

minutes

Hillcrest C.S. January 26, 2016	
Meeting called by	Chair, Seema
Note taker	Annie Salsberg
Welcome/Call to Order/Adoption of previous meeting minutes	
Facilitator	Seema
Discussion	No questions or concerns from last month's meeting minutes.
Conclusions	Minutes from previous meeting adopted - all in favour
Agenda Topic: Report Card and Parents Interview Q + A	
Facilitator	Norbert Costa
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Costa reviewed image/content of report card• Learning skills and Work Habits section: grading is excellent, good, satisfactory, needs improvement.• Those are the skills necessary to be successful.• Bottom is a section where teacher gives input – usually one comment per learning skills section.• Comments can come from a pull down menu.• Page 2 of report card – is section on language and mathematics – no comment in French until grade 3.• Page 3: opportunity to have child respond at bottom of page – will be added to child's file (can help with monitoring child's progress and goal setting).• Page 4 gives info about grade and meaning – if "I", means incomplete (maybe bc child was away, sick, etc). Also a Parent comment box on this page.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Last piece of info shared was around interviews: if teacher feels like child is progressing well, you may not get a call. If child not progressing or has some behavioural challenges, then you should get a call.• If there are challenges, parents should already know about it at this point. Parental involvement is key. Teachers want parents involved.• Parents are entitled to an interview, regardless of marks.• Report cards have been submitted to Mr Costa – he reviews them. They will go home on February 9th.• Parents should talk to their teacher or Mr. Costa if any outstanding questions.
Conclusion	N/A
Agenda Topic: Hillcrest Hustle Feb 26	
Facilitator	Kelci and Pam
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Goal: community engagement/spirit; may also raise funds for school.• Planning going very well to-date• Some buzz generated about it!• Tickets will go on sale soon – to-be-purchased shortly through Muncha-Lunch. Price to be announced. May be \$25/ticket• There will be food: Pukka, Cocoa-Latte, Baker and Scone, Pizza Pizza• Will have DJ, Silent Auction• Will either be in lunch room or gymnasium• Mr. Costa has booked a permit for lunch room, library and office space – yet to be confirmed.• Parent council has applied for liquor license – will be selling drinks• Might want to do 'VIP' parking in Hillcrest parking lot• Casual chic

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Conclusion	Save the date!
Agenda Topic: Hillcrest FUNfest	
Facilitator	Pam Stein
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Looking at dates for Funfest: thinking of possibly doing it on a Saturday – or possibly Thursday like last year.• Taking away silent auction (bc moving to Hillcrest Hustle) – that took a lot of setup time• Setup time not that much – only have to do café, inflatables...• Mr Costa: says that there was a lot of positive feedback about having it on a Thursday last year.• Christine Patterson suggested engaging people about date for Funfest – and seeing if there is a strong preference• Pam says that she and her committee ok doing it on a weeknight, ie a Thursday – she liked it rolling after school into Funfest• Mr Costa – says that most of his staff joined in last year on the Thursday• Date: if on a Thursday would be May 26 or Sat May 28• Pam will find committee members
Conclusion	Will firm up a date shortly and let people know

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Agenda Topic: Hillcrest Apparel

Facilitator	Christine
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very fast apparel sale before holidays• Will offer again after March break• Printer made a mistake on colouring – we have extra track pants• Supports school spirit – probably did not make any money• Some talk about a phys ed uniform – for older grades
Conclusion	Suggests advertising it at Hillcrest Hustle to drum up more orders

Agenda Topic: Fall Fundraising Campaign

Facilitator	Seema
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changed the name from Time for Kids to Fall Fundraising• Did not run an 'aggressive' campaign – feedback from parents was that previous campaigns too aggressive• Raised \$6,700 – still open to donate• Will get clear total shortly
Conclusion	Seema suggests that advertising this again later in year and trying to pick up some more funds

Agenda Topic: Diversity

Facilitator	Debra
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• African heritage month next month: working with Ms Bronfield: performer Njacko Backo – does mainly music and drums. From Cameroon originally. He's French-based. Two performances over two assemblies. Feb 8th. \$500• Mr Costa: added another assembly today for African heritage month. Ms. Mihaimi: works full time for Engineers without Borders. Born in France. Will be talking about her life's journey. Feb 17th.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Throughout the month, classes will be working on own projects. Feb 24th will be full assembly – focus on African heritage month. Parents welcome to attend.• How much diversity in music program at Hillcrest? Mr Roblin brings in a range of music into program. He will incorporate themes into his programs and teachings.
Agenda Topic: Principal's Report	
Facilitator	Norbert Costa
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Big thank you to Parent Council for breakfast this morning – very appreciated. Lots of positive comments from staff.• April 15 = new PA day – part of contract negotiations.• Report cards coming home Feb 9th. Meetings 11th in evening or 12th in morning are interviews. Welcome and encouraged to have conversations with teachers.• Hillcrest is going to be working with a local group of community members who live on Hilton to support their sponsorship of a Syrian family. School will work with that group to provide support. Maybe each class could bring or make a basket? We do not know 'make up' of this Syrian family as yet. We had a person from an organization speak to grade 5/6s to educate them on Syrian refugees and what is going on in that part of world/raise awareness of crisis.• Lots happening in school: hockey team 2-0 so far! This year, 3 girls volleyball team! 3 basketball teams. Intramural program several times a week for basketball. Drumming group on Mondays. Scrabble also happening Fridays at lunch. Competitive choir. Anne of Green Gables rehearsals also happening. Swim still going on (team and length). Our challenge: space for all of these things.• Chess program on Tuesday – heavily enrolled. Childrens art studio. Sports program also on Wednesday morning and lunchtime.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• So important for parents to acknowledge and show appreciation to teachers involved in these activities.• Thurs Jan 28 morning: playground committee meeting – to review how to allocate funds from council to refurbish playground.• Last council meeting: update on dance program. Mr. Costa has met with several companies. Looking for council's approval. Rather than only work with 1-2 classrooms, it can be a whole school program. For the primaries, it will be modern dance with Margaret – 10 hours of workshop time with the kids. Will be coordinated with Physed. For grades 4-6, ballroom dancing! Will have 2 professional ballrooms dancers. Will be a 4-week program. This is part of the budget. There will be a final performance with parents invited! Cost: will be around \$2,000• On Feb 25th in the afternoon – we are going to have our winter classic 2! Skating party at De La Salle – there will be hockey game. Grades 3-6 can go onto ice for free skate afterwards.• We are hosting 3 volleyball tournaments at hillcrest in February – great for building community spirit in school!
Conclusion	Council approved dance program
Agenda Topic: Other Business	
Facilitator	Seema
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need to organize a parent speaker. We received a grant again. Seema suggests bringing someone in for April. Grant is for \$1000.

Meeting Adjourned

Next council meeting: Feb 24th, 7pm 2016

See you there!