

Dundana School Council Minutes

November 7, 2022 Virtual Teams Meeting 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

In attendance: Kristi Keery-Bishop, Heather McCully, Sara Onufer, Lisa Djackolovic, Jessie Blake, Gillian Petersen, Maria Golarz, Leora van der Linden

Regrets: Paul Billone, Naomi Foster

Meeting called to order at 6:33pm

1. Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

2. Approval of November 7th, 2022 Agenda; additions. Sara motioned; Lisa D seconded.

3. Approval of September 22nd, 2022 Minutes. Deferred to next meeting so everyone can review.

4. Welcome & Principal's Report

- New Land Acknowledgement – schools have been encouraged to personalize their learning about Indigenous practices & respect-showing forum. Students wrote the new Land Acknowledgement which we read today and will be introduced out tomorrow in the school.
- Labour update – We have a number of union groups in our board that are in negotiating, some of which are approaching strike processes. Different workers belong to different unions. CUPE = caretakers and maintenance workers in HWDSB. COPE = EAs. ETFO = elementary teachers and ECEs. OSSTF = high school teachers and elementary office administrators. It's important for parents to be aware that the landscape of labour unrest may be quite a thing for quite a while.
 - Difference with HWCDSB – CUPE doesn't include their weekend maintenance workers but does include EAs.
 - Parent requested fixing basketball nets outside – work order did go in about a year ago, an investigation was done, they “meet health and safety requirements”, they're just loud. But they're also bent so Kristi will put in another work order in to see if no longer safe.
- Outdoor playground – Board sent approval to Bean & Stalk, they returned approval last week, but no one at the board could meet B&S last week because of contingency plans. Winter may still be an issue. It may need to be a “one and done” install and the blackboard involves cement. Maybe a ribbon-cutting at the spring Open House.

5. Debrief: Fall Open House/Meet the Teacher

- A lot of positive feedback. DJ was great. Kids loved scavenger hunt, activities. Hiccup with pizza but we learned from it.
- Day of was stressful. Struggle with getting volunteers outside of Council. Maybe need to scale back next time. We only got 2 emails signed up to volunteer next time. Or outsource to vendors (e.g. face painting). That way we can still charge a fun pass, as it seems parents are happy to donate even if they can't give us time to volunteer. More people were willing to do set up / tear down – so find activities in the middle that don't need as many people. Could do a food truck – ice cream truck (but this doesn't make us any money).
- Felt like there was no one in charge of the event – need designated leader. And everyone on Council was swamped day of with volunteering.
- Need more dedicated spring Open House planning meeting at upcoming meeting – hard to have a subcommittee with such a small council though.

6. Treasurer's Report

- Reviewed treasure's report, some information on expenses/ profits from Open House still need to be inputting. Gillian will reach out to Rose.

7. Fundraising Plan

- Reviewed plan submitted to board. Board requires Kristi to submit plan for whole year for fundraising by Oct 31, although it can be tentative and later revised. Must know what profits will be spent on and that they are spent by end of year.
- Three "buckets" – Arts Events (e.g. 2x movie nights, Meet the teacher pizza night), Fostering School Community (Meet the teacher/ fun pass, Pizza night open house), Phys Activity and Outdoor Ed (Sale of greenery/nursery)
- Need to know if we plan to do something different
- Lisa D made suggestions list on fundraising:
 - i. Pizza lunches – Lisa will run this – aim for first week of December
 - ii. Read a thon – Gillian can run this
 - iii. Can / bottle drive
 - iv. Raffle
 - v. Gift wrapping
 - vi. Movie night – Sara can host the movie nights (both if we do 2). Possibly a Thursday evening before a PA day.
 - vii. Dance night
 - viii. Food sales (e.g., cookie dough, Little Caesar's pizza)
 - ix. Christmas wreaths/poinsettias
- Best to find volunteer(s) who can come into the school during a school day and then work around their schedule, whether 1x month or 1x week.
- Note possible labour disruptions, so possibly start 1/month to minimize any possible disruptions.
- Preference for movie night, dance night (some combo of 2 only, as we require Kristi on site for each event). Need permit for movie night, Kristi can confirm amount. Possibly for valentine's day.
- Question about whether a concert is happening this year – no "holiday" concert (equity policy) but whether there is any performance is up to the teachers
- Also need to plan indoor events carefully given COVID/flu season.
- Query whether Dundana's Got Talent could come back – this requires teacher / staff volunteers and Kristi is supportive.
- Skittles League is hopefully starting again soon.

- Will re-group for Spring open house in the new year.

8. PRO Grants – submission for this school year, January?

- Still in a holding pattern as nothing as been sent out

9. French Parent Association Update

- No one on Council is involved. And Kristi has not heard anything. Can take off future Agendas and add as “any other business” as needed.

10. Any other Business

- Lunch Lady – used to have in the past. During COVID, went out of business. Looking for new option for Hamilton.
- Kristi will inquire if we can create an MS Teams group for Parent Council so we can communicate in between meetings.
- Sara moved to close meeting; Leora seconded.

Meeting adjourned 7:59pm