

Courtland School Council
Wednesday, November 13, 2019

Present: Dave Knight, Desiree Hinsperger, Andrea Wiebe , Mike Coates, Mijailo Dojje

1. **Welcome** - The minutes from the October meeting were reviewed, approved by all.
2. **Staff Update-** Mixed 6 (Volleyball Tournament) has just finished with great success - over 50% of the student population participated. Other extracurriculars were put on hold for that two-week period. Volleyball teams (boys and girls) are now up and running as well as a volleyball club. Games will be coordinated. - Road hockey club will be starting up next Monday after school. Staff and students will be playing together. It will run every Monday until Christmas Break. - Next week the whole school will be going to a Laurier hockey game at the Aud. - Drama club just started (from student initiative). There are already 25 students involved. Green Team is up and running. Tech Club is also running, Tech Crew is also running (also in charge of music and lights for events), Tuck Shop Club, Office Helpers are other opportunities. - Monthly Assemblies will be held on the first day of each month. These will be focused on various languages/cultures as well as recognizing students for various positive reasons. - Teachers have redone how nutrition breaks are held. Students are now going out to be outside first and then coming in to eat and the rules around what needs to happen during that time. -Gay Straight Alliance is also now up and running (promoting inclusion for all)
3. **Principal's Report** - Progress Reports were sent home this week. Parents are encouraged to discuss their strengths and areas of growth. It is important to review the comments and discuss possible goals for going forward. If parents would like to follow up on anything please get in contact with teaching staff. - This Friday (November 15th) is a PD Day. This day will be formatted that staff will be together in the morning (doing some work on Zones of Regulation, Equity and Inclusion, Optimal conditions for learning, and the School Improvement Plan). The afternoon will be set aside for parent-teacher interviews. - Water Fountain Update - we are moving forward with the plan. There will be more to the construction due to the fire extinguisher locations. The cost is increased due to this. In requests to the board the water bottle fountain has been placed as priority #2.
4. **Fundraising Update** - Mijailo spoke about some dates when a group he is aware of would be available. Lisset has also been in contact with some others who have run similar MultiCultural events. The goal is to hold an event in April - we will discuss a more definite date at the January School Council Meeting. The SCIS Committee will also be involved in the planning and execution of the event.

- 5. Nutrition for Learning** - Chris joined us to share how the program has been implemented at Courtland this year. NFL operates in 139 schools (141 programs). There are very few breakfast programs still, snack bins and then snack pods. Courtland's program has grown this year to be offered where all students can access it. Food is available right at the front door and anyone can grab something on their way to class for right away or for later. It seems to reduce the stigma and the model works well for 7-8 schools. Food is purchased directly from NFL and it must be monitored for nutrition (low in sugar and sodium). Yogurt, cheese, crackers, eggs, snap peas, apples are common foods that are offered. Because NFL purchases such a large quantity it reduces the cost. Staff interact at the table as well which is helpful to promoting more fruits and veggies (not just grains). There is some discussion about offering food twice a day instead of once. The program is about promoting learning and good nutrition. Donations are welcome but they should try to fit within the nutrition guidelines as much as possible. Funding for the program comes from the MCCSS, many companies as well as schools. The program runs 33 weeks of the school year. The program runs in 80% of schools in the region. It has been around for 23 years and continues to grow.

There will be no December meeting.

Next meeting date: January 15, 2020

Future meeting dates: Feb. 12, Mar. 25, April 8, May 13, and June 10