

**CARNARVON COMMUNITY SCHOOL
PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

May 4th, 2020

7:00pm via ZOOM call

Members Present: Kerry Kenwood, Lisa Tautz, Heidi Schmid, Lindsay Morphy, Joanne Spalton, Kerri Jackson, Sherri Morrison, Lisa Kaulback, Natasha Carter, Julie Mohaseb, Andrea Richmond, Tammy Chow, Alisia Adams + 5 others (unidentified because of Zoom screens - our apologies).

Staff: Sarah Dash, principal

1. Introductions and Welcome

2. Approval of Minutes >>MOTION: to approve minutes from February 2020 meeting – Lindsay Morphy, seconded by Andrea Richmond, CARRIED

3. Treasurer's Report: summary of Balance Sheet – see attached report

4. Committee Updates

- School Garden:
 - The school garden is a legacy project designed to help inspire students with: science of botany; experiences with nature; practice growing food; and the joy of eating fresh fruits and vegetables. Thank you to everyone who has worked on the garden for the last few years - especially to Kerry Kenwood.
 - Parent volunteer Christopher Mark has offered to build the final piece of the garden - a wooden sign. Thank you, Christopher!
 - VSB invoice for tables, etc. was much higher amount than their initial quote. Ms. Dash helped negotiate so PAC was able to pay the amount originally quoted. Thank you, Ms. Dash!
 - Allyson Donnelly and Debbie Tang have planted in the boxes and watering will be required over the summer as per previous years.
- Hot Lunch:
 - Thank you to our incredible hot lunch team of volunteers - who work so tirelessly and bring in so much money to the school (and so much joy to kids and parents!)
 - Hot lunch program has been suspended. Most parents have been willing to leave their funds in the PAC account over the summer. Refunds have been given to those who requested them and some parents have donated their balance to the PAC - which is greatly appreciated.
 - Depending on safety, VSB approval and # of volunteers - we hope to continue to offer Hot lunch on Tuesdays and Fridays in 2020/2021.

- Lindsay Morphy is stepping down as Hot Lunch Administrator. We are lucky that Kristin Baur has offered to take over in September (Lindsay will help with transition). Huge thank you to Lindsay for all of her work - this has been a *very* time consuming job.
 - Carnival:
 - Kerry tried very hard to get back our \$1,125 deposit for the inflatables. However, Houle has declared it non-refundable (we think this is unreasonable and we're quite disappointed).
 - They have offered to carry forward the funds for a year if we want to host another Carnival next year.
5. **Principal's Report: Sarah Dash** - see attached Power Point
6. **Report Cards** - They will be sent out on the last day of class.
7. **Emergency Distance Learning – Discussion**
- From the feedback given, primary experiences with online learning are:
- Generally, parents are finding pandemic to be very challenging in many ways. However, everyone is finding “roses” to help them through.
 - Using teams has been a steep learning curve - for *everyone*.
 - Most assignments require parents to do some "teaching"; parents with full-time jobs (other parents also) are finding this extremely challenging.
 - One parent mentioned her daughter was able to work independently on teams.
 - Some felt there is not enough time with teachers actually teaching on video. (Kids are participating in online class meetings only 1 or 2 hours a week.)
 - Lack of structure has led to boredom among many kids.
 - Students are craving more feedback from their teachers on the assignments they are completing - especially academic assignments.
- Suggestions:
- Increase video/online “teaching time” on core topics (math and literacy).
 - Record lessons to allow for the flexibility of listening at any time
 - Some assignments are marked “optional” on teams - this language is not very motivating. Consider changing to “recommended” or “encouraged.”
 - One request to have the on-line platform ready in September without delay.
 - Consider giving additional assignments that align with each student's goals and abilities (if working for an Extending, do X, Y, Z; if working for Developing, consider doing A, B, C), etc.

Thank you to Sarah Dash for her thoughtful presentation, for listening to parents concerns and for taking feedback to teachers.

8. **Adjournment** at 8:35pm