Gorsebrook Junior High PTA Minutes

Monday June 8, 2020 (via Zoom)

Attendance: David Leblanc, Abby Ferguson, Sarah Muir, Stephanie Nolen, Piia Lintunen, Michele Byers, Diane Waligura, Susan Hayden, Shauna Archibald

1. Meeting start at 7:10
2. Principal’s Report-

Report cards- Grades will be given for 4 core subjects only. Locker clean out appointments are underway. Michele inquired about art projects and Abby confirmed that they should be available for students to pick up.

Refunds for grade 9 trip payments are being issued. Fundraised amounts will be held by the school in the student’s name towards future school trips. Dave can provide the amounts. Staffing arrangements are proceeding. Mark McPhee is the new principal. Ms KB is retiring and Mr. Trenholm is leaving, so there will be a new guidance teacher, also Susan Horton will be doing Phys Ed/ Healthy Living. EPA positions are posted as well as Resource. Class changes include everyone taking either Band or Exploring Music, and everyone taking ½ year Art and ½ year Tech Ed with smaller classes that will allow them to work in Wood Shop. Grade 8/9 French Immersion remains a split class. For Grade 6 to 7 and the 9s going to 10 transition meetings did occur. Water has been tested and results are pending.

1. SAC Report – SAC has continued to meet, and thus far have not been asked by HRCE to provide input to what the school year 20-21 may look like.
2. Treasurer’s Report- bank balance is $945.00. Garden grant (as per last minutes) is $1784. There are also SAC funds but these are frozen right now.
3. New business:
4. PTA positions for 2020-2021: Pia will act as Chair, and Stephanie will act as Secretary. She will obtain copies of Minutes from Shauna and any Event Notes (Google Docs) from Jen Leblanc. Michele has been heading up the Musical which is hoped can still occur in some format next March. Stephanie and Michele brainstormed about the challenges that have been faced by students since learning is occurring at home, some barriers being technology, language, styles of learning, and ways that these barriers may be addressed to promote equity. Abby reported that the ELA and Resource teachers found ways to connect kids to language resources and helped to adapt programming for some kids with these challenges. The role of PTA, should learning at home continue, may well include providing supports in those areas. And recruitment of new brains to PTA will be key.
5. Event dates for the upcoming year: Dave has saved some dates before the school is booked out, events TBD
6. Garden update- Sue- all plots are utilized and access to water is set, fees are being waived as school closed, to be paid in September, looking at constructing composters.
7. Mural update- panel now missing, Dave has already had those involved in to view and come up with a solution for restoration
8. Grade 9 closing- formal graduation events are happening for Grade 12, but not at Junior High Level. Mr. Rose is putting together a slide show with music, and there will be a YouTube video of closing that will acknowledge all of the students and announce the usual awards.
9. THANK YOU Mr. Leblanc for your leadership as principal over the past years, your contributions and strengths of teamwork and enduring positivity will be remembered and missed!
10. Next meeting date –Monday Sept 14 at 7:00pm (format TBA)