Empire School Council Minutes
January 10, 2023 at 6:30 PM

LINK

https://meet.google.com/uog-dvju-iig?authuser=0

Attendance: Andrea Ahrens, Lauren Agar, Candice Bauman (Empire Staff Rep.), Laura Johnson (Treasurer), Evonne Komaromi (Secretary), Rebecca Playford, Khaled Sherif (Chair), Lori Williams (Principal), Lindsay Fox (Vice-Principal)

Welcome and Introductions

No new members for introductions.

Approval of Previous Month Meeting Minutes

Reviewed previous month's (December 2023) minutes. Laura approved minutes Lauren seconded.

Principal / vice-Principal Report

a. Lindsay has joined as Vice-Principal
b. Read Aloud Program continues to be successful
c. 'Equity' and 'Safe and Caring School' Groups will meet – discussing living library (people volunteer and are booked to share their experiences allowing people to see diversity in community open to Empire community, significant display inviting the community to share why Empire feels like home such as a poem/video etc., possibility of speaker Saidat (about $1000.00 speaker presentation fee),
d. Feb. 12th Report Cards First Term
e. Two teachers returning from leave grade 2/3 Victoria B. and grade 1 Sam Holmes

Plan for 'Winter' Art night

Last year Winter Art night was March 6th and on the timing rotation as was not immediately after school so that community preferring this timing could attend. Teachers had positive reviews of it.

This year we will have access to the gym. Current music teacher and teacher Todd S. could be willing to help. Clubs could showcase their activities and we could have an activity outside such as snow sculptures. Snacks were also provided.

Literacy parent/guardian information night can be planned by Principal and Vice-Principal. Arts night will need the help of the School Council. Performances should be in the gym to facilitate the audience and we share the running order.

Quest STEM Night Update

Couple of dates are options for March/April 2024 but Kahled has not heard back from them. We should look for alternatives in case Quest does not respond.

Pro-grant deadline is January 26, 2024 and schools will be notified by February 12th, 2024. Khaled will submit the pro-grant application.

Parent Questions and Concerns

Grade 4-5-6 Feb. 13 tubing trip to Chicopee.

RAP is facilitated by Empire CYW.

Laura clarified budget spending. Lori will get information from Secretary Ms. Hart to pass on to Laura.

Laura also asked if School Council wants to do fundraising. Lori suggested it be put on the agenda for an upcoming School Council meeting. Lori shared that there is a lot of enthusiasm for soccer but only have one goal area made of metal and as it is a crooked layout there is only room for one game at a time which results in a lot of conflict. Two other items that have come up are Primary sensory paths in the hallway and permanent outside games/activities to add to outdoor areas. Kindergarten would appreciate a gate around the front of the school (this would come out of the school budget). Lauren asked about adding scooter racks to the school an example of what is possible can be found at Westmount P.S.

Adjournment

Lauren approved and Laura seconded adjournment.

Next meeting: Wed. Feb. 14 at 6:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m. (in the library and live link)