

Maurice Cody School Council
Meeting Minutes: March 5th 6:30pm

Sarah Claydon welcomed everyone and thanked them for joining us on such a cold evening in March.

Approval of February Minutes - Sarah Claydon

Farnaz Kiervin made a motion to approve the February minutes and Michael Healy seconded the motion.

Principal and Vice Principal's Report - Mr. Nigro and Ms Vala

The following provides a synopsis of some key events and updates since our February FSA meeting. For the latest and up to date information, check out the parent website at www.mauricecody.ca.

- Co-curriculars:
 - Ms Snow took the Primary, Junior and Boys Choirs to perform at the Kiwanis Festivals this past two weeks. Each choir had a podium finish which is amazing. Ms Snow is always pushing the kids for the risk-taking aspect a performance entails. Special thanks to Mrs. Peters and Ms Geritis as well for all their help.
- Sports:
 - Our Boys' and Girls' Volleyball and Basketball teams advanced to the semifinals respectively. Was a great season with a real sense of team playing and cooperation.
 - Our Co-ed Hockey team went up against a grade six team in the finals. Was such a great season. Big thank you to Mr Miller and Mr Wagland for all their help in such a positive environment.
 - Dr Dodgeball is finished now and was a great success lead by our MCAA (Maurice Cody Athletic Association).
 - MCAA is now leading Pin Hockey Intramurals with grade 3's
 - Co-ed Volleyball has finished tryouts and will begin practices
- Enrichment:
 - The Lego League Robotics finished their tryouts and now has three teams of grade fours participating.
- Upcoming:
 - Anti-Bullying Awareness Presentation - a magician will be at Cody doing a one hour show for each grade. He incorporates the anti-bullying message into his magic.
 - X-Movement will be teaching JK-5 the X-Fusion mindfulness/wellbeing workshop
 - Internet Safety Workshop for gr 3-5 sometime after March Break
- News:
 - Gail Everett has retired effective February 15th so there will be numerous people filling in while we look to replace her

- If your child is going to be absent, please send an email to George: George.Poursanidis@tdsb.on.ca. You can still use the phone lines to leave a message on the Safe Arrival Program, however, that is not always checked in the afternoon hours.

Question: Is there a Spring Concert coming up?

Mr Nigro: Yes it is March 20th starting at 7pm for the grade 1/2, 2 and 3's as well as the three choirs. Please see the most recent newsletter for details.

Question: What is the protocol for someone entering the school through the buzzer door?

Ms Vala: Each visitor of the school is to check in at the office immediately after they enter the school. If we don't recognize you on the monitors we will ask why you are there before you are buzzed in.

Question: With the Internet Safety Workshop for kids, is there an opportunity to do something for the adults as well?

Mr Nigro: We have had that in the past. If there is interest we could look into it again.

Comment: Could we make sure the Internet Safety people coming in can teach at a level that is meant for grade 3's, grade 4's and grade 5's? Maybe we could send home a follow up note explaining what your child learned that day so parents can be more informed.

Mr Nigro: This is age specific to the juniors but we'll make a note to make sure it's age appropriate as well. Great idea on sending something home.

Finance – Cecilia Kwan (Sarah Claydon on behalf)

- We've had two large payments for Enrichment for Drama and Music
- Launched the Flag Program
- Class Budgets are being spent by teachers which is great news
- Mr Nigro and Ms Vala have been working with the Tech Leads to purchase more STEAM items and Makerspace materials.
- Pizza Lunch we should have about \$27k left after the next four lunches. As an Executive we've come up with some areas to spend the money but we are always looking for suggestions.

Hot Lunch Update - Sarah Claydon

Reminded us of the the class rep email she sent last week to cancel the Lunch Lady due to the sheer volume of garbage being generated. Kids were not boomeranging and this caused 9 extra bags of waste. We have nowhere to store this excess as the bunker is full already of what we normally generate and we don't want to start seeing critters around the school.

Question: Has someone educated the kids on Boomeranging their lunch?

Answer: Yes! Our Green Team led by Meghan Lockington-Minns has informed each of the students that they are to bring home any extra waste.

Question: Have the kindergarten classes been trained because I would think they would generate the most garbage just based on on being 7 classes.

Answer: Yes the students were a part of the class presentations. We can go back and meet with the ECE's and the Lunch Supervisors though to make sure the message is clear.

Mr Nigro commented we are definitely seeing an improvement but it hasn't quite curbed the amount of garbage we'd like to see.

Question: Can we remove the garbage bins from the lunch rooms?

Answer: We can but then the students find another garbage to throw it out.

Sarah mentioned we had someone in today watching and she needed to remind numerous kids to boomerang. We need the parents help in communicating this to their children. If we can get the parents to pay more attention to what is coming home and reminding the kids that would help a lot.

Community Update - Michael Healy

There is a Joint Budget Meeting this Thursday at Hodgson Middle School with Shelley Laskin and Rachel Chernos-Lin. This is open to the public. We are not expecting them to discuss the Hodgson potential changes but we are hoping they'll give us a timeline on when we can expect an update.

Safety Committee Update - Jen Ankenmann (Sarah Claydon) and Farnaz Kiervin

- Flag Program
 - We've had great, positive feedback
 - Farnaz is being asked how to get the program started in other neighborhoods
 - Global News did a great spot on us which we think really helped
 - Jaye Robinson and Rachel Chernos-Lin have been in the loop on this project the whole time and are supportive of our initiative
 - We've been having some issues with the flag holders falling down so Farnaz reached out to a school in Dartmouth NS who uses the flags and has a more industrial idea.
 - We may had more flags to certain corners but are hoping to launch our second wave of flags soon.

Mr Nigro: We want to publicly thank Jen and Farnaz for all their hard work on this project and seeing it through. They did a great presentation for the kids on how to safely use the flags and we really appreciate it.

- Crossing Guards
 - We had all six designated crossing guards show up this week!
 - They cover Manor, Belsize, Millwood, Davisville, Balliol and Merton
 - We have requested we move the Balliol guard up to Soudan as it is a much busier intersection. There has been a traffic study done on this intersection in the past so hoping this will be a quick thing to change.
- Farnaz is keeping track of the crossing guards attendance and sending a weekly email with the update. The email goes to members of the city, Toronto Police, TDSB etc. We want to keep them accountable for this initiative

- There is a national crossing guard award we would like to nominate Elizabeth (Manor Rd) and Abi (Belsize Rd) for so watch for that
- The city is going to repaint the zebra stripes on the cross walks in the spring

Upcoming Events - Sarah Claydon

- Spring Fair: Mo Tantawi and Sarah Farrugia, for Pnina Alon-Shenker as well
 - May 25th so mark your calendars. We are taking any suggestions for this year's event. Last year's feedback was requesting more for the older kids to do, so we're looking into that.
 - We have three positions available:
 - Volunteer Coordinator - help coordinate that all the positions are accounted for
 - Second person to help with auction items - canvassing for donations
 - Sponsorship Liaison - organizing and communicating with our sponsors

Comment: Can you send to the high schools in the area a notice that we are looking for volunteers?

Mr Nigro: If you want to send us something, I'd be happy to pass it along to the other schools administration.

Mo: I am also working with Rachel Chernos-Lin to connect us to the correct people at each school.

Question: Could we have a booth setup at the kindergarten Open House in May to generate volunteers?

Mr Nigro: Sure we could do something like that as well.

- Dance-a-thon: Kristi Murl
 - Christine Rigby is running the Dance-a-thon again this year
 - The date is March 29th
 - All donations will be done online with a goal of \$20 per student
 - All the money goes to projects in the school focusing on STEAM
 - Contest this year! The class that raises the most money will get a glow in the dark prize pack
 - We've shortened the timing of each grades dance so the kids aren't exhausted

New Cody Logo - Kristi Murl

There is a lot of inconsistency with the current Cody Logo so we've decided to modernize and simplify to one logo that can be used for all things Cody. The Executive has done some work with the administration and we've narrowed it down to three options. We'll be floating these by the teachers this week and the MCAA are going to have a look as well. We've updated the coyote and he's wearing a bandana that shows books, coding, basketball, hockey etc

Current plan is to launch the new logo at the Spring Fair. Perhaps the salon could have Cody tattoos, we could sell the new logo branded on some new Cody gear...

We are also working with Eagle Beaver on different options for clothing such as more dry fit or fitted styles.

Question: Will you be able to buy clothing at other times during the year besides just the one opening in October?

Answer: We will work with Eagle Beaver to see what kind of options we have but maybe we look at having another option in the early Spring just at the end of winter.

Walking Wednesday - Jen Dobson (Sarah Claydon)

We have now crossed Newfoundland and Nova Scotia and are in Fredericton. We have a map posted that shows where we are. There are a lot of great kids helping out and is a great success.

Library Update - Amal (Sarah Claydon)

Everything is going well with our new library liaison. There is a book fair coming soon with more details to come. Ms Hatzis is looking at options for new shelving.

Music - Sarah Claydon

Many many thanks to Ms Snow and all the teachers who went to Kiwanis. Providing such a great learning experience for our kids. It's really really appreciated by all of us.

Adjournment – Sarah Claydon

Motion to adjourn Mo Tantawi and Kristi Murl seconded the motion.

Next FSA Meeting is April 4th at 9am

NOTE: PIZZA LUNCH IS NOW ON March 21st instead of the 28th