



École Élémentaire Michaëlle Jean

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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École Élémentaire Michaëlle Jean
School Council Meeting
October 27, 2022

In attendance:

Sandra Constable
Alexis Flett
Paul Hatala
Suzanne Hall
Lesley Billingsley
Aleisha Szafran
Jennifer Omar
Maria Patrinelli
Mike N
Trish Rayner
Wendy
Zachary Valente

Meeting Started at 6:02pm

Welcome and Agenda

Land Acknowledgement

1) Welcome Mme Flett as a teacher representative

Staff report (Fall/Winter)

- Athletics:

- Successful cross-country season
 - Meet on October 14th
 - 80+ students who attended represented school very well
- Volleyball season in progress
 - Coordinating with other coaches so students can do more than 1 activity
 - Jr and Sr. Girls Vball, Sr. Boys
 - 32 students
 - 9 home games
 - Staff member to ref every game (Mme constable)
 - Staff and students score keeping



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- BB season coming up
- Will have Sr boys team (mar/Apr/May) grades 6-8 with staff support
- Track and field in the spring
- Clubs and activities
 - Sewing club since sept for grade 8 students with 2 staff
 - Choir just starting now – grades 1-6
 - 50 students have come out
 - 3 staff members
 - Drama club
 - Auditions coming up
 - Grades 4-8
 - 2-3 staff
 - 60 students came out
 - Opportunity to participate in backstage activities
 - Art club – focus on props and sets
 - 2 staff members overseeing that – offered to grade 5's
 - Library helpers Sept – June grades 6-8 2 staff
 - Band for grades 7-8
 - In Jan/Feb checkers club grades 3-5
- Challenges: There is a lot going on and a limited number of recesses – balancing the timing of when things are offered so there is not a conflict
- Community building
- Welcome back to MJ day
- Overseen by staff
- Excellent leadership opportunity for the grade 8's they determine what activities they want to run
- 6-7 get to be team leaders combined with terry fox this year
- Food drive collecting canned goods – organized and led by 1 staff member grade 7 led it
- Grade 8 student leaders working with 2 staff members Student leadership team – planning spirit days, activities to lead in the school
- Traditional carnival day and end of year activities

Questions for Mme Flett:

- It was really nice to hear all the great things!
- Cross country for grades 1's 2's? Could we address in the planning for next year?



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- We could, but it could only be a school-based event

2) Results from Parent Survey

- 55 responses
- Mix from all the grades – not many grade 8's
- Most families have between 1-2 students at the school
- Awareness of council: Work for us to do around awareness
 - To add to MJ Facebook page
 - Roll of council
 - How to reach ppl
 - On MJ page – school council page if you want your name/number available let Paul know
 - Can we leverage the website?
- The hope is when we sent out other survey in May-June – that we will see more ppl aware

3 things student likes:

- Friends
- Teachers
- Activities (in school activities – gum day PJ Day, spirit day),
Extracurricular – Drama, clubs, sports

3 things to change:

- Extracurricular
- Sports
- Field Trips
- Lunch Program
- *Bringing things back

What Parents would like to see continue

- In school activities
- Communication
- Extracurriculars/Food program
- Teachers – positive nature of relationships

What parents wanted to see improved

- Increase in Extra Curricular
- Parking



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- Reengaging with food programs
- Classroom communication home
- Improved opportunities to volunteer

What should the council focus on:

- Extracurricular
 - *Alisha suggestion French Café*
 - o Grades 7-8 are servers
 - o Parents invited to come in
 - o Parents pay for food/order food
 - *Paul suggested*
 - o To build community – offer an event like a café
 - o Celebrate one of the clubs – create an event
 - Fundraising
 - Lunch program
 - Activities (spirit days)
 - Community – opportunities to build communities
 - Parking
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- Parents very fond of the school lunch program
 - What type of Fundraising event – more of an interest in events as opposed to selling, but not too much of a difference.
 - The best care scenario for parents who want to do fundraising/lunch programs are the ones that can be done all online – they will have the least impact on the staff (with possible work to rule)
 - o Form a subcommittee for Fundraising/Food Programs
 - o Also looking for a leader of sub councils
 - o Email Paul with interest
 - Another subcommittee for Communications
 - o Website/Newsletter
 - o Also looking for a leader of sub councils
 - o Email Paul with interest

3) Aleisha – Black History Month

- We have an opportunity to be an example within the board based on recent events:



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- Have a day about Michaëlle Jean – her accomplishments – throughout the month highlighting different historical black people and significant events – quote in the morning or highlighting a different person
- Empowerment squared – group in Hamilton and western Africa help marginalized youth to help them succeed in life – sports activities – stuff they wouldn't otherwise be able to do
- Possible guest speaker – Leo from Empowerment squared
- Kids to do a fundraiser for this organization
 - A way to give back
- Aleisha to facilitate a guest speaker
- If there is a cost associated with it – council can use part of the \$500 for parent engagement
- Looking into Contacting Michaëlle Jean herself
- Possible donation from School Council
- HWDSB has an existing relationship with empowered squared
- Think of ways to reach out to community members from our black community to learn ways to authentically support black history month
- Would require another subcommittee
- Paul will add to the list of committees – council to email him for interest
- Does the board have a liaison person – Principal of equity we can connect with.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Nov 17th 6-7 in the learning commons in person

Will discuss who those committees are
Update from Mme Flett
Should discuss student rep