

Parent Council Meeting Minutes - Oct 8, 2024

Welcome from Vera

Introductions

In attendance: Vera Prpa, Trish, Toni, Harshpreet, Megan, Heather , Jenn, Jenn, Sherene, Punit, Samiha

Overview of Council's role and function. Vera reviewed the guidelines around what the role and function of the school council. The role of the council is to support the school community as a whole by providing input to principal and/or board.

Principal's Report

Vision: To create a safe and positive school environment where every child is provided with an education that meets their diverse learning needs and allows them to reach their full potential!

Mission: Educating students to become lifelong learners and contributing citizens in a challenging, changing multi-cultural world.

My Commitments:

- To ensure there is open and honest communication between and among staff, students, parents, the community and HWDSB.
- To promote a school environment where collaboration and teamwork are valued.
- To be accessible to students, staff and parents.
- To be transparent in my decision making – all decisions made are with the best interests of students in mind.
- To develop/maintain a code of conduct that ensures a safe and orderly school environment.
- To recognize and celebrate the achievements of the Gordon Price School Community.
- To role-model for students, staff and community human-kindness, compassion and a love of learning!

Students:

Leaders, learners, athletic, artistic, helpers, kind advocates, polite and welcoming

Staff: Hard-working, knowledgeable, passionate, value the important relationship between home and school (it takes a village), family

Staffing Updates:

Ms. Blair from K3 (JK/SK) is currently off on a leave and Mrs. Rossato is the DECE working with

Mrs. McEneny, in her absence. Madame Posca, our Junior Core French teacher, is also on a leave and Mr. Piett has been hired to cover for her for the school year. He will begin in his position on October 21st

. In the meantime, a huge thanks to Ms. Marcellini for keeping routines and consistency going until Mr. Piett is able to start.

Mrs. Murray is the Reading Specialist assigned to Gordon Price this year – she is focusing on supporting our K-2 teachers and students with reading, our new Acadience screener and the new language curriculum.

Reorganization:

- Adjusting Ms. Catsoudas and Ms. Rossato's class to a class of 15 students, without an Early Childhood Educator. Moving four JK students to Mrs. Bujan and Ms. Kroese's class and three JK students to Ms. McEneny and Ms. Blair's class.
- Adjusting Mr. Kerman's grade 6 class to a combined grade 6/7 class.
- Moving two grade 2 students to Mrs. Gidge's class and moving two grade 3 students to Mrs. McGee and Mrs. Thornton's class. Moving four grade 6 students to Mrs. Hughes' class. Moving ten grade 7 students to Mr. Kerman's class and moving three grade 8 students to Mr. Haalboom's class.

School:

JK-Gr. 8 Population of students = 389

Currently 27 teachers, 4 Educational Assistants, 2 Early Childhood Educators, 1.5 Office

Administrators 3 Caretakers and 1 Principal

Organization of our 17 classes: JK/SK; JK/SK; JK/SK; 1; 1/2; 2; 2/3; 3; 4A; 4B; 4/5; 5; 6; 6/7; 7; 7/8; 8

Meet the Teacher and Picture Day:

- Scheduled for October 9th this year from 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm.
- Picture Day: Tuesday, November 5th, 2024. Retake Day: Tuesday, December 3rd, 2024

Feedback to me for next meeting: Spending priorities, Principal's Report content

Principal's Report: Other Notes

- including a student ambassador to join us at council to add student voice. Starting in January.
- Currently recruiting a new teacher representative for Parent Council.
- for feedback regarding the new before and after care, please bring concerns to Vera who will help try to advocate and work with the YWCA. There have been a number of hiccups with the new care providers and parents had a lot of concerns.
- before and after care has empty spots if anyone needs it.
- encouraging kids to be here on time for school each day
- developing the school code of conduct : Respectful, safe and kind.
- Recognizing our student leaders ie daily announcements, pizza distribution to teach commitment, responsibility etc.
- Parent Grant: it must be used for a parent event this year.

Teacher Updates:

- music rehearsals happening for a Dec show: A Pirates Christmas, choir and musical. Lots of sports happening, cross country on the 10th. Volleyball started tonight.
- Spirit Team of teachers and educators to do monthly spirit days.
- Halloween activities being planned for the 31st, as well as other non-Halloween activities. Parade will be happening, but a focus on inclusivity.
- Pizza days will be Wednesday starting in November, monthly by cash or school cash online. If family is in need, encourage family to reach out to the office.

Council Nominations/Appointments:

Co-Chair: Jenn

Co-Chair: Toni

Secretary: Not Heather, but Heather

Treasurer: Sherene

