Craigflower Parent’s Advisory Council

Minutes of the 16 January 2017 meeting

Present: Christina Staab, Megan Dupuis, Diana Gagné, Margaret Gwyn, Tim Murphy, Jennifer Janes, Brittani Wilson, Nichole Wilson, Paige Garrett, Angela Garrett

1. Welcome and Introductions (all)
2. Agenda and approval (all)
3. Admin report (Tim)
   1. The school had a good December and start of the new year. Holidays can be a stressful time, and Tim’s been at some schools where the last week of classes in December is terrible, but it was great here. There seems to have been an energy shift at the end of November, and kids are getting much better at regulating themselves.
   2. The school is trying out the idea of a Readiness Room.
      1. K-3 kids who need some extra help to be ready to learn are spending part or all of their day in this room, with their parents’ consent
      2. It’s a flexible space set up for play-based learning, lots of science, technology, engineering and math hands-on things to do
      3. The goal is to get kids ready to rejoin their regular classes
      4. The school is monitoring how things are working in the Readiness Room, and how things are working in the students’ regular classrooms when they’re not there
      5. The school’s received support from the District to try this pilot through to the end of March
      6. They’re learning as they go, but really happy about how it’s working so far
   3. Staffing update: the librarian is now Jennifer Beaupres. The previous librarian, Hannah, is now working in the Readiness Room

4) Consumables requests from teachers

1. The PAC asked if any receipts for consumables have come in from teachers
2. Tim reported that he sent an email around, but hasn’t heard anything back yet. If he does get any response, he’ll forward things to Jennifer
3. Jennifer asked if the PAC is extending the same offer to long-term TOCs. The consensus was yes
4. Christina suggested a deadline of the end of January for teachers to submit their receipts.

**ACTION ITEM: Tim** will relay this deadline to the teachers.

5) Report from the treasurer (Jennifer)

1. The chequing account currently has a balance of $5198.85, and the gaming account has a balance of $4116.60. There’s approximately $140 in the PAC Bottle Depot account, and Jennifer just deposited two $80 cheques from the Smile Card fundraising program
2. The PAC decided to send a note home about the Smile Card program, encouraging more people to participate.

**ACTION ITEM: Megan** will write some text and forward it to Tim

**ACTION ITEM: Tim** will send the message out

1. Jennifer noted that the $400 cheque from the Rotary Club was cashed. She’d like receipts from what was purchased with the money.

**ACTION ITEM: Tim** will get the receipts to Jennifer

6) Update on after school care (Diana)

1. Diana reported that she contacted the Childcare Resource and Referral Centre, who gave her a list of people to call who might be able to run an after-school program at Craigflower. They also told her that there had been a program at Craigflower in the past, but there wasn’t enough interest to keep it going
2. Diana called the names on the list, but everyone she called said no, due to staffing and space issues, except for the Boys and Girls Club
3. The Boys and Girls club said they could run a program if we found a space outside of the school in which to run it. We’d need a minimum of 20 students participating, and the earliest it could start would be September 2020
4. There was a discussion about what the cost of the care would be. Diana told the PAC about the Affordable Child Care Benefit, which came into effect on September 1st 2018. More information is at https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/caring-for-young-children/child-care-funding/child-care-benefit
5. There was a discussion about possible locations for the program. Ideas included:
   1. The historic Craigflower School House
   2. Requesting a portable from the District
   3. The community centre which is being proposed for the Craigflower Manor property
   4. Space in new facilities when Craigflower and Shoreline schools are merged
6. Tim said Mark Walsh at the District has been discussing this issue

**ACTION ITEM: Diana** will further discuss what she’s learned with Tim

**ACTION ITEM: Tim** will talk to Connor about approaching Mark Walsh

7) Ideas for spending PAC money

1. Megan reported on what she’s learned about having PISE run an after-school program at Craigflower. They would need to have 2 teachers present, at $40/hr each. They already go to the Songhess Wellness Centre on Tuesdays and Thursdays, so Wednesdays would be the best day for them to visit Craigflower. Connor and Tim have volunteered to be the staff members on site. To have PISE here every other week for 1.5 hours starting in February would cost approximately $1500
2. The PAC voted on this idea and agreed to fund this project

**ACTION ITEM: Megan** will contact PISE to get the program in place for March

1. Tim reported on the school’s request for Chromebooks. These are simple laptops that can connect to the Internet. The school already has some which are well used. They’d like to have 15 more, which in total would cost $5000 - $6000.
2. The PAC discussed doing a focused fundraiser to raise money for this. There was some discussion about the legalities of running a raffle

**ACTION ITEM: Jennifer** will look into the details of how to properly run a raffle

**ACTION ITEM: Everyone** will think up fundraising ideas for the next meeting

1. Jennifer reported on the idea of painting games/activities on the schoolyard pavement
2. Tim explained that in some situations, the District’s Facilities workers would have to do this, but in other cases we might be able to do it ourselves
3. Angela said she had connections at Home Hardware that would help us get the proper paint for a good price

**ACTION ITEM: Jennifer** will forward designs to Tim

**ACTION ITEM: Tim** will discuss the ideas with Facilities

1. There was a question about how and when to apply for next year’s gaming grant.

**ACTION ITEM: Jennifer** will find out when the deadline is

1. The PAC asked if they should anticipate any requests from the school for funds towards year-end activites, like Camp Thunderbird, National Aboriginal Day, or the year-end picnic

**ACTION ITEM: Tim** will find out and report back about fundraising activities planned by the Grade 5s, and if the school is planning to ask for money towards this or any other year-end activities

8) Final thoughts and ideas

1. Tim brought forward a request from Mrs. Kossick for money towards bus tickets so her class can attend a nature program. The cost would be $115.
2. The PAC voted and agreed to fund this request

**ACTION ITEM: Tim** will let Mrs. Kossick know

**ACTION ITEM: Nichole** will look into the possibility of getting free bus tickets from BC Transit

1. Tim brought forward a request from himself and Miss Bedi for a license to the Mathletics program for the Grade 4 and 5 students. The program covers all the math competencies in a play-based way and presents the concepts in multiple ways. Students can do head-to-head math battles with the classmates and play from home as well. The total cost for the 40 Grade 4 and 5 students to have access for the rest of the year is approximately $460
2. The PAC voted and agreed to fund this request
3. There was a discussion on ways to get more people involved in the PAC. Many of the current parents will be leaving Craigflower in the next year or two
4. One suggestion was to provide child care during PAC meetings. Paige and Angela volunteered to take turns watching school-aged kids during PAC meetings starting in February

**ACTION ITEM: Megan** will write up something to advertise this and send it to Tim for distribution

1. Concern was raised about litter in the schoolyard. Tim agreed this is a problem, and says the school is working on it through a Green Team program, where a different class is assigned to pick up litter each week. They’re also working on ways to keep kids from taking food out of the gym during the breakfast program

*The date for the next meeting was set for 13 February 2019*