

## Notes of Queensdale Parent Council Meeting Wednesday Oct 19

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday Oct 19th @ 6pm  
[QPC Document Online Storage](#)

### Attendees

Amanda Levesque, Holly Chriss, Nicole Hughes, Colin Ferguson, Shivonne Lewis, Amy Townsend, Leigh Wilson, Jayne Jennings, Amy Pender, Kristine Wachmann, Mark Simpson, Candice Laughlin, Principal Gasparik, Mrs. Blanchette, Jennifer Carey,  
SET STUDENTS: Koralyynn, Sophia

Regrets: Sara Gray, Joshua Weresch, Leanne Friesen, Leigh Wilson

### Minutes

Start

**600pm: Greetings, Land Acknowledgement**

**602pm: Approval of Agenda, Minutes**

[Agenda for Oct](#): approved by Jane, seconded by Nicole. Voted and accepted as is.

[Minutes of Sept](#): approved by Colin, seconded by Holly. Voted and accepted as is.

**605pm: Student Equity Team (SET)**

Ongoing we will have an update every meeting from SET.

General update by Mrs. Blanchette

SET Students gave an update:

> Hallowe'en event is being converted to an "Autumn Dance" Event on Mon Oct 31st, 2022. Extra room is being allocated for games and activities for students that don't participate in Halloween.

> Remembrance Day Ceremony: change from focus on death and war to a message about gratitude for peace.

"Honour those who gave, but can we do it in a way where they are heroes but not with war imagery as some kids come from backgrounds with war."

This will include peace signs, and a presentation where students all contribute something about what Remembrance day means to you (right length).

In Flanders' Fields will still be part of this ceremony.

> Food drive event is planned, but perhaps post-Winter Holidays holidays to replenish larders of those who are tight at that time.

> TBD: In school food purchase event: not just pizza, but many types of food.

25% of population are ELL, of those most common 1st language is Arabic

2% of the school population is from Syria

40% ELL are Canadian born, (younger siblings of immigrants). SET will discuss with students and determine how we can serve all students (including songs for holiday sing-alongs)

### **630pm: Fundraising**

Key takeaways

Annual School Fundraising plan is due Oct 31st. It includes: school, staff, students, QPC. We can later edit/add to this if needed. It must say anticipated revenue, costs, and where profits are allocated. All fundraisers should have a specific purpose designated.

Tara presented the school improvement plan which includes a strong focus on equity. Needs for the year have been identified as: Science & Technology, Arts based on students needs, Books & Resources, Trips & Transportation.

- Proceeds from larger fundraisers will be allocated to one of the above funds.
- Proceeds from smaller ones will be added to general QPC funds (to be allocated later).

AGREED: Nicole first, Amy seconded, voted and agreed.

ACTION: Principal to research and see needs on each of these categories.

Potential Grant: "Foundation for Student Success", for diverse books in support of the school improvement plan and equity.

ACTION: Amanda is going to review.

Ask the Board What is the Board Providing for Equity Community

ACTION: Tara is going to ask the board.

Note: At least 20 instruments need to get serviced.

### **6.55 Update from Treasurer**

Meet the teacher over \$400 profit

Better response than expected.

Purchase 10 slab pizzas and 5 dozen drinks but ran out of everything. 11-13 pizzas would have been the right amount.

It was a really nice night.

### **7.00 Back to Fundraising/Activity Conversation, Co-Chair Amanda Was Updating**

#### **Fun Fair Subcommittee formed**

Leigh, Sara, Holly, Candice, Shivonne, Amy G, Dawn

### **Pictures with Santa**

Traditional concept doesn't align with the school improvement plan. Modify through an equity lens vs. traditional. Snowman & Santa perhaps - a Winter Wonderland theme. Many younger children would love pics with Santa (and their parents), but some would not.

It was \$5 historically.

ACTION: By next meeting, SET will discuss and report back on "those who aren't excited by Santa, what would excite and involve them?"

### **Poinsettia Fundraiser**

Not culturally specific.

Orders would be done through School Cash Online.

Poinsettia Fundraiser Committee is agreed: Lisa, Colin, Stephanie, Amanda

### **Non QPC Fundraisers**

#### **Krispy Kreme Donuts**

This is a Grade 8 activity for year end trip and graduation, and will happen in January.

### **Popcorn Days**

JK/SK classes have a fundraiser for new bikes. Popcorn will be available via school cash online weekly.

### **Book Fair**

Book Fair will be potentially in the first week of May, maybe May 4th. Teacher/Librarian is likely going to lead this, and will look to the QPC for support and volunteers.

### **Pizza/Subs Days by the SET**

ACTION: SET will report back if they want to do this.

Principal Gasparik will ask teachers if they want to fundraise with this.

The QPC noted that many parents are big fans of this.

### **Autumn Dance by SET instead of Halloween Dance-a-thon**

ACTION: SET will run with this.

### **Movie Nights**

There is a local issue; we need to find a venue with the license. Last venue is no longer doing events as part of their Covid policies (may change in the future). We can contract with a company that has their own licensing if needed.

Movie Night Committee: Sara Gray, Amanda, Nicole, Amy P

ACTION: Amanda is researching what other schools & neighbourhood associations are doing on this topic.

### **Holiday Sing-A-Long**

Wed Dec 14, 2022 TIME: 6 or 630 to 8. Hot chocolate and apple cider has traditionally been available.

Committee: Jane, Jane's Husband, Leanne, Josh

ACTION: SET to give input on inclusive music.

ACTION: Jane's husband to bring speakers, etc.

ACTION: Principal Gasparik to open the gym, washrooms, lobby etc.

### **Dance-a-Thon**

We want to keep this initiative, even if it's not run by the QPC.

Feb is the likely target; maybe on Valentines.

ACTION: SET to see if they want to do it; or we'll do it.

### **Status Updates**

The QPC requested updates on both outstanding projects (new gym and outdoor classroom) that have yet to have approval to begin - funds are already allocated and ready. Tara read a letter from Dawn Danko sent to Stephen Lecce on June 24, 2022 on gym improvements on hold for 3 HWDSB schools (including Queensdale). The outdoor classroom is tied into the gym, which the QPC was not sure of.

ACTION: Amanda to contact Dawn Danko, Laura Romano, and Becky Buck for another update.

### **735pm: Parking Safety Discussion**

Amanda reported on updates including participation in a city initiative: Walk & Roll to School (Feb 1 and Apr 26 will be "wear yellow" days)

Possibility to explore bike safety programs for students (ie bike assemblies, Bike 4 Mike) - Amy P will explore this.

QPC has registered for a review of the travel plan with the City of Hamilton, and will explore the potential of changing the designation from no parking to a fire route.

Special Enforcement: we can call Hamilton parking by-law with our problem time windows. They will enforce and ticket every day for a week.

There is a letter that will go out to parents urging parents to drop off and pick up in alternate locations (provided).

### **745pm: Spirit Day Last Friday of the Month**

**ACTION:** SET will run this.

### **745pm New Business**

#### **Messenger vs Email**

We are looking at using a messenger/chat service for casual and subcommittee operations. WhatsApp is the default, unless someone disagrees. Meeting communications will continue to be distributed via email.

ACTION: Holly to lead this.

ACTION: Those with mobile phones should ensure that their number is on the spreadsheet, or with Holly.

### **Volunteer Pool**

We have 30 volunteers available with their Vulnerable Sector Search completed.

### **Inventory Subcommittee**

Clean up and organize our assets.

Nicole, Stephanie, Amanda, Shivonne

### **Monthly Newsletter**

The school is going to begin publishing monthly newsletters, and the QPC will have a section.

Colin & Nicole : A couple of lines each month to the school newsletter.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Almost no activity since before the pandemic/previous council.

DPA has fund of \$2.2K

Outdoor Garden \$3.7K

Science & Tech Fund: \$3.8K

There was a potential spend of \$5.8K on iPads (beyond budget of \$3.8K). A conversation ensued around the difference of \$2K. The PO was sent and had come back. Principal Gasparik will look into this. As funds must be approved by the QPC, the returned PO allows for proper protocol to play out.

Motion: Release funds to the school to buy ipads. This will come from both the science and tech fund (\$3789.52) plus funds from the last pizza fundraiser (\$400).

Motioned by Candice, seconded by Nicole - Carried.

### **803pm: Principal's report. Full Report Here - [LINK](#)**

Key takeaways

Strong equity focus on activities. Mission/Vision: supportive, inclusive learning environment.

### **806pm: Educator's Report Full Report Here - [LINK](#)**

An update was provided by the Teacher Representative present (Ms. Carey).

Terry Fox Run happened in Sept.

Cross Country in Oct. Lots of activity.

K-1 upcoming trip to the pumpkin patch.

Gr 8 going to the Steam Museum on World Toilet Day.

Baseball teams did very well.

Volleyball season started (Jr. Girls canceled for lack of interest)

The Phonic Academy tutoring program is up and running.

### **810pm: Discussion of next meeting**

Meetings will be on the 2nd Wednesday of the Month at 6:00pm, dates as follow:

Wednesday Nov 9th @ 6pm

December meeting will be a social @ Holly's. Date TBD.

Jan 11th

Feb 8

Mar 8

Apr 12

May 10

June 14

Voted on and agreed by a majority.

**810pm: Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn: moved by Nicole, seconded by Amy. Carried.