

## **Parent Council Meeting November 24, 2016**

1. **Parent Council Chair-** Julie Cumming has agreed to be the Parent Council Chair for this year again.
2. **Student Voice Presentation-** Holden's Report:
  - Our first Spirit Week of the year is coming to a close
  - School Dance- December 8<sup>th</sup>, 7 to 10 pm. Chaperoned by teachers and our School Resource Officer. Students can bring admin. approved guests.
  - Food Drive in collaboration with the Interact Club and Community Care will run throughout the year. Includes a 'Giving Pot' in homeroom classes. PC brought up the importance of the donation of socks, hats, and mittens.
  - Weekly Spirit Days
  - Student Voice meetings have been moved from Monday to Tuesday
3. **Yearbook Presentation-** Staff Teacher Advisor Marissa Banders presented the results of a student survey with regards to interest in Yearbook purchases. Cost was a main concern. Looked at a digital option, but no benefit. Yearbook is available on school cash online.
4. **School Cash Online-** Began 2 weeks ago with a phone message home and on the website. There was information provided about it in the report card mail out. We have run a yearbook deficit the past few years. Last year's debt was \$800 because not enough yearbooks were sold. Advertising from local business will bring down the cost of yearbooks. Marissa will provide that information in the next meeting. Goes to print by April 1<sup>st</sup>. We will look into whether or not we can duplicate the digital copy to USBs to distribute to students. The initial switch to Friesian's was due to yearbook cost and that being a concern for students.
5. **Highlights and Upcoming Events-**
  - The literacy test will be scored if students completed enough. It counts as an attempt if the student wrote on Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> with makes them eligible for the Literacy course if need be.
  - We hosted 2 Grade 8 days and had over 350 students from our feeder schools attend. We had a lot of positive and varied feedback from students who attended. Students who came in thinking that they might not attend Collegiate, had a change of heart after seeing all the amazing things that Collegiate has to offer.
  - Over 75 students and 10 teachers participated in the parade. We were the only public school and our float, flags, and trucks were very appealing to onlookers.
  - Our Grade 8 Open House is on Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. Staff and students have been busy preparing the school for this important event.

- Our Harriett Tubman Kindergarten visits continue. 7 kindergarten classes spend the day exploring some of what Collegiate has to offer. On
  - ‘Live Different’ assembly will occur on Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>. It will be a whole school assembly about positive choices
  - On Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> our Music classes will be going out to some feeder schools to perform.
  - Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> Chess Club Tournament
  - Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> Winter Concert at 6:30 pm
  - Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>- Alumni Christmas Tea in Taste Restaurant. The Alumni Group will be hosting this event. The group meets once a month
  - Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>- Whoville Dinner at Harriett Tubman is a full school dinner catered by our students
  - Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>- Pancake Breakfast for all student beginning at 7:45 am followed by a Holiday Assembly in the afternoon
  - Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>- Grade 9 EQAO Math Test
  - Jan 27<sup>th</sup>- Feb 1<sup>st</sup> – Semester 1 Exams begin at 8:30 am
  - Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> – Semester 2 begins
6. **Rotary Interact Club:** this is our first year of having an Interact Club. On Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> in Taste Restaurant will be hosting an official induction. Rotary members and the Mayor of St. Catharines will be in attendance for the event.
  7. **I am Collegiate Campaign:** our campaign posters have been printed. Samples were handed around the table. If you know an alum who should be included in the campaign, please let us know.
  8. **Course Selections:** We will start course selections beginning Dec 5<sup>th</sup> with Grades 10, 11, and 12s. Current Grade 9s will complete theirs’ on Feb 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Our course selections, number of sections, and staffing will be based on the numbers derived from this process.
  9. **PIC Conference:** Some of the group attended. The vendor fair was well liked and most of the sessions were engaging.
  10. **Parent Council Funds:** Every school gets \$500. The money goes to increasing parent involvement. Attached to these minutes are the suggestions from other schools.
  11. **Budget:** We are under 40% spent from our 2016-17 school year budget. Larger purchases will include a Vertical Think Tank collaborative learning environment on the third floor. Desks needs to be replaced, so two classrooms will be refurbished this year. We will be doing a courtyard renovation to include an outdoor classroom and outdoor cooking space. The money to fund this will come from a bequest to the school. Bleachers on concrete stone for health and safety

purposes are estimated to be about \$3500 (bleachers only). We would be looking at adding 2 sets of bleachers.

12. **Literacy Updates from Linda Oliverio-** There will be a Grade 9 Practice Test on Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> during Periods 1 and 2. On Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> a group of teachers will go to a moderated marking session to mark the practice test. A cyber-attack caused the OSSLT failure on Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>.
13. **Numeracy Update-** Jennifer Ashbury continues to provide support for our Grade 9 Math classes as well as additional lunch time support for math. We have been documenting student progress and have seen positive gains from our targeted interventions. The math team just returned from a math conference in St. Louis and will be sharing the incites gained with the rest of the department.
14. **School Climate Survey-** half of the student body were asked to complete a school climate survey. The Grade 10 data is concerning. We are higher than above when it comes to advocacy. This information Was shared with staff so that we can address areas of need.
15. **Spirit Wear-** we have a new line of spirit wear available for order on the school website and school cash online. There will be an order available for Christmas. There will be a discount on older items.
16. **Other Business:**
  - Class marks and failure rates are a concern in some classes. Answer: Admin along with In School Team will review the data and initiate interventions. There will be an upcoming credit rescue day next week.
  - Request for a gym schedule for pick up drop off purposes. Some PC members will offer to create it. Closed practices were a concern. Answer: Admin will follow up on this
  - Where are computers located? Answer: In the Library and in 202.
  - Drama should apply to 'Into the Soil' the St. Catharines Drama Festival Downtown. Answer: Admin will speak to Brenna and Jaci
  - Is the clock out front the same time as the bell? Answer: Tammy will get back on that.
  - We are doing a fundraiser for the old gym. We are going to move the old weight room into that gym to create a large fitness centre. There is a Canada Funds website up and a soup fundraiser that is up and running. Hercs and other places to offer money for fundraising. Rotary Club could sponsor potentially.
  - Student Voice will they look at donating other things? Answer: Yes, they will accept any donations.
  - How old are the bleachers in the gym? Ours are missing the middle steps. Answer: Bleacher renewals are done on a schedule.
  - Do you want Parent Council volunteers for Grade 8 Open House? Answer:

- Why don't we have a timer or lines club? No school has them for some reason. Answer: We can look into that. It's a skill they can build on and eventually get paid for. Community service hours are also an option for after school events.
- Where are our valedictorian pictures? Answer: They were placed somewhere during renovations and we are looking for them,

**Next Meeting Date: Feb.**