

GREENSVILLE SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

October 3rd, 2022

Time: 6:30 pm -7:30 pm

Location: Library/Virtual

Co-Chairs Greenville School: Linda Van Pelt & Michelle Toner

Secretaries & Communication: Karen Brown & Pam Crichton

Principal: Jennifer Miscas

Staff Representative: Tanya Sanders

Community Rep: Anne Campbell

Home & School Rep: Kristen Weber

School Council Parent Members: Kathy Nuttall, Kelley Bristow, Ewa Poon, Nicole Watt, Katherine Hamstra, Donna Gerritsen, Heather Foster, Megan Wiggins, Sheryl Heddle-Kafka

Attendance:

Jennifer Miscas, Tanya Sanders, Michelle Toner, Kathy Nuttall, Sheryl Heddle Kafka, Linda Van Pelt, Kelly Bristow, Kirsten Lukasko, Sherri Dunn, Marissa Taylor, Donna Gerritson, Anne Campbell, Natalie Pauls, Jennifer VanHartingsveldt, Heather Foster, Sandra Iskandar

Online: Ewa Poon, Katherine Hamstra, Debbie Appleyard, John & Leigh Wells

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Welcome:

last official meeting of the 2021-2022 School Council
6:32 pm call to order

2. Approval of Minutes

Moved: Kathy Nuttall
Second: Pam Crichton

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved: Kelly Bristow
Second: Kathy Nuttall

5. Principal's report – Jennifer Miscas

Thank you for being here. You give up a lot of time to be here, it is appreciated. I'm excited to be here from the start of the year this year!

Communication:

Trying to streamline things a little more. Using electronic sign - it's off in the corner which is not a great spot for people to see it. Most current events are posted on the sign.

Website - not completely up to date in terms of staff - specific yearly things have yet to be updated. Events are posted and updated.

Principal's newsletter posted at the end of the month. The Eyrie = the hawk's nest.

Highlights of the month and any issues we may be facing. Sharing pictures etc.

Twitter - shows up on the website - updated by self and Tanya Sanders

Announcements section of website -did a tutorial to show staff how to add their own info (eg. fundraisers, events, dances, etc.)

I like to share more information vs. less...

Parking:

Unfortunately it's an issue that isn't going away. Some of the spots have been taken up by library. They have taken 19 spots. There is an ongoing conversation on this. Library was designated 22 and school 45 (maybe more). School currently has 32 spots. Turn around / pull through is a waste of space - we don't see the need for it. City knows school is not happy. It's been negotiated already and the library is holding to what they have been given. There are 32 active staff members. There are 32 spots. It is a problem that seems to be unraveling. City would like the school to find a solution with the library. Natalie: is there a way to have the library do an audit? Which spots are to be used? School has been told there will be ticketing starting soon.

Sherri: What is the plan for staff?

Jennifer: I have told my staff park wherever you need and we will deal with the fallout.

Sherri: Can neighbours help out?

Anne: What about people using the parking lot on the weekends?

Jennifer: It doesn't make sense.

Kelley: There is hardly anyone in the library anytime I've gone but they do have a security guard for after hours.

Gift for members from last year - please grab a notebook on the way out.

Educator Meet and Greet - October 13th 4:30-5pm

Sheryl: Why is it so early?

Jennifer: It is a long day for staff. We wanted to do it over dinner hour as the food truck will be here. Truck will go in on the playground pad area - easy access and safe for families to get to the truck. Apologies for those who aren't able to make it.

Sherri: Cross country meet for Millgrove so might be a conflict for those families?

Anne: Cross Country should be over by the end of the day.

Reorganization:

Many families affected

Huge workload trying to re-timetable, moving teachers and classrooms and kids, you aren't going to please everyone. We are well aware that people are going to be disappointed. This is part of a bigger issue: a board issue that we have an issue with kids' mental health and getting to know them and wellness activities, and after 4 weeks, we ship them off to someone else. There are reasons why these re-orgs happen, however other boards seem to manage with different timing.

We ended up losing a JSK class, 4/5 class turned into 3/4 (now two 3/4 classes), opened a grade 5 class (teacher qualifications are a factor when moving teachers). Sometimes teachers are disappointed by the move as well - they are professionals and they will rise to the occasion. 6/7 eliminated and that shuffled everybody. The aim was to get all the grade 8s together.

Process: submit numbers in spring, board offers a projection and you do timetable and staffing. Then in the fall, you literally count the number of children in the building.

We were down by 30 children. That equals one classroom.

I can't take away classes in divisions. It's like a puzzle piece that doesn't fit together. So a 7/8 remains. 9 grade 8s in one class, the rest are 7s. Transparency is key here. Staff are going to work hard to step up. If a child is struggling, please reach out. Kids will be okay in the end.

Kristin: Can we as parents advocate for our own kids or for the teaching staff? Is there anything we can try?

Jennifer: If I thought yes, I would say so. It comes down to money - they could have surplussed us - they were being kind in that regard. We have to deal with what we have to deal with.

Linda: Can we do this sooner?

Jennifer: I've been asking this every year.

Kelley: Why is that number so big?

Jennifer: We haven't established the pattern of who will come in at this point. We're a relatively new school and we haven't figured that out yet. I'd like to think that we'll see a lot more registrations over the summer next year. It's frustrating. I don't make the decisions in the end.

Michelle: I still think it's worth advocating the needs / impact on our kids to the board, etc.

Kristin: Do we have anybody on Parent Involvement Committee? The board tends to listen to PIC.

Anne: Students that are doing remote, and change their mind - is there going to be room from them to come in?

Jennifer: No. They made that decision for the year. They don't have the flexibility. 250 kids across the whole board doing remote.

Anne: Students who are homeschooling? [will there be space for them if they come back in person]

Jennifer: Yes.

The transition day for staff will be Thursday. Friday is our first day on the new schedule. This week it's about prepping kids and talking about it. It falls on a Day 4 - out of cycle... going to mess up our timetable. If you have questions, please ask. Advocate. Speak up. I don't know how far that will go, but I don't think it's ever a bad thing to share how you're feeling.

6. Staff Report – Tanya Sanders

A lot of great things are happening.

Terry Fox day - kids wore colours per grade, took a picture outside,

Cross Country, jr swim team, concert band, volleyball, one choir this year with 50+ voices! Holiday musical will be a multicultural event, and we will have a winter concert.

Mrs. Kolios has ordered the book displays and thanks you for the book stands.

Michelle: This is something we voted on in a prior meeting.

Staff are starting the conversations about moving classrooms / reorg. We do understand what is going on and we're trying our best to make it okay. Things are pretty good so far.

Michelle: What grades are volleyball?

Tanya: 6/7/8

Minds on Repertoire at Glendale for concert band

Sherri: When does music start at Greenville?

Tanya: grade 3

Kathy: I heard choir is going to sing at City Hall

Tanya: it's a big maybe at this point but hopefully!

Sherrri: How does communication for things like Choir come home?

Tanya: They are told during music classes and all are invited to join

7. Millgrove update - Donna Gerritson

We haven't had our school council meeting yet (tomorrow)

We have an interim principal at the moment .

Our meet and Greet is Wednesday.

Book Fair running this week. And Pizza Days are starting this week.

Talking about running movie nights

Hallowe'en dance coming soon - big fundraiser

Tanya: Fall fling will be happening here, more info to come out from staff

8: Home & School Update – Kristin Weber

Slow roll for the start of the school year

Having a meeting in the next week or two

Home and School has always done the majority of fundraising and events in the school.

ie: Fun Fair, Bake off, vendor market, chocolates, teacher funds, etc.

We had the ability to access our funds when the school couldn't.

Jennifer: I have asked that each group provide me with a list of proposals. I have to oversee School Council as they are board mandated. There is a grey area of what I need to manage. I can't balance 20 initiatives from each groups. Last year was very overwhelming and I found it difficult to manage the expectations of each group. We are trying to start off on the right foot.

Kristin: At our first meeting we will be discussing things that have worked in the past and what we would like to plan for the coming year.

We are going to ask people to streamline communication through the proper chains of command. Jennifer should only be receiving emails (pertaining to H&S) from Pam or myself.

We are part of HWHSA - we can go to the board with an association behind us. And OFHSA - which is a group within Ontario.

9. Council Budget

Closing balance: \$4890.14

\$3000 coming out - so Ms Kolios can order things for the library.

We get a little bit of money from the board and we will be doing fundraising

10. Pro-Grant

We lost out last year because we didn't have enough time to complete the application. Over the next month - please find somebody that you'd like to come in to be a guest speaker to present at the next meeting.

Focus:

Kristen: At one point we had a guest speaker for students during the daytime and parents in the evening.

Sherri: So like gratitude, wellness, bullying. etc.? Perhaps ask H&S committee for recommendations from other schools.

Anne: From last minutes: it is \$1000

10. 2022 -2023 Chair Elections and Secretary/Communications

No election is needed as Kelley Bristow will be taking on the role of Co Chair for next year.

We need to find 1-3 people to take on the role of typing during the meetings. Michelle will send out an email to current members. Executive positions must be filled by past members.

7:46 Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting: Monday, November 7th, 2022

Adjournment

**Reminder: As a Green initiative, we will no longer be printing the Agenda or Minutes. Please review prior to the meeting, or print off your own copies for reference. Thank you!*