

Arthur Ford Home and School Meeting Minutes

February 7, 2022

Virtual Meeting

In Attendance:

Deanna Perks, Erin Twist, Randy Grozelle, Jamie Gorham, Mark Briggs, Damon Simpson, Gail Naraine, Lana-Lisa Coombs-Jackman, Tina Grozelle, Rebecca Terry, Michelle Langdon, Montea Sherritt, Kim Seguin, Samantha Rodriguez, William Rodriguez, Hilary Callowhill, James Callowhill, Katharine Draper-Quinn, Kevin Payne, Michelle Payne, Mark Dancey, Cheryl Dancey, Tammi Robertson, Marissa Baran, Josh Baran, Alexis Bilyea, Diane Lewis, Michaela Jackman, Robin Neal, Tim Bonello, Renate Edwards

Time In: 8:05

1) Approval of the Agenda

Motion to Approve – Deanna Perks

Second – Tammi Robertson

Approved

2) Approval of Minutes from January 2022

Motion to Approve – Gail Naraine

Second – Michelle Langdon

Approved

3) No conflicts declared

4) Treasurer's Report

- Current balance is 10526.24
- Available to commit \$1256.33 (over and above the \$2000 buffer)

Motion to Approve – Deanna Perks

Second – Michelle Langdon

Approved

5) Planning and Updates

a) Virtual Whole School Event Planning

- A survey was sent to the school with event possibilities, including ideas for activities and hosts
- 50% of people are interested in participating
- Most people would prefer a fun activity like painting or baking
- Most people would prefer a whole family activity
- 70% of people indicated that they had participated in an event in the past
- School Council has \$1000 for parent engagement
- 26 responses were recorded

b) Equity Subcommittee

Reviewing Recommendations 6,7, 8

Recommendation 6

Arthur Ford Home and School Association and School Council ensure that all events offered are accessible to all family members within our community and their guests.

How this has been actioned so far:

- Provide a process for a family to confidentially request to be a voting member of Home and School
- For Home and School or School Council events that include a monetary fee, ensure there is a process to support a family to confidentially request to have the cost waived.
- Fundraising planning includes considering time of year to ensure most families can participate based on potential household budgets/expenses
- Fundraising opportunities that are reflective of the diverse Arthur Ford Community should be sought out and considered (i.e., Culture/religious/ethnic diversity, socioeconomic considerations)
- Fundraising opportunities that reach outside of the direct school community should be considered to take some of the fundraising burden off parents within the school.
- Consistently communicate opportunities and events to the whole school via Home and School monthly newsletters, Arthur Ford school newsletters, school messenger, weekly updates, Facebook page and hard copy (when requested).
- Consistent approach on transparency, where Home and School (and School Council) funds events and make it available for all families
- Offer events free (when possible)
- When possible, look at ways that opportunities can align with our equity statement and with our mission, vision and values.

Recommendation 7

Arthur Ford Home and School Association and School Council use their positions within the school to ensure that all cultural, language, or religious differences are celebrated and do not affect a family's ability to engage in school events or opportunities at Arthur Ford Public School.

How this has been actioned so far:

- Provide information at the beginning of the school year about accessibility, the location of the accessible entrance to the school building, and the process required to access the elevator.
- Advertising and promotion of events should include information about school accessibility, the location of the accessible entrance, the process required to access the elevator/lift, and include a process for requesting accommodation.
- Budget and funding requests for tangible items should be looked at through a lens of accessibility. (i.e., playground structures)
- Consistently communicate opportunities and events to the Whole School via Home and School monthly newsletters, Arthur Ford school newsletters, school messenger, weekly updates, Facebook page and hardcopy (when requested).
- When possible, look at ways that opportunities can align with our equity statement and with our mission, vision, and values.

Recommendation 8

Arthur Ford Home and School Association and School Council take an active role in recognizing the diverse definition of family within our school community.

How this has been actioned so far:

- Develop a clear process for accessing translation services and a criterion for when these services will be used.
- Engage with English as a Second Language (ESL) teachers for input, feedback, and support in engaging families they support to participate.
- Look for opportunities to incorporate diverse cultures and celebrations within the programs supported, communications developed, and parent engagement events provided
- Fundraising opportunities that are reflective of the diverse Arthur Ford community should be sought out and considered (i.e. Culture/religious/ethnic diversity, socioeconomic considerations)
- When possible, look at ways that opportunities can align with our equity statement and with our mission, vision, and values.

Motion to Approve – Michelle Langdon

Second – Gail Naraine

Approved

c) Budget Subcommittee

- The dates for the upcoming meetings have been set and the committee will be moving forward
- The committee will be preparing the proposed annual budget and having it approved in advance
- Mainstream and APPLE families are both represented in the committee

d) Fundraising

- Hot lunch can start anytime
- A lot of parents have signed up for FlipGive. \$63 has been raised. We are going to keep mentioning in the email blasts. When families join the school gets a \$5 bonus if a purchase is made in the first 14 days

***Discussion on if Home and School is fine with switching to go before School Council at our monthly meetings. Not determined at present.**

Motion to Adjourn – Michelle Langdon

Second – Gail Naraine

Approved.

Time out: 9:15

Next meeting – Monday, March 7, 2022, time TBD