

Irwin Memorial Public School
Virtual School Council Meeting
Tuesday May 12th 3:00pm

In Attendance: Ian Patterson, Emma Platts-Boyle-Chair, Sarah Roberts-Co-chair, Tamara Wright-Secretary, Dana Sinclair, Becca Birnie, Kirsten Connor, Patti Blundell.

Principal's Report:

-Ian is very pleased with how the teachers of Irwin are reaching out to parents in many forms of communications and making efforts to ensure that all students have the opportunity to have the online learning accessible whether that be paper copies of homework or ensuring that families have an electronic device at home. Ian is asking that if any families have questions or concerns in regards to anything school related, don't hesitate to ask. This is uncharted territory for everyone involved. Ian realizes that with Irwin being in a rural area, this has created some challenges for learning.

-Irwin is also doing regular prepping for school in September as they do every time this year. Time will tell what the school will look like for students in the fall.

-Irwin is brainstorming what can be done to recognize the graduating students due to Covid 19. There are 7 students graduating this year. Irwin wants to honor them the best way they can. Ian is considering, if allowable, a ceremony hopefully late August or into September potentially.

-Ian feels that the teachers are doing their best in these circumstances and feels that they are doing a great job offering support and staying connected with their students.

-Bernadette Lovegrove is trying to get the year book out for this year, it is not clear if one will be completed at this point. More information will be released once a decision has been made.

-Starting in September, Irwin will be adding another teacher due to the numbers of students that will be attending Irwin. The school currently has 6 classrooms and this will be increasing to 7.

-Details will be released when available as to the time and protocol for parents picking up student's belongings that remain at the school.

School Community Garden:

-Sarah reports that the garden is an option still for the school to have. If the school does not return for June, Sarah will go ahead and plant and tend it over the summer for all the students to reap the benefits of it in the fall. Sarah would be open to families to volunteer to tend it over the summer if anyone is interested. Please contact her if interested. The goal would be to have some vegetables for the Irwin Thanksgiving meal.

Your Independent Grocery Fundraiser BBQ:

-Irwin won a weekend in the draw for the bbq fundraiser for the final weekend of August. YIGS sent some information about proper protocol in having this BBQ with the Covid 19 situation. Sarah has sent a confirmation that Irwin is interested in pursuing this.

Emma's Report:

-Irwin has received funds for Parent Engagement related activities. Irwin receives \$500 dollars every year. School council has spent about \$200 of this \$500 on various expenses related to this so far and also received an additional \$200 dollars that was available as a bonus. The school board wants the council to submit a report as to what has been spent so far and hopefully will hold the balance of those funds for us until next year.

-The school board is okay with the school council "freezing" any financial decisions at this point due to the Covid 19 situation as long as the council makes this information available to the public.

Next Meeting:

-The next meeting will be Tuesday May 26th at 3pm.