Derek Taylor Public School

School Council Meeting

 December 9th, 2015

1. Opening of Meeting –7:03pm

In Attendance – Farrah Mayea, John Scott, Jennifer Barley, Nancy Gorgichuk, Gloria Hartford, Donlea Holman, Karen Prokopowich, Anita Lyons.

1. Approval of Agenda – 1st Farrah Mayea, 2nd  Jennifer Barley
2. Approval of Minutes – 1st Farrah Mayea, 2nd Gloria Hartford
3. Correspondence – Bank Statements and ATA newspaper
4. Reports:
5. Chair’s Report – Chair trustee meeting, was unable to attend. Karen might speak to it in her report.
6. Treasurer’s Report – $7765.26 on last statement; however there are cheques to be written from that yet.
7. Principle’s Report – As far as **updates from division**, final boundary updates will be announced in School Board report. Before Xmas break is the expected date for administrative positions to be announced. **PTI's** were well attended this year. Staff dedication to the interviews was so good. School just finished first in **food bank** challenge. **Mighty Peace Day** students collecting warm weather items till the 18th. **Canada cup**, Rocks n Rings program was just finished at the school. Grades 3 and 5 attended on one day, then grade 4 and 6 the next day. **Christmas concert** was so amazing this year. Staff and students did such a wonderful job. Collection taken in order for the school to be able to help some of the school family needs that have been brought forward to administration. Over $2400 was donated by the friends and family of our school students. Walmart and Superstore gift cards will be mostly what is given, however we will be taking items that have been donated by staff for them as well as specific needs have been brought forth. For example, one mother will be given some warm weather gear as they are in very serious need of some. This takes some pressure off the staff as they are very giving (usually 4-6 families per year). Thanks to these donations, we will be able to help give them significantly more this year!! **Turkey dinner** coming up. Volunteer info went home with students today. Big thank you to Roscoe DBO Inc....all turkeys donated and cooked by them again this year!! With safety first in mind, DTPS is now displaying a safe **festival of trees** in the school foyer. Various trees for each grade level. Students will be decorating as the complete making their decorations in class. There was a **'Hold and Secure'** called into action today at the school, which unfortunately should only have been called a 'Shelter in Place'. There was an unconfirmed cougar sighting in the area but we needed to be 100% sure so erred on the side of caution. The grade fours were out of the school swimming, so they were contacted and asked to stay at pool. Shortly after speaking with the Fish & Wild Life officers, movement was permitted with supervision. Then the Hold and Secure it was lifted entirely. Sighting is still unconfirmed.
8. School Board Report - Boundary decision was made on the 24th. DTPS will be for the communities of Grande Banks and Mission Heights only. Isabel Campbell will be Pinnacle/West Point and O'brian Lake communities. Bussing will be provided for Grande Banks, and O'Brien Lake in the fall of 2016, however, once a safe crossing is made on 68th avenue, bussing will no longer be provided for O'Brien. In lay terms, Highway 40 appears to be the boundary between our two schools....Negotiations are ongoing on for bussing, contracts, boundaries, student placements, student safety....lots of issues are being addressed. Other items that were discussed were; Grandfathering in schools, Maude Clifford being put on hold, City is to hear in the New Year about the annexing involving 88 students before decisions are made. Just for your information, all school councils are struggling with attendance big time, so don't be disheartened! As Nancy mentioned in her report, interviews for admin positions are ongoing in the hopes of a decision for Christmas. Thank you was addressed to teachers for their early intentions submissions. May and June might be used for getting new admins and to start getting the feel of the new schools.
9. Safety Committee - Blitz day went well all things considered. Everyone was happy and pleasantly surprised. Suggestion was made by Gloria that maybe students can get a treat for making good choices on the way to and from school, but there's legalities involved when it comes to approaching children, so this suggestion will not be going ahead.
10. Social Committee - The movie night was a complete failure. Might need to try to go for an unreleased movie next time. Possibly need to spend the $75 for an unreleased, but this might be able to be recouped in snacks sold. Does anyone want to do a winter activity, like skating and hot chocolate? We will revisit in January.
11. Old Business
12. Movie night - See above in Social Committee report.
13. Room reps - Farrah will email her to email the parents.
14. Signing authorities at bank - Donlea will email Shanda
15. New Business
16. Turkey dinner...When DTPS approached the caterer this year about still charging us $2 each person despite all turkeys being donated and cooked, the caterer is unwilling to adjust the fee per person, even though it's too high now that we are paying for all the food. The reason given was the increased cost of staffing. This situation needs to be addressed well in advance of next year’s turkey dinner. Right now it's $2000 plus the cost of additional food. Other options can be looked into for next year as well.
17. Spending of money in account by years’ end - Nancy has done some looking into this, and after looking at all options has come to us with the information that the cost for field trips could use some extra money, namely for bussing as they are too much...experiential learning is the best way to experience....$5000 donation to match the school budget would allow for two inner city field trips, and one out of town field trips for the school as a whole. Karen talked to the education foundation, anything that they can get from grants they will get, but that still doesn't leave much. Anita made motion for $5000 to be given to the school for field trips, seconded by Jen, all in favour.
18. Next Meeting – January 13th, 2016 in the Home Ec room at DTPS.
19. Adjournment – 7:57pm