

Queensdale School Council Meeting Minutes | | September 21, 2023

Time: 6:00pm

Place: Library

Completed by Colin Ferguson, Secretary

Total Voting Members on Council: 16

Quorum Required Satisfied: Y 9 (50%+1)

Voting Members

Aaron Cameron	Y	Candice Laughlin	Y	Jennifer Csele	Y	Nicole Hughes	Y
Amanda Levesque	Y	Colin Ferguson	Y	Kristine Wachmann	Y	Sara Gray	Y
Amy Pender	R	Helen Athanariou	Y	Lisa Von Keulen	Y	Stephanie McAulay	Y
Angie Hernandez Sobrado	Y	Holly Chriss	R	Mary Jane Sonma	Y		
Brendan Knapman	Y	Jennifer Baillie-Rouse	Y	Melissa Button	Y		

Non-Voting Members and Representative

Ozren Opacic	R	Shivonne Lewis	R	Stacey Johnson	Y	Laurie Hurman	Y
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1. **Call to Order** by Amanda on Thursday, September 21st, 2023 at 6:05 p.m.

2. **Land Acknowledgment**

3. **Welcome and Introduction**

4. **Adoption of Agenda**

Agenda adopted as distributed.

5. **Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the report of the meeting minutes recorded Thursday, April 20th: Moved by Colin, seconded by Jenn. **CARRIED**

6. **School Council Elections**

- 1) All present in the room were acclaimed as members for a total of 16 voting members on parent council.
- 2) Parents who ran for executive positions were uncontested and acclaimed.
 - i. Co-Chairs: Amanda Levesque & Jennifer Csele
 - ii. Treasurer: Nicole Hughes
 - iii. Secretary: Colin Ferguson

7. New Business

- a. **Council meeting dates:** Discussed and agreed the following dates for all council meetings. Changes may arise, but will be communicated if that’s the case.

Month	Date	Day	Year	Hour
Sept	21	Thurs	2023	6:00 PM
Oct	4	Wed	2023	6:00 PM
Oct	26	Thurs	2023	6:00 PM
Nov	22	Wed	2023	6:00 PM
Dec Social	14	Thurs	2023	6:00 PM
Jan	18	Thurs	2024	6:00 PM
Feb	21	Wed	2024	6:00 PM
Mar	21	Thurs	2024	6:00 PM
Apr	17	Wed	2024	6:00 PM
May	23	Thurs	2024	6:00 PM
June - Fun Fair Night!	6	Thurs	2024	6:00 PM
June	12	Wed	2024	6:00 PM

- b. **School & Board Improvement Plans:** Principal Johnson reviewed the current school and board improvement plans, as well as the upcoming school improvement plan. She will provide a summary to council for the current school year. **CLOSED**

c. Fundraising:

- a. Goals/Initiatives: Ideally to align with school’s priorities outlined in the school improvement plan.
 - i. 5 goals: STEM, Books & Resources, Student Wellness, Trips & Transportation, Art based on Student Need
- b. Krispy Kreme: Designated STEM and Trips & Transportation as the initiatives supported.
 - i. Dates were set last year: delivery on November 15th.
 - ii. SubCommittee formed: Kristine, Melissa B, Lisa
- c. Pizza Days: Council will run.
 - i. Enough gloves are an issue. The school seems to have enough however. Inventory will be taken ahead of this.
 - ii. Pizza Days will be on Wednesdays, with reminders set up on school website.
 - iii. Pricing and supplier (Mario’s) will carry over from last year. The office will share logistics info.

- iv. Lunch SubCommittee formed: Nicole, Jenn C, Jenn B, Lisa, Angie, Colin
- v. We will need adults to support the pizza days regularly.
 - a. Note: in this case Sub Committee does not imply Subs. :)

d. Book Fair

- i. The council would like to lead the Book Fair this year in May (to align with Open House), to raise for Books from Scholastic (higher value).
- ii. SubCommittee formed: Amanda, Helen, Kristine, Jenn C, Candice, Meliisa
- e. Two additional fundraiser ideas were suggested. Melissa suggested Flip Give, and Lisa suggested Mabel's Labels - a local company. Both will gather some detailed information on their suggestion to share at the next meeting.
- f. Amanda will share a list of fundraising options with council ahead of next meeting.

d. School/Community Events:

a. Movie Nights

- i. We have our movie license until Nov. 13. Council would like to try the streaming license trial (30 days) ahead of purchasing another 12 month license.
- ii. Ideal dates this year: late Oct, February, and April
- iii. SubCommittee formed: Amy, Kristine, Jenn Br, Nicole, Lisa, Melissa, Brendan, Sara

b. Queensdale Bazaar

- i. Agreed on name: "Winter Market", sometime in December - first week possibly.
- ii. SubCommittee: Jenn C, Candice, Sara, Melissa, Jenn BR, Helen, Lisa

c. Winter Family Festival/Sing-A-Long

- i. Agreed on name: Winter Sing-Along, sometime in December. No SubCommittee formed at this time.

d. Alternative/Special Lunch Days

- i. Council discussed possible options other than pizza. Discussion will continue at the next meeting with some more concrete information.
- ii. The Pizza Days SubCommittee will be referred to as the Lunch SubCommittee, and the team will run these as needed.

e. Fun Fair

- i. Date tentatively set for June 6th after school (Thursday before a PA day).
- ii. As this is an "all hands on deck" event, it will be handled by the entire council.

e. PRO-Grant: PIC provides funding to schools of up to \$1000 for events that are geared towards parents in the community. It needs to be applied for.

a. Wellness Fair (for adults, not kids per se)

- i. Last year's content was amazing, but limited attendance. We assume due to horrible weather, time of year, and insufficient marketing.

- ii. Council will host the same style event, and will attempt to bring all presenters back.
- iii. SubCommittee formed: Amanda, Brendan, Candice, Sara, Colin, Kristine

f. Other Council Activities

- a. Safe Parking
 - i. This was a big success last year with the pilot of a 5 day parking enforcement.
 - ii. There is ongoing education of those entering the Prince George lot.
 - iii. There was a 2 day parking blitz earlier in September.
- b. Meet the Teacher
 - i. Oct 5: planned to be outside or rain, inside.
 - ii. Council will have pizza/drinks available. Plus sign up for more members/volunteers. Volunteers needed for this.
 - iii. SubCommittee formed: Nicole, Sara, Melissa
- c. 75th Anniversary: A very big deal!
 - i. Perhaps Nov 9 or Nov 30.
 - ii. A high intensity activity for staff
 - 1. The present idea is rooms matched out to the decade
 - 2. Sara commented that her Dad attended the school from the first day! He is being invited to attend as a valued elder.
 - iii. Time capsule: this is from 1984, and will be opened. We expect Beta tapes of great things!
 - iv. Council was asked to support this school event, possibly by manning a table to sell pizza and/or t-shirts. More info to come.
- d. Clothing Drive
 - i. An interesting conversation was had around:
 - 1. Desire to donate
 - 2. Teaching a lack of commercialism
 - 3. vs. the reality of bed bugs in Hamilton.
 - ii. Council discussed feasibility and how the community can support families within the school. Discussion included possibly collecting change donations to purchase hats/gloves for the Queensdale community.
 - iii. Council also discussed donating instead to a larger organization to donate these items to, which would support those in need within the city. Ideally, these groups have the protocols in place to accept donations, ensure their quality/safety, and then get them to those in need.
 - iv. No SubCommittee was set, but the desire to help/educate is clearly strong. Discussion to continue at next meeting

- e. Healthy Food/Snacks:
 - i. Parents were concerned about healthy food options at a time of high grocery cost and increased possibility of food insecurities. Principal Johnson noted that Queensdale participates in the program, and has a constant supply of board approved healthy snacks to ensure no student goes hungry. **CLOSED**
- f. Surveys and Polling Families:
 - i. The council agrees that we need more insights on what families want and need. Surveying seems to be the best idea.
 - ii. Survey Monkey was suggested as the collection method with multiple choice questions. Principal Johnson will investigate best practice through board technology for distribution.
 - iii. Council discussed some important areas for input: lunch ideas, movie night preferences, how families prefer to support fundraisers.
 - iv. Nicole will draft some questions with additional input from council, and will send to the council for feedback via WhatsApp. Discussion to continue at next meeting.
- g. Social Media: team responsible for monitoring social media, including verifying new member requests with office staff and moderating posts.
 - i. SubCommittee formed: Sara and Amanda.
- h. Spirit Day
 - i. Council would like to promote monthly fun themed-dressed days for students, with the intention that participation has very little to no cost to families and that every student can participate in some way. There would be a class pizza party prize at the end of the year. Nicole led this pre-pandemic, and she will prepare a plan to be reviewed by Principal Johnson, and then provided to the council at the next meeting.
- i. Housekeeping
 - i. This is to keep organized the physical assets of the Council, to update and have available for other SubCommittees to reference.
 - ii. SubCommittee formed: Melissa, Nicole.

8. Principal's Report

- 1) Childcare for meetings: There's an opportunity for high school students to complete volunteer hours. Some parents suggested it to their children. Principal Johnson will work on providing childcare with the support of interested families.
- 2) Zones: The school will have recess zones again. Not based on grade, but upon activity. For example, a basketball zone, a free play zone, etc.
- 3) Recess Guardians: Queensdale was a pilot for this idea. It worked out well. Grade 4/5s lead primaries in well established games; they are taught, then they teach the young ones how to play the game. They then lead the game. This builds post-pandemic playground skills.

9. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn: Moved by Nicole. Seconded by Sara. **CARRIED**