instances of bullying (i.e., kicking, hitting, exclusion, gossiping) have decreased since May 2013
- Reviewed location of bullying and occurrences
- For next one, Grade 2's will do paper copy and other grades will do survey online
- Next survey will be administered in May 2014

Online Reporting Tool:

- Will be in every school by end of month
- Provides another way to safely report incidents of bullying for grades 4 and up; confidential but not anonymous (Mr. Cundari will be only one to see document, have to put name on it)
- If emergency, tool will direct kids to contact Kids Help line
- Link will be on school website, under student page
- Report goes directly to CHATT page of Mr. Cundari

Council News & Updates:

- Made $695.00 from cookie fundraiser
- 2 ipads were purchased with lunch money; school now has 8
- Live free campaign – Friday February 28th; donate $2.00; money will be donated back to school for healthy snack
- Feb. 28th – donate gently used soccer equipment to donation to under-developed country
- Volleyball uniforms – will use the shirts that have been purchased in past and not buy new ones; Vince will double check if teachers want them since kids didn't get one last year
- Literacy committee was asking for 1500.00 for levelled classroom books (k-Grade 2) – rationale: matched to students level, develop more complex thinking skills, good writing tool, reluctant readers often buy into this program, older students who are struggling with reading could also use the books, social studies and science books
- Construction will be starting in March – Ms. Whitehead's class is moving to French/music portable; French/music moving into the schools; healthy snack will stop in March as staff room will be affected; teachers will be eating in library (important to ensure there is no nut products being eaten)

Financial Report:

Balance available - $3500.00

- Special lunch money is in separate account – used to purchase ipads; will buy 2 more before end of year
- Approved to give $1000.00 to math team and $1000.00 to literacy team to purchase resources

Teacher's report:

- February 7 – sub day
- February 14 – Valentine's day – wear red, pink and white, pizza day
- February 17 – Family day
- February 21 – pita day
- 24th – report cards go home
- 28th – glen gathering, live free campaign, pizza day, soccer donation

Business arising from minutes:

- Spring dance – April 11th; Lisa will contact volunteers and put committee together
- June BBQ – June 5th; will be held at St. Alban's as a community event; Park School runs it as needing a ticket for everything, tickets were presold at a discount, can also buy more on night, Sheri to get more info from Park School; Brooke will present at next meeting; Joanne to verify with Rev. Orear if we can run it as a fundraiser
- Voted on signing a petition from Alan Wakefield (affiliated with MPP Gerard Kennedy) to Premier Wynne and Minister Sandals to oppose the regulation 274 which limits the principal's ability to hire the appropriate staff for their school – staff are currently assigned by the ministry – all in agreement
- Lisa to check into St. George to see if we could have parent night and have a portion of money donated back

Next meeting March 4th, 2014