

Maurice Cody Family & School Association

Tuesday November 5, 2019, 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Farnaz Kiervin and Natasha Golding welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of October Minutes

Sarah Claydon made a motion to approve the minutes and Farah Merchant seconded the motion.

1. **Finance update** (Natasha Golding for Tracy Allardyce)

- Spending increased last month due to the \$55k approval for student enrichment. Teachers have started purchasing items and programs on their wish list so money is being invested into the classroom right away.
- This report does not include funds from the Cody Howl, and this will be included next month and reviewed at the December meeting.
- Mr. Nigro –Teachers in the primary grades have made purchases for literacy programs. Junior division is in the next wave for program purchasing.
- Next funding request will likely include RazKids and IXL.

2. **Principal & Vice Principal update** (Mr. Nigro & Ms Vala)

- Cross country finals finished with close to a dozen students participating from Maurice Cody.
- Soccer – boys and girls teams both received conference banners.
- Boys lost in the penalty shoot out. They felt they could have won and it was a good learning experience. Students are getting more reflective as they get older and these are good conversations for them to be having. It was a successful season for both teams.
- Choir groups are going well. Choir will be involved in the November 11th assembly. The assembly will be at 10:00 for Grade 1-5. Parents are welcome to attend. Due to space and numbers, kindergarten classes will participate in their own programs to recognize Remembrance Day.
- School photo retakes with Edge Imaging will be on Nov. 8. Parents need to let the teacher or office know if they wish to have a retake.
- Some people have had issues logging into Edge Imaging with the Safari browser. If you have any problems, get in touch with Holly Wiseman at 416-994-9331 or by email hwiseman@edgeimaging.ca.
- Report cards will be coming home on Nov. 13. Parent teacher interviews will be on Nov. 14 & 15.
- Anti-bullying interactive workshops with Amy Teperman will be occurring on Nov 18 and 19.
- Officer Manny is our school liaison officer and he will be doing workshops with the students. Stay tuned for more information in the future.

- Enrichment workshops are starting to happen with Scientist in the School and Drama. Grade 5's have been attending class trips to City Hall.
- Cody spirit wear will be for sale in mid-November. There will be a menu of items to choose from with the new Cody logo.
- Lunchtime programs with Explore It – The plan is to be starting them in early January. Information to come in early December in regards to registration.
- Toy drive and Food drive will happen in time for the holidays.

3. Winter Fair Update

- Planning is well underway and the 2019 theme is #codythenorth.
- Kids Kans – looking for donations of small toys or leftover Halloween candy (nut-free) as fillers– Please drop off at Julianne Bryant's home at 669 Balliol.
- Still searching for someone to play Santa. Please let the committee know if you can help.
- Will be asking for volunteers shortly to assist with the day.
- Aunt Edna's donation boxes will be going out shortly. For those new to Cody, Aunt Edna's accepts donations of gently used toys, books, jewellery, accessories etc. (for kids/adults). During the Winter Fair, students will enter Aunt Edna's (parents are not allowed) with some spending money to "go shopping" for gifts or toys for family/friends. Gifts are wrapped and placed in a gift bag to surprise loved ones. Kids love it and the message of re-using items is very eco-friendly.

4. Pizza Update/Discussion (Meghan Lockington-Minns)

- Pizza lunch has been going well. Thank you to all the volunteers.
- Concerns raised that students do not have enough personal space during the lunch hour, especially during Pizza Lunch.
- Mr. Nigro – regular lunches are busy with Pizza lunches being very busy! There are more students in the atrium on Pizza days in addition to extra tables for serving.
- An extra table for students who need quiet space is located at the top of the stairs. Some students take the initiative to request to use that space.
- Mr. Nigro/Ms. Vala will come to the next pizza lunch to see how they can space the tables differently. They've ordered a new table and have already combined some tables to reconfigure the atrium layout and are hoping that will help with the spacing. Currently the lunch supervisors feel the new configuration is helping during regular lunches.

Questions/Feedback/Suggestions re Pizza Lunch:

- ***Can students line up to different areas in the atrium to pick up their lunch?*** Concerns raised in regards to increased traffic and carrying the pizza back to the tables without dropping it.
- ***Can we consider going back to serving lunch in the gym as we have done in the past?*** This is a possibility to offer lunch in the gym to decrease traffic in the atrium. Kids would have to sit on the floor. We

would require extra volunteer time and assistance to move the tables. In the past we served Grades 1-5 pizza lunch at the same time (Primary in the gym, Junior grades in the atrium). It got switched so that we could have both groups in the atrium sitting at tables and a smaller recess. We are a growing school so we have more students than we had in the past.

- **Could we just serve grade 3's in the gym to alleviate the crowding with the primary grades?** This could be a possibility. Supervision might be an issue. Pizza Committee will look further into the feasibility of this.
- **What if we took out the serving tables and carried the pizza?** This was tried early on and didn't work well due to being difficult for volunteers to carry and serve.
- **Can we put tables in the hallway for students to dine?** This would pose a supervision issue with difficulty for monitoring well.
- **What are the TDSB ratio rules for supervisors?** 100 plus students per 1 supervisor. We are within ratio. During recess we have implemented a higher ratio of supervision.
- **Can the FSA pay for another supervisor?** Unfortunately not. We have already been allocated our lunchroom staffing numbers by the TDSB.
- **Can we change the way we ask for volunteers for Pizza Lunch and include requests for those with special skills such as first aid training so they can be there to support the supervisor?** It is possible, Mr. Nigro would need to check on that in relation to the union.
- **Can we assign a table at the top of the stairs for a class?** Mr. Nigro will look into that.
- **Can we pre-serve the plates?** It's a good idea but a logistical issue with individual plates brought from home and different pizza options.
- **Can we find a new place for the students lunch bins to create more space?** Mr. Nigro and Ms. Vala will look into that.
 - **Is hot lunch being administered ok?** Distribution has been much better. No space issue as there are no serving tables.
 - **What percentage of kids go home for lunch?** Ms. Vala indicated a small number go home but most kids stay at school for lunch (across all grades).

Based on this discussion, at this time:

- Let's see if the new floor plan has any impact and discuss at the next meeting.
- Grade 1's are getting more used to the new space and routines for lunch, (especially at pizza lunch) and this may help.
- If anyone would like to observe the lunchroom or volunteer they are welcome and encouraged to do so. We will revisit this conversation and will report back at the December meeting.

5. **Eco Schools update** (Meghan Lockington Minns)

- Cody Howl was very receptive to trying to reduce the amount of plastic. One example is replacing water bottles with water stations.
- Reached out to the team of eco-teachers about getting a kids eco-team together. Being more environmentally friendly comes down to educating the kids.

6. **Safety Committee Update** (Mike Healy)

- Working with Jaye Robinson's office. She has a great outreach coordinator, Rachel, who has been following up with Mike.
- No firm answer on switching the crossing guard from Balliol to Soudan.
- Potentially getting a new crossing guard at Cleveland and Hillsdale. Rachel is looking into this.
- Crossing safety along Forman – Looking into getting zebra striping on the street.
- Kiss and Ride - We need more volunteers. Grandparents are welcome too. Desperately need a volunteer for Mondays and it's only a 10-15 min. commitment.
- There has been concern about the soccer posts not being anchored and risk of tipping over causing injury. Mr. Nigro, Ms. Vala and Jane are looking into it with Health and Safety. During school days there have not been issues. Recent reports of posts being tipped over or moved is happening at night or weekends during non-school hours. Board security will be coming around during the next few weeks in the evenings and will report any inappropriate behavior. Parents are also encouraged to call the police if they witness any dangerous or unsafe behaviour.
- When the new turf field was installed and the nets were purchased we were told that they are structured in a way that they don't need to be anchored. Jane has been asked to re-engage board health and safety to see if that is still in effect.
- Mr. Nigro – we rely on your feedback. If you see any issues on off hours, call the police.
- After-school - if parents see kids hanging on the soccer nets please tell them to get off. The nets aren't anchored and too much weight on the nets can cause them to tip.

7. **Community update – Trustee Meeting** (Mike Healy)

- Attended a breakfast at York Mills Collegiate.
- There will be a Ward forum Nov 23 for mental health. Location TBD.
- Second date is Nov.12 at Longos at 9:15. Rachel would like to come to an FSA meeting and is scheduled to attend April 2.

8. Other Committee Updates (Natasha Golding)

- Library committee – We have three volunteers this year.
- Walking Wednesday is moving along.
- Ms. Snow is looking into new vests for choir.
- Lost & Found committee is getting items organized. Hoping more items will be picked up.
- Question about the salt container on Belsize, is that a city or Cody property? Mr. Nigro will send Jane an email and see if it can be cleaned up.

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Tanya Cotler and seconded by Jen Ankenmann