

Balaclava School Council Meeting Agenda

Date: February 26th, 2019 6pm

6:03pm-7:33pm

Attendees: Cheryl Hue, Lisa Perosevic, Jeff Lillycrop, Jennifer Lukawecky, Kelly Rizzo, Liz Pietrzak, Ellie Millard, Megan Helbrecht, Dana Timpson, Erin Meanchoff, Cathy Pyper, Jacky Small, Nancy Lenarduzzi, Rebecca Newcombe

Item #	Discussion	Name
1	Volunteer to take notes	Jacky Small
2	Approval of Minutes	Cathy Pyper
3	Business Arising from Previous Minutes	All
4	Principal's Report	Kelly Rizzo
5	Chair's Report	Lisa Perosevic/Cheryl Hue
6	Home and School Report	Ellie Millard
7	New Business	All

Item 2: Business Arising from Previous Minutes

1. Pro-Grant: Progress - to be shared in Chair's Report.
2. Dress Code Update - shared below
3. Meagan was going to share the role of School Council. Kelly Rizzo to respond.

How does the school benefit from the role of the parents and school council?

- o Per Kelly: School Council is an advisory body, their role is to provide input, help to share information with other families in the community, make sure people are well informed, but also we invite ideas, when there are issues, school council is to be involved and provide input to help make any changes as required. Sub-committees can be created as well to divide and conquer (i.e. could have sub-committees for dress code, PRO Grant).

Item 3: Principal's Report

1. Introduction: Kelly Rizzo
 - o Kelly introduced herself and a little bit about herself
 - o Grew up in the area, lives not too far from here, in education for 27 years, administrator for 18 years, Balaclava is her 5th school, leadership style is collaborative, approachable with an open-mind and loves to hear people's ideas and opinions, uses consensus for decision making but will make decisions on her own if need be/where appropriate.

2. Updates

- Kelly's practice/thinking as an administrator in the past is to tend to break down things in 3 main areas:
 - i. Cognitive: relates to learning processes/structures
 - 1. PD Day is for continuous learning and improvements with a focus on positive school climate & mathematics
 - 2. Staffing process is underway, by April 9th meeting, we may have our staffing organization approved
 - 3. High-school option entries due today/ high school visited to do this
 - ii. Environment: physical & climate/culture
 - 1. Buckets will remain in place as needed, area supervisor (Adam) & Kelly are communicating to fix problems.
 - 2. Remaining indoors due to icy conditions outside (Board will not salt the blacktop).
 - iii. Community: extra-curriculars to build/bring community together
 - 1. Rocks and Rings program ran for some of the grades today - continues tomorrow
 - 2. Checkers tournament tomorrow (Feb. 27) 30-40 participating
 - 3. Indoor soccer tournament Thursday
 - 4. 2 teacher candidates joining the school next week from Redeemer College with Mrs. Cassidy & Ms. Keyte for a 6-8 week program
 - 5. Grad photos coming up next week

Item 4: Chair's Report

- 1. Lisa: Share results of Pro-Grant Survey and where we go from here.
 - Survey for Open-House; the thought is to run 30-minute sessions with idea of families to sign up for up to 2 sessions, only 31 responses, our idea is to have parents be present and take part in the sessions. Need to figure out space where these sessions could be held. Do it as one session of yoga in the gym, then a session of karate, and so on. Do the night as visits to one of the sessions (karate, yoga, dance, art, nutrition presentation, social worker), book fair, classroom.
 - i. Check the Pro-grant website to make sure that the purchase of anything like a "math kit" is an approved item to purchase -some of the money is for materials and some of the money for the open-house
 - ii. **ACTION: Maybe there should be some communication to the parents to tell them about the Pro-grant and what it's being used for with regards to the sessions, etc.**
 - iii. Sessions are: Yoga (**Jacky to ask Heather Pickles**), Karate (**Lisa to contact Brown's Karate/Dream Centre**), Art (**Lisa to contact Creative Hub/Chris Francis/ Cartoon Bob**), Social Worker - Topic-Dealing with Anxiety in today's youth (**Kelly to contact**), Nutritional Presentation (**Cheryl to contact**)
 - May 1st, 2019 is the Open House 5:30 - 7:00
 - Pro-grant is \$1000 which we are spending on this Open-House

2. Cheryl: Balaclava Dress-code update: Cheryl reached out to Sue Dunlop -could verbiage be removed from the dress code in the agenda. Individual schools can follow the dress guidelines and review as per an email from Sue - but can we remove that section. Sue said no we cannot make changes. End of January Cheryl has still not heard back as per can we make the changes to the verbiage or not.
3. Rebecca says she emailed Sue Dunlop and she replied with dress codes are addressed by the staff and is set by the principal who reviews with surrounding schools.
4. Explained to Kelly regarding what's the wording in the policy regarding clothing and the do's and don'ts.
5. At Guy Brown they met with staff, students and parents and asked for input, ie; what is reasonable, and manageable where they are not policing everyday.
6. Spaghetti straps and length of shorts: Kelly gave a description of what they said in her previous school.
 - Wording is: Clothing may not be distracting in the classroom or offensive to others. The following guidelines are provided for use when dressing for school and should be respected in all weather conditions. Staff and students should dress appropriately for the weather. Staff and students must:
 - Ensure clothes do not advertise drugs or alcohol, have messages supporting racism, sexism or violence of any form, or are negative in nature;
 - Ensure clothes are in good condition (not shredded, torn, or have excessive holes);
 - Ensure clothes do not reveal a bare midriff or undergarments (except upper bra strap), including boxer shorts/briefs. No revealing tank tops, tube tops or halter tops;
 - Ensure shorts are at least as long as their thumb when arms are fully extended at their side;
 - Skirts are to be at least mid-thigh in length.
 - No Heelies.
7. Rebecca would like it added that the principal or classroom teacher checks in with parents and not with the child directly out and "shaming them", but discreetly and then contact the parents as required....if it's a repetitive behaviour principal to get involved.

Item 5: Home and School Report

- Ellie shared that to date we've helped the school with \$18,000.00 worth of purchases from Sept-Dec. and have \$12,000.00 in the bank to support the school.
- PD Day, Home & School are providing food for teachers for lunch
- Asked for input from parents for what to spend money on: Natural playground and library were the top two.
- 30 out of 74 people surveyed would attend a family event
- Fun Fair - May 30th
- April 16th @ 6:30 for next H&S meeting in library
- In the process of having Rhythm Works come to the school (approx. \$1,200.00)
- Did buy 1 Math Kit

Item 6: New Business

1. Leaks throughout the school: What can be done now to resolve this issue until the new roof is installed in the summer? Fire safety concerns having multiple buckets lining the hallways. Health and Safety concerns. What about mould in the ceiling tiles?
 - They can put temporary fillers in the holes but have to clear the roof off first as a temporary fix and is being looked at -- feasibility in current conditions is unknown right now
 - No asbestos in the building whatsoever as per Kelly
 - Adam (Facility Supervisor) is here all the time, almost every day which is ridiculous per Rebecca
 - Lisa advised that we are willing to go further to push this if need be so this gets fixed and looked at ASAP
2. Liz - March 5th Balaclava Science Fair (held every 2 years) - coordinated with Education week, but this year it has been moved up so the students could attend BASEF on March 29th. Students will receive a certificate for participation for the March 5th = top 10 will receive awards. Guest judges will be present to judge and will advise of the top 10 that day. Awards will be given = ribbons, & eventually a plaque from Strabane. If a group needs a 3-way board, they're available for students here at school.

Upcoming Meetings:

April 9th, 2019

May 7th, 2019