

December 4, 2017 @ 7pm
Elementary School Council Meeting, Library

Welcome and Opening Prayer - Josephine Tite, chair

- Devotion Phil 2:3-4

- Activity "People bingo"

Regular Reports

Mike Thiessen, Principal Report

-Report Cards:

They are being emailed again, which happens 3x per year. November, March and June. Palliser is trying to create a "Palliser" report card. But schools are quite distinctive so that may be some time in coming. These are interspersed/spaced between Parent Teacher interviews so that there are at least 5 times per year where you are getting feedback on your child.

-Parent Teacher Interviews - Gr1-6 happen 2x per year, these are 15 minutes, which means you can deal with most things you need to. Kindergarten happen differently as they're in school less.

-Success stories - a new family from Mexico just came in October. We have students from all over the world, which is fantastic! Over 120 churches are represented at our school. A success story - all different traditions and diversity all working together at Calgary Christian School.

-Screenagers: documentary aimed for Parents Gr 5-12. This will be January 10, at Emmanuel Church, hosted by our Principals.

Questions:

-For Gr6, is it possible to have meetings with the other teachers? Possibly not just their homeroom teacher. The online system only allows to book for 1 meeting per person. Would allow for conversation with teachers who teach other subjects.

-Are students who ride the bus, marked late? Also, students were marked absent but they were only gone for an appointment - but they haven't missed school.

-How does behavioural issues in the classroom get dealt with? Mr. Thiesen - each teacher develops their own system for their classroom. This usually works really well within their space. The red slip system is for the common areas, the nature is to deal with it immediately and where they may or may not know the student. Teachers have their relationships and know the students individually so they have their classroom management systems.

-Are there parameters for what teachers do or don't use? Eg. punishment based vs. reward based, etc or have grade level planning? Mr. Thiesen replied - no. At a staff meeting level they do discuss and have watched/training with video. "Gordon Neufeld, Hold on to your Kids". This is an ongoing process/learning and will continue shape the classroom management and/behavioural decision-making process.

-Child Safety: At the end of the day, only K is picked up by a recognized person. But what about the other students? How are they being safely picked up, especially at the very beginning of school. There are Principals, teachers who supervisor over the students as they're leaving and ensure they're leaving. Possibly would beneficial for help for new students with the process? (MT, especially Div I)
Suggestion to reduce people on the property looking for bottles: have a sign on our bins that say "No recyclables are stored here" Discussion around the attendance getting on buses, possibly looking at havng

kids that get on buses to gather or meet a bit before dismissal. Possible idea to have tags on backpacks that help ensure all kids that take the bus get on the bus. Possible system for new families.

Society Update **Ken DeWyn, Executive Director** (not in attendance)

-Senior's Lunch - was well attended!

-note to teachers from parents - please let parents know that students are participating - so they can dress appropriately. Also, send invites home so they can invite their grandparent or special senior, some missed signup and could not attend because it was full.

Follow up Items:

-benches, will be placed in the Spring

-hot dog days - seems to be working better for having volunteers

-bus signs/stopping out front - this is a work in progress

Determine next steps

1. Increase attendance - alternate between daytime and evening meeting.

Is it possible to have an older child babysit? Maybe have a video for kids to watch? Could we have guest speakers eg. Gordon Neufeld - also be a possible fundraiser.

2. Build Community - get involved in a subcommittee eg. decorating, collaborate with other school councils.

-class representative, invite Monique along with class representative to attend.

3. Ongoing Learning Community

4. Fundraiser

-eg. Input is welcome going forward for fundraising options. Perhaps include an incentive for students. Allowing for conversation and input into fundraising, School Council to participate and/or collaborate. If you're interested in brainstorming, let Josephine know!

5. Communication to School Council

-possibly create a newsletter that could be sent out after each meeting. Something bright and engaging - not two pages of minutes.

Closing Prayer

Future Meetings: February 12:15 - 1:45pm

April 16: 7-8:30pm

June 1: 12:15-1:45pm

