JAMES MACDONALD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

200 Chester Ave, Hamilton, ON L9C 2X1 Meeting held via Microsoft Teams Online

March 18, 2021 at 7 pm

MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE:

Stephanie Lostanaw Lavin, Chair Stephanie Hurley, Secretary Melissa McCormack, Principal Laura Kentie
Amanda Vernon, Teacher Representative Heather Talach

Meeting called to order by S. Lostanaw Lavin at 7:00 pm

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, M. McCormack

- Agenda approved by, H. Talach, A. Vernon. All in favour.
- Minutes approved from February 11, 2021 meeting & accepted by L. Kentie, H. Talach.
 All in favour.

SCHOOL COUNCIL START UP FUNDS DISCUSSION

- Suggestions from Parent Involvement Committee on how to use start up fund: family topics such as mental health seminars, nutrition, STEM night, virtual open house (art work/videos showcases from students), pay for costs related to sending gratitude notes to community members, community member/author speak to community, multicultural night to welcome families, different drop off items (grab bags, art supplies) given to students/families to complete at home.
- JMac Council like the idea of a virtual cooking class with the kids.
 L. Kentie will look into possibilities for local options. Possible dates: May 14, 27, 28.

BOARD REPORT, M. McCormack

Learn. Disrupt. Rebuild

- Board wide initiative: Learn. Disrupt. Rebuild. Resource developed by a team at the Board to support Ministry and Board plans.
- The lessons in Learn. Disrupt. Rebuild @HWDSB are intended to support staff as they address issues related to human rights, equity, inclusion, anti-racism, anti-oppression, mental health, and well-being within the context of the global pandemic.
- Kindergarten to Grade 12 curriculum resource that supports both the HWDSB annual plan and Equity Action Plan.
- School and classroom practices: to develop and integrate culturally relevant and responsive pedagogy (CRRP); approaches to promote teaching, curriculum, and assessments, focuses on knowing our students and their lived experiences.
- The focus of the resource is to:
 - Learn: Develop awareness, knowledge and skills to support mental health and wellness recognizing the intersectional impact of the pandemic.
 - Disrupt: Identify and dismantle the ongoing inequitable policies, practices, and procedures in educational spaces.

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- Rebuild: Engage in active allyship which reshapes educational spaces to eradicate oppression and promote justice.
- Module 1- Physical Safety, Mental Health and Wellness
- Module 2 Understanding Identity and Intersectionality
- Module 3 Exploring Human Rights, Equity and Anti-Racism
- Module 4 Empowering Action and Allyship

PRINCIPAL REPORT, M. McCormack

- Term 2 IEP sent home last week.
- Site visit for black top coming soon consultation to have lines and games re painted throughout entire black top. Will have input from staff and students. Will be done this school year.
- Lisa King, Indigenous Consultant for board, will come to school in April to work with classes.
- Continue to reinforce Covid protocols to respect boundaries, hand washing, sharing equipment, and class cohorts.
- Photo day in April. More information to come.
- Spirit wear looking to have it next year possibly in late September.

TEACHER REPORT, A. Vernon

• This week being what was supposed to be March Break, school is having a March challenge week. Classes have paired up a junior class with a primary class. Classes are challenging each other to do different challenges each day. Some challenges include, art, drawing, physical activity, BINGO, music and STEM. Helps to build community within the school.

TREASURER REPORT, S. Lostanaw Lavin

- See attached Financial Report for account balances
- Council will support playground painting. Motion to approve available Nevada funds up to \$2733.77 for playground painting.
 - o VOTE: approved by L. Kentie, H. Talach. All in favour. Approved.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE, S. Lostanaw Lavin

- HWDSB Director Manny Figueiredo spook at PIC meeting looking at possibilities of remote/ in person learning models to continue next September if covid restrictions continue.
- HWDSB Chair Dawn Danko, spoke about the trustees related to recent investigations on allegations of racism. This information has been shared via HWDSB emails.

Meeting Adjourned by S. Lostanaw Lavin at 8:10 pm. Approved by L. Kentie, S. Hurley.

The next School Council Meeting will be held at 7 pm On Thursday, May 13, 2021 via Microsoft Teams Online.