

Cremona School Parent Council Meeting Minutes

September 13th, 2016

7 pm in the Library

1. Call to Order 7:00pm

Attendance: Joanna Harvey, Robert Mast, Janice Gerdts, Gerard Kulscar, Michael Kerfoot, Corina MacDonald, Cheryl Hahn, Rob Scott, Diane Daum, Joseph Shi, Kerry Litzenberger, Pamela Reid, Sheldon Ball, Marvella Harms, Inza Tegart, Heather Agnew, Andrea Reid, Tamara Ziebarth

2. Previous Minutes

Anna did a wonderful job – Michael Kerfoot – accept as presented; Diane Daum seconded.

3. Admin Report

New Vice Principal – Corina MacDonald – amazing job so far!

New Staff – Malynn Frank, Hannah DuGallack & Katelyn Young

Welcome Back Breakfast went well – any feedback is welcome

Picture Day – Tomorrow & Thursday; Individuals now – class pictures in the spring – parent concerns about the uncertainty of dates for the middle grades – especially grade 6. Gerard has had phone calls of concern. If there are no concerns here, we will continue with the same photographer.

Up about 15 students – 363 from 348

Leadership – helped with Pancake Breakfast; Terry Fox next; Shauna Ward will help Corina MacDonald with Leadership

Water Experience Course Next week – so far have 5 registered; need a minimum of 10; 4 day course; grades 10-12; deadline for registration is tomorrow; leave 7:00 Tuesday if they have enough students

Gr 4 off to Aspen Ranch – Monday – 19th

Terry Fox – September 29th – all students are asked to bring a loonie

Volley Ball has started but we are short coaches; there are not enough girls for 2 senior teams; there isn't a coach for senior girls – Gerard will check with Dawn Armstrong to see if she will coach.

Cross Country is practicing 3 days a week after school; Hannah DuGallack – coach – gr 7-12; elementary will be run by Julie Nichol

New Reading program grade 1 and up – helping with reading comprehension – prizes they can work towards – encouraged to read more; not RazKids; Accelerated Reader is the program – it is to encourage library use – it's online and books are also in the library; The point is that they are reading at their reading level. Parents would like some more information to come home.

Elementary teachers have asked so something will be coming home. Every time students read a book, they can ask their teacher to go to the library to write a test.

*Before we go on – A lot of new faces tonight – this is great! Introductions
Is this an informational meeting or is it a meeting where parents can make changes?; Parents are advisors.*

4. Financial Report

Pizza Fund \$2033.80

Holiday Gift Shop \$ 912.25

Still a couple of cheques to go through

The money is used for whatever is asked for/needed.

We make about \$400-500/pizza day.

Dates for Pizza Days are on the website; Subway Days will be on the website as soon as they are available.

*Some parents would like to pay all in one shot; some would like to order once in a while
Order forms go home for grades k-4*

5. Band Society

Gr 5/6 band and 7/8 band; Only 5 in a small HS Jazz Ensemble band – may open this up to grade 7/8 later; Elementary can have a recorder class if run at noon - Inza Tegart – will run on a Tuesday or Thursday – will discuss with Joanna to make a plan

Students get a German Fingered Recorder and music for \$5

Grade 5 Band Camp – October 12-14

How do students get their instruments? Gr 5 and 6 were shown the instruments and given a choice; students can feel out for the first few weeks and change their minds

AGM for Band will be in October

Suggested to have a mandatory band meeting for all of the parents who have students in band to get everything out on the table regarding past issues from last year.

Inventory was previously taken by the previous band director. There was a running inventory at one time – Gerard will check with Brenda to see if she may know.

Will try to encourage grade 4s next year to get excited about band for grade 5.

Band Society provides fundraising and assistance for the entire school. A lot of the heavy lifting has been done – the Band Society needs new parents to step up and take over.

Suggested to do something in the school to bring back excitement for the band.

6. Cremona School Enhancement Society

First meeting next Tuesday; New playground was put in last year; fundraising for this year – tables/curtains; in the past gym equipment has been purchased. CESES is the fundraising parent body. They meet at 3:15 on the third Tuesday. This time does not work for people that work outside of the home. Joanna will take this to the next meeting.

7. Trustee Report

Board meeting last week. Sheldon is the second Vice Chair; his main job will be dealing with contracts – negotiations start on September 19

8. Old Business

Concession – Went well last spring; started again last Tuesday; regular items as well as specials being offered

Sea Can – Waiting for it to be delivered

Shed – belongs to the school – have to decide what to do with it; suggested to donate it to the fire department; Joanna will look into this

9. New Business

Communication when it comes to sports – can this be put on the website – not just through the children? Practices etc – would like a link on the website

Updating the Cremona Website – would like to see it up to date – school supply lists – lists were different on the website and what was sent home in June.

Can Chrome Books be a mandatory school supply? There is a belief that parents can then write this off on their taxes.

Safe searches are done so students do not get to inappropriate material.

Devices in the school – unless used for educational purposes, they are not to be out.

Concern last year – MAC doesn't have the same filters; Chrome – doesn't have some of the high end graphics; Would like to have a Digital Citizenship information session for parents at one of our School Council meetings.

Communication – update the website – some is updated, some isn't

10. Welcome Back Breakfast Recap

11. Next meeting: October 11th, 2016

Speaker – Robbin Alexander – discussing what her role is as a Family School Wellness Worker

Connecting to Your Children Sessions – Starting in October for 6 weeks

Looking for suggestions for speakers for the upcoming meetings

Lack of Communication – try to communicate better in all areas (Admin to Staff; Staff to Staff; School to parents; parents to school etc) – looking for suggestions – send Gerard an email; soilsrus@cciwireless.ca

Adjourned at 8:53pm