

PVG Meeting ~ Wednesday, January 20, 2016, 8:15am-9:30am

Attendees:

Maureen Steltman
Jessica Gibson
Marielle Smith
Caroline Rossitter
Jason Smith

Nicole Heighington
Cindy Ball
Michele Devlin
Alexander Burton
Monica Stekl

Pavan Gill
Brenda McAllister
Vivian Cantas
Andrea Potter
Gisela Echler

1. Maureen Steltman's Update

Thank you to all parents for the Staff Holiday Baking Event. It was a huge success and much appreciated by our faculty and staff members.

A suggestion was made to create a physical binder so future PVG's have a record of how the successful event was executed.

Curriculum Update

K-9 Launch of the new curriculum going well. Fraser teachers are embracing the new focus on thinking.

Grade 10-11-12 Ministry of Education is in the process of updating curriculum; drafts have been published that can be implemented in September 2016. The Socials 11 Exam and the Science 10 Exam may be eliminated, but no Ministry decisions have been announced yet.

It is expected that English and Math exams will remain as there is a priority on literacy and numeracy. These exams more effectively measure what is intended to be measured.

Good news for our students.

School Events Update

Vimy Ridge trip April 2017. Usually trips are held during Spring Break however, given the anniversary date of the battle, it is after the break this year.

WOW will be held during the trip time in order to accommodate trip timing without missing too much school.

Parent Day for Junior School coming up. These meetings don't want focus on grades but rather on process. Last year 100% attendance.

Report Cards and IEP Updates

IEP's being published replaced Interim Report cards.

Parents are encouraged to go onto MySchool to check on your child's performance. Also, parents can meet with teachers at any time, and should feel welcome to connect.

Parents are "Welcome to be that parent"☺ who contacts the teacher for an update or to express a concern.

Perhaps having a class or grade parent representative would be a good idea to increase communications.

If parents are concerned about their children's marks or specific assignments, they can connect with teachers about the possibility to resubmit.

A suggestion was made that with the IEP that it is made "mandatory" to review (like a field trip form).

Fraser will e-mail parents who are not in the Parent Directory and remind them to sign up.

Educational Therapy

15 faculty are being trained by Kristin Barber in Educational Therapy. This is a mediated instructional method that can increase student learning. Learn more at NILD.org. Learning through cognitive processes. Modeling the talk of what good “thinkers” do. Group tutoring is a good example of the methodology. Develops the cognitive shifting. Complementary to Orton Gillingham. Ties into Executive Functioning and 3C.

Outdoor Education

New grade 11 program, Odyssey, is an experiential education semester for 2016/17. 25 days away with the program curriculum will be integrated. Outdoor Education trips are now provided for all grades.

Fraser is now known as a leader in the ISABC.

Bus Fundraising: Update

This will be initiated and headed by Fraser Academy fundraising after Spring Break.

2. Mustang Safety Kit

Recommendation is Life 472

Need to decide what kit to recommend and how to promote, price etc.

Communicate the research that has been completed.

Maureen would like to see branded Fraser Academy. Mustang Safety.

Ordering would be through Fraser Academy.

Question of whether Fraser Academy can order the school emergency supplies from the same company.

Pricing suggested for 4 person is \$250.

Need to create a clear order form. Discussions for what will be offered is required.

Need to establish a committee to move this forward.

This committee will work with Jessica to approve branding, communication etc.

Send e-mail to parent committee letting them know that the fundraiser is be planned.

3. Parent Educate Night

Online safety was discussed as a potential topic again for this year.

Teresa Campbell might be able to come back.

Discussion around the topic required to clarify how it is communicated to the parent body. Some comments: “I was sad it ended.” “I got more tools to talk with my kids.”

“I walked away confident, not scared.”

4. Finance

\$15,300 in PVG account, \$2900 earned for Purdy’s

Collected \$1025 for Staff Appreciation Lunch.

PVG has a sub-account, but under the Fraser Academy account.

There are controls to ensure that the account is managed properly and with Fraser Academy involved.

There will be some changes to receipt processing. Nicole and Marielle produce. All receipts will route through PVG first.

5. **Action Items:**

Survey Monkey – annual charge \$30, approved

Online Portal - will be a Google Doc that parents will be invited to

Monika hosted a Coffee Event for Grade 9 and she found that it was very well received. Suggested that we have more casual events. By school or junior school, middle school and senior school.