

Holland Road Elementary PTA Minutes, March 14, 2019

Attendance: Denise Laplante, Mrs. Larade, Mrs. Wisen, Hanna Smith, Joanna Osbourne, Chandra Greatti, Kyla McInnis

Principal's Update

A student initiative which allows students to post good deeds done by their peers, the 'kindness tree' has been well received and was featured in the local paper. The students are now working on a kindness calendar initiative.

Water continues to be supplied through coolers to address the issue of safe but off tasting water from the fountains. The issue of keeping the coolers clean has come up and the company has been contacted for proper cleaning instructions. The custodian will clean on a monthly bases.

The PTA classroom fund has been spent by the teachers. We will reassess the account at the end of the year to see how much we can offer each classroom in September.

Teachers are beginning to plan end of year field trips. The brain fair trip that the grade 6's attended this month was well received.

Library – books are still coming in from the book fair and new books are being displayed. Reminder – take photos of the displays for the Facebook page. The librarian will order books from our Indigo account.

Tech – 23 chrome books were purchased from donated funds. Older technology is continually being traded in for new chrome books. More Chrome books are always needed to support classroom learning.

Financial Update

Joanna reported that our account currently stands at \$8000. According to Judith, the HRCE accountant, PTA money raised must be spent or allocated by the end of March to support the students within the fundraising year. This remaining money can be transferred to a deferred account to be spent on field trip busses, spring fling expenses and grade 6 t-shirts and possibly year books. We can also add a 'savings' fund to defer costs for bigger purchases like playground equipment.

PTA expenses:

Mimio board - \$1200

Wobble chairs - \$377

Classroom fund - \$2800

Fundraisers:

Halloween howl - \$1300
Christmas Bazaar - \$1450
Bingo - \$812

The Breakfast Club

The breakfast club is continuing and evolving with a scheduled menu and tables setup for students to pick up their selections on their way to home room. Production menus, grocery lists and instructions are being created by volunteers. A work-order has been placed for a stainless steel sink to be installed in the kitchen. Joanna, Andrea Lanigan and Mrs. Larade attended a breakfast club session put on by Nourish NS and the HRCE nutritionist. They received examples of how to run a breakfast program as well as a free blender to prep smoothies.

The early monitors are doing many of the breakfast tasks on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and the Grade 6's are building skills and easing the volunteer burden by helping out. More volunteers would be appreciated, especially on Tuesday and Thursday. Communication should go out asking for help and suggesting needed items if anyone wants to donate.

Grant funding of \$4000-6000 is available for this program each year. Tim Horton's has generously given a deal on bagels. There is approx. \$180 remaining funds each week.

Nourish your roots

There is \$120 remaining from the nourish your roots veggie box fundraiser which will go towards continuing the classroom fruit baskets. Reminder – ask Nicole about the status of an Easter box fundraiser.

Family skate

We've missed the window for a family skate so we'll cancel for this year. It has been fun but not been well attended in the past so we'll reassess booking one for next year.

Paint night

The gym is booked for April 27, 2-5. Follow up with Jaimie to see if a paint night is being organized. We would have to find a new provider as our previous artist is an HRCE employee and, therefore, cannot be hired for extra projects.

Spring Fling, June 8, 10-1

The date has been booked, as well as the bouncey castles and face painter. A separate Spring fling committee meeting should be booked asap. We need an individual to take the lead as well

as an organizer for each of major jobs – games, BBQ, silent and penny auction, tickets, prizes and volunteers. A donation letter will go out next week for the silent auction.

Other

Super Fun Bubble Run – Chandra presented on the plans for a fun run to be booked for September. A small committee has been formed and much of the planning has begun. More work is needed to plan a fundraising goal. One idea is to research play equipment options for the front of the school and another is create a sensory path inside the school. A handout is available with detailed information.

Frosty Friday's – this simple and tasty fundraiser will be offered again this year for the last five Friday's of the school year.

The next meeting will be Thursday, April 18 at 6:30