



NORWOOD PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Hamilton

MINUTES: SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Prepared by Carolyn Reid, Secretary

DATE: October 24, 2023

TIME: 6:15pm

LOCATION: Music Room, Norwood Park School, 165 Terrace Dr.,

ATTENDEES:

Shannon-Leigh Chandler, Chair

Carolyn Reid, Secretary

Rhonda Moules, Principal

Julia Hayes, Vice Principal

Shauna DeWolfe, Teacher Representative

Ashlea Marquez, Home and School Representative

Tom Overgaard

Saran Forbes-Davis

Kristina Llewellyn

Cassandro Timms

Kim Stalla

Eric Larson

Ruby Mann

Kim Thompson

Lisa Major

Stephanie Smith

Amber Yorke

Courtney Mitchell

Virtual Attendees:

Meera Shanmuganathan

Frehiwot Pochaev

Heather Lambert-Hillen

Kristin Martin

6:17pm meeting called to order by Shannon-Leigh.

WELCOME

- Land Acknowledgement
- Introductions around the room
- Approval of September Council meeting minutes: All in favour, with spelling corrections.
- Ashlea Marquez is to be added to the email list.
- Approval of meeting agenda: All in favour.
- Carolyn Reid volunteered to be Council secretary. All in favour.

HOME AND SCHOOL REPORT: Ashlea Marquez

- Pumpkin stroll is leading up to be a success; 51 pumpkins have been sold so far.
- Home and School has received good feedback and has been asked to host more events for the community.
- Funds raised will be used to cover permitting and rental fees for future events.
- AGM is coming up; contact Home and School for more information.
- Next Norwood Home and School meeting is November 14th at 7pm.
- Upcoming fundraiser is through FundScrip; gift cards for common retail locations. 100% of the purchased value goes on the card, retailers will donate a percentage of the amount back to the program. Starts in November.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Rhonda Moules

- Construction update: The lift to the stage is complete. All other construction is complete and they are finishing up deficiencies.
- Terry Fox and cross country were successful events.
- Junior swim had a huge turnout; more Norwood students attended than the other schools combined.
- Junior volleyball is ongoing.
- PA day focused on anti-black racism, bias in the workplace, math curriculum, and Knowledgehook.
- Grade 8 Commencement will be on June 25th. Marquis Gardens is booked. Waiting for Hill Park permit to come through.
- Grade 7s and 8s are allowed to leave for second break. Concerns around students coming back to school on time, safety when out in the community, and equity for all students.
 - Discussion held re. whether leaving at break should only be allowed on Fridays; this must be up to the individual parents. Many life-lessons around responsibility, communication, problem solving, street smarts, independence, confidence, highschool preparedness, etc.
 - Run on a strike basis? If a student is late more than once, they aren't allowed to leave again?

- HSR has warned the schools of a potential strike; 63 Norwood students would be affected if the busses aren't running. Students would not be penalized if they were late arriving at school because of a transportation delay or strike.
- Grade 8 overnight trip probably won't take place; instead, an extended daytrip will be planned, like last year.
- Official school fundraising plan is due to the Board Superintendent by the end of October; can be finalized until the end of November and tweaks can be made throughout the year.
- Julia Hayes is officially Norwood Park's permanent Vice Principal; congratulations Mme. Hayes!

FUNDRAISING: Shannon-Leigh Chandler

- Discussion around possible fundraisers: Poinsettias and Muskoka Coffee were offered.
- Overall interest in the Big Box of Cards fundraiser: Various options for mixed occasion cards and Holiday cards. Profit is around \$11 per box sold. Shannon-Leigh will ask Stevie if this is still an option for this year.
- Teacher wishes include team jerseys and/or other identifying wearables; school has low stock because students borrow them for events and they are frequently not returned to the school.

CHAIR'S REPORT: Shannon-Leigh Chandler

- Pizza Pizza lunch meets all Board criteria; profit is \$6 per cheese pizza and \$5 per pepperoni pizza.
 - Concern raised around cold pizza being served to the students who go outside at the start of break; rotating the serving schedule poses challenges around supervision and is most likely not possible.
 - Request for volunteers was made; Ruby, Kim and Lisa will help Shannon-Leigh
- Lemon and Ice is our new lunch option. Concern raised that some of the ingredients are not nut-free; Shannon-Leigh will verify with the company.
- Council Chairs attended the annual Board meeting re. School Council start up. Funds given to us by the Board go toward running childcare during School Council meeting times.
- Lisa is building an equity spreadsheet to inform families on where to share/find information.
- Discussion held around hosting a volunteer meeting to discuss the volunteer sign up processes, examples of when volunteers are needed, guide families through their police check, etc. When to hold the meeting; before or after school? Before the next School Council meeting?

SPIRIT WEAR: Shannon-Leigh Chandler

- Suggestion made for used-spirit wear sale, possibly at French Café.
- New spirit wear sale in time for the Holidays? Possibly only if we use the same company and no design changes are needed.
- Concerns around the sizes last year, especially the neck opening; are there options for different fits?
- This year's spirit wear logo to be Norwood, not Panthers.
- Shannon-Leigh to follow up with the company we used last year.

SUBCOMMITTEES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

- French Café: General interest in running this event again this year.
- Holiday Lunch: December is too soon. Consider for after January when prices will be lower and caterers would be more available. Possibly around Carnival? Considerations around equity, allergies, etc. to be considered.
- French Café and Holiday Lunch can only take place if someone volunteers to head the subcommittees, and enough volunteers agree to organize and support the event.

NEW BUSINESS

- Discussion held around nutrition-free food days, including Halloween parties; teachers make up groups so the students will bring in a variety of foods. Is this allergy-safe?
- Rhonda to clarify, to all families, that bringing in food for these occasions is allowed.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Shannon-Leigh to discuss Big Box of Cards fundraiser with Stevie.
- Notice in newsletter for everyone to return their team jerseys.
- Sign out sheet for team jerseys?
- Shannon-Leigh to verify that all Lemon and Ice ingredients are nut-free.
- Rhonda to clarify, to all families, that bringing in food for planned classroom events (eg. Halloween party) is allowed.
- Shannon-Leigh to follow-up re. spirit wear.

7:16pm meeting adjourned by Shannon-Leigh