

Laurentian Parent Council

January 10, 2024

Welcome

- Mr. Cain introduced Angela Szijarto to the Council- new VP at Laurentian

Action on Our Two Goals

1) Youth Mental Health Pro Grant

- Needs to have a parent/community connection to be considered for a Pro Grant
 - Topic: Look for speaker surrounding Mental Health with possible social media, self-esteem connections- "Find Your Joy" focus (look for things that make you feel good and connected)
 - Would need to find a way to draw parents in to attend
 - Ms. Bowman will check with staff tomorrow to see if they may be supportive of helping to run a special night in the spring- likely end of May
 - Also allowed for 10% of the funds to go towards food as part of a special night- food helps lure people to the speaker
 - Could have the theme of the night to be about a variety of interests such as science, art, phys ed- teachers would need to have things on display for families to come in to see
 - Parents and students can walk around school and find ways to spark their joy- art, music, science, etc. There could also be booths with speakers that they can connect with to gain resources to help them and/or a speaker in gym running a speech at various points in the night
- Sara to approach Trustees and PIC regarding allowing police into schools to do presentations regarding phone use and social media safety
 - PIC is planning for a special event for later this year - more details to come

2) Nutrition/Food Scarcity

- Hamper Update- loose change collected a few hundred dollars,
 - Made 9 hampers- 2 hampers were donated by Laurelwood PS
 - Donated \$450 from Nutrition for Learning to use to put gift cards into the hampers
 - Donations were organized in library and sorted- next year this may be good to show the students where the gaps were and what we could use more donations of
- Nutrition for Learning- money being given in thirds for the year
 - Try to give one meal a week

- Checking with local churches to get donations that may help move us along
- Breakfast Club- Sara thinks there is a good amount that can be given for programs- Ms. Bowman will fill in the application for this when it becomes available
- Provincial Liberal Government- should be on Spring Budget to get foods into schools to support students (but it won't be as much as originally thought)
- Walmart grant-
- As a council if we can look for more possible grants to apply for to get more money for food for Laurentian kids- try to look up possible grants, rotary clubs, churches- be ready with ideas/info for Feb meeting

WRAPSC Update

- Lena- Pro Grant
 - Parent Reaching Out Funds- lead initiatives to meet the needs of their school communities
 - Address barriers to family/parent engagement
 - Due on January 26, notified by February 12 if we are approved
 - If we use the Grant, there would be a report that would need to be completed in June
 - They are looking carefully at your application to see what you are doing and funds will be allocated accordingly (not divided equally)
 - Sara will complete the application form

Principal Updates

- Water main repairs
- Grad Photos- next Wednesday Jan 17- collared shirt
- January 19 PD Day- for staff to work on reports
- Report Cards- February 12
- Term 2 IEP's to follow
- Feb 13-14- Gr. 7- Waterloo Region Suicide Prevention presentation
 - Social Worker and School Psychologist will be in the school following this to meet with kids that want to talk more
- Basketball started up just before the Break- girls and boy's teams
- Music is starting up now
- Feb. 5- semester flip- between music/art
- Weekly updates will continue each week via School Day
- Freshco- providing for cooking for ACE Class

February Meeting moved to Monday February 5 at 6:30pm