



École Élémentaire Michaëlle Jean

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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École Élémentaire Michaëlle Jean
School Council Meeting
September 29, 2022

Meeting Started at 6:04pm

Welcome and Agenda

1. Role of the council
2. Elections

Chair - Paul Hatala
Secretary - Suzanne Hall
Treasurer - Said El-Hajami
Member at large - Wendy Mahabir
Member at large - Mike Naffed
Member at large - Elisha Proietti
Member at large - Lesley Billingsley
Member at large - Nicole Profetto
Member at large - Maria Patrinelli
Member at large - Ashley Stinnissen
Member at large - Trish Rayner
Member at large - Jennifer Valente

3. Principal updates

- Great start to the year
- Welcome back play day and Terry Fox last Friday
 - Goal set for \$1000
 - Actual amount raised \$1479.10
- Extra-curricular
 - Grade 3-8 cross country try-outs happening right now
 - Going off site for the first time in 3 years
 - Volleyball team try outs: Jr. and Sr. Girls
 - No word about boys
 - Teacher has approached principal about coaching boys basketball
 - Question from Karen about what efforts are being made to make more sports available to the students at MJ?
 - Board decide which sports are allowed
 - Depends on staff that is willing to coach



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- Strictly voluntary
 - Parents can volunteer to coach, but a teacher (educator of the board) must always support the parent
 - We can put out a call to parents to see who might be interested in coaching
 - Put out a new survey to parents with a tight timeline asking for who is interested, could also go out in a newsletter from Sandra.
 - Poll the students as well to find out interest and what sports they are interested in.
 - Reach out to teachers at Bellmoore to see if any are willing to come and coach here, with the possibility of collaborative practices
 - 90% of the kids here are bused, so there may be challenges around getting kids picked up.
 - Write the director of athletics at the board to talk about non-staff coaches as long as the coaches are properly certified to bring up the disparity in equity and inclusivity
 - Also community members who are looking for volunteer opportunities including high school kids who are over 18
- School Council Budget
 - Last September \$1284.81
 - This year \$945.56
 - There was money spent for the end of year barbecue

4. Engaging School Community

- Last year we did a survey of parents, guardians or caregivers - only 33 responded.
- SC Newsletter that is sent out to parents
- Opportunity to reach out to parents
- P. Hatala proposed to put out a survey to parents to look for volunteers to put their names out there.
- Need a group of council members to prepare the newsletter
- Elisha suggested possibility of both online and paper surveys to reach more students.
- Sending out through messenger to make sure that only the parents are filling it out
- Once a month Newsletter - potentially after the SC meetings - thematic
 - ex. The first one is sports
 - ex. How to get involved in volunteering
 - ex. Perhaps Holidays or resources
- reminders on school messenger
- tie a competition to it? Set a school goal and if reached, celebrate as a school community



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- Add a QR code to the paper copy!
- VOTE:
 - Motion: the school council chair shall prepare an introductory letter with a survey link for parents to complete for this school year. The results of the survey shall be shared with the council and parents following the next council meeting
 - All in favour: all
 - Opposed: none
 - Motion Passed

5. What priorities do we have:

- Nicole: Fundraising (crispy creme doughnuts, poinsettias, Laura Secord chocolate)
- Paul: Money spent has to be spent in a very specific way ex. No capital projects. What is the purpose for generating the funds?
- Paul to send out a policy so members can see what we can fundraise for.
- Paul: Building School Community
- Ashley: Pairing with an inner-city school
- Sandra: Needs to be equitable ex. Being able to do it on-line.
- Lesley: Will food days be back? Covid related.

6. Meeting Dates

- Education Act dictates that we must meet at least 4 times/year.
- 4 Face to Face meetings interspersed with virtual meetings
- Nov 17th, Jan 19th, March 30th, May 25th for inperson meetings
- Paul to suggest other dates for virtual.
- Possible Virtual meeting for October. TBD by Paul.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:12pm