



# Ray Lewis Elementary School – School Council

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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## Meeting Minutes

### School Council Meeting

#### Ray Lewis Elementary School

Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 6:00 pm, School Library (Learning Commons)

#### **1. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement (started at 6:00 pm)**

Ray Lewis Land Acknowledgment and School Pledge read by Hope Caton, RL Student.

#### **2. Introduction of Members (Attendance)**

In attendance for meeting: Correna Caton, Justin Szajnowski, Hope Caton, Michelle Kell, Amanda Baxter, Shama Usman, Leanne Tovey, Jessica Troop, Sabina Marrone, Chris Wright

#### **3. Review and Approval of Current Agenda**

**Motion to Approve October Agenda:** Justin Szajnowski

**Second:** Michelle Kell

**All in Favour. Carried.**

#### **4. Review and approval of last month's minutes**

**Motion to Approve September minutes:** Justin Szajnowski

**Second:** Jessica Troop

**All in Favour. Carried.**

#### **5. Reports**

##### **Vice Principal:**

##### **Staff Updates:**

-Farewell and Congratulations to Jennifer Viveiros who accepted the position as Student Success Teacher for the Board.

-Congratulations to Mariah Bailey who will be returning to us in November into Class 7/8A.

-Congratulations to Drew Swartman who will be with us as an LTO in Class 7/8A until Mariah's return.

-Congratulations to Erica Buglisi who has accepted the 0.1 Permanent position with us.

-Congratulations to Jessica Welsh who has accepted a 0.3 Permanent position at another school in HWDSB, whose last day in JSD will be next Tuesday, October 24th. An LTO will be hired into this position until Mallory Williams returns to us at the end of April.

\*With Jennifer Viveiros leaving us we welcome Marlee Ferguson (J/I LRT) as another Teacher Representative on the School Council. She will join us at our November meeting.

\*Four new staff members who are trained in First Aid.

**School Updates:**

- First Dream Assembly was Thursday, October 12th
- great success -IEPs go home Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>
- This Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup> is a PA Day for staff to learn about the new Language, Math, and Social Studies (History/Geography) Curriculums
- Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup> – French Immersion Applications open (for Grade 1)
- Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> – Bus Presentations (Safety)
- Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> – Photo Re-Take Day and Class Photos
- Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup> – Progress Reports Sent Home
- Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> – Grade 7 Adventure Works Trip
- Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> – PA Day will be for interviews (possible Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> pm as well)
- \*November 6<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> – Harvest for Hunger – Student Council collecting **non-expired** non-perishable foods (class with the most wins a pizza party)

**Plant & Facilities:**

Fire Drills/Lock down/Hold and Secure Drills are all being scheduled, and we will make families aware when they will be happening.

**Late Buses:**

Parents are encouraged to check the transportation website and subscribe to receive messages around late buses. HWSTS (Hamilton-Wentworth Student Transportation Services) – (905-523-2318) – (1-800-691-6402) – [www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca](http://www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca)

**School/Student Updates:**

Parents/Guardians are reminded to make sure that they are entering in daily absences, lates, and early departures (by 10:00 am) into School Messenger.

**After School Games:**

Guardian/adult must be present for students to stay to watch home games!

**Nutrition Break:**

Second nutrition break, Grade 7/8 students leaving school property - students must return 5 mins before the bell to enter school – meet their classes outside and join the line to re-enter.

**School Annual Plan:**

We continue to align our schools' goals with the board's strategic direction and annual plan goals.

- Positive Culture and Well Being Goal: Improve the well-being of all students and staff and close the gap for those currently and historically underserved.
- Target: At least 80 per cent of students and staff who self-identify as Black, Indigenous, Racialized, Two-Spirit and LGBTQIA+, and people requiring special education supports/services self-report feeling safe, supported, accepted, and affirmed in their diverse and distinct identities.
- Student Learning and Achievement Goal #1: Improving the graduation outcome for all students and closing the gap for those currently and historically underserved.
- Target: At least 80 per cent of students within each cohort making progress towards graduation/graduating\*.
- Student Learning and Achievement Goal #2: Improving the reading achievement of all students and closing the gap for those currently and historically underserved.
- Target: At least 75 per cent of students within each cohort on track as an effective reader. Releasing Teachers for PD: - CLI and Knowledge hook PD - Knowing our learners through CLI – Continuous Learning

and Improvement Plan - FDK/Primary Literacy PD and Data Gathering - NTIP continued Mentoring Sessions

### **Teacher Report:**

#### **- Extra Curriculars**

-Cross country: This was a success for both divisions, with a few students placing in the top ranking. Thank you to Mr. Kargas and Mr. De Fazio for running these teams, for grades 3-8!

-Volleyball: All 4 volleyball teams continue to practice several times a week

- Jr. Girls – Mr. Kargas

– Sr. Girls Volleyball - Mrs. Viveiros & Ms. Ducharme

- Jr. Boys Volleyball - Mr. Ellis

- Sr. Boys Volleyball - Mr. De Fazio

**-School Band:** Mrs. Janssens has finalized the school band (for Grade 7 & 8 students). Band has begun! There were originally 30 students interested, and that number has grown to 39. The band is working on 12 pieces for a Christmas Concert, which we are hoping to run the week of December 11th (but no date has been confirmed yet)

**-Recess Guardians:** a new initiative we will be starting up soon at Ray Lewis. It is a program that is led by teachers, who teach students in Grades 4-6 how to lead inclusive games for younger students during recess times. It will be like primary intramurals and involve students from Primary grades (as participants in the games) and Junior grades (as leaders helping facilitate the games). Teachers will be receiving training from the Recess Guardians organization on how to best facilitate this.

- **Recycling:** Recycling team continues – This involves having a team of students (Primary Grades 2-4) going around twice a week (in teams of 3-4 kids) to collect recycling and replace bags.

#### **-Fundraisers**

-Toonies for Terry (our school raised \$717.30!)

-Pancakes and PJs fundraiser this Thursday, October 19th -All students will receive pancakes, regardless of donations -The class that raises the highest sales will receive extra special pancake toppings. Money raised will be donated to the Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario (POGO)

-Cookie sales continue to do well. All Proceeds are still going to Grade 8 commencement.

-Factory Shoe continues to be a fundraiser. We will blast email the code again, as families might start to buy winter boots. The money is used to support life skills activities/sensory consumables for our students with special needs.

#### **School Events/Trips/Important Dates:**

-Our first trip of the year was today Adventureworks for Grade 8 students. This will be the only opportunity for the 8's to be on a trip themselves. This field trip focused on collaboration, leadership & communication through team building activities/low ropes/high ropes courses. The Grade 7 Adventureworks trip is November 15.

-The year end trip for Grade 7/8 students is still underway. Nothing has been finalized.

-The Grade 2 team is working on planning a trip to The STEAM and Technology Museum in early December, but nothing has been confirmed yet.

-Orange and Black day (Monday, October 30th)

-Halloween Spooktacular event for Grade 7's and 8's (Tuesday, October 31st)

-Halloween Costume Parade (Tuesday, October 31st) for Kindergarten-Grade 3. This will take place at 9:30 and consist of walking around the school to show off costumes. Parents are invited to join in the gym (must check in at the office first) to see their child -Other Halloween festivities may take place in classrooms on an individual basis (costumes cannot contain masks or weapons, any treats shared must be pre-packaged with ingredient lists and be peanut free)  
-DREAM awards will continue this year, a big thank you to Mrs. Ferguson

## **Chair Report**

**1. Parent Engagement Funds**, we need to start to consider where we would like to use our \$500 fund. There are many options of where we can spend it including:

- Childminding (so parents can attend meetings)
- Guest Speakers
- Translation services
- Open house information
- Magnets with the school information
- Parent Volunteer recognition events

We generally have until April to spend this, but the time does come up quickly. We cannot carry the funds over to next year. Once we figure out what we are looking to use our funds on we forward our original invoice to the Board with our principal's approval signed to authorize our payment.

## **2. Meeting Dates:**

- Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>
- December NO MEETING
- Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>
- Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>
- March NO MEETING
- Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>
- Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> (Elections committee established)
- Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> (Election timelines established and communicated)

## **6. Fundraising**

1. **Sub** forms came home last Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup> and are due Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Our first sub day will be Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. I kept them Fridays since I feel it's beneficial to most with not wanting to make lunches by the end of the week.
  
2. **Poinsettias** will start November 1<sup>st</sup> I will have the forms ready to go out and the fundraiser will go on until November 20<sup>th</sup>. I feel we should have a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize to help get the kids excited. I will need a couple of volunteers for the evening to hand them out. Also, if there are 1

or 2 for the day to get everything organized. During the day not as many are needed because we don't want to be tripping over each other. Our delivery date is already booked, which is Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>.

3. **Raise the Dough** we will be having 2 different nights to do raise the dough this year with Dominos. Our first night is booked for Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. Our second night we are hoping to do in March. We won't be able to book our March date until the new year.
4. **Family Photo Day** Edge Imaging, I am trying to get our school-booked in for 1-2 evenings in February around family day. They will have 5 days to purchase either 1 photo or a package off the website. Each family pays a \$25 sitting fee, which 100% of the sitting fee goes to the school for fundraising.
5. **Krispie Kreme Donuts** unfortunately they are booked up until mid-June this year. We can look at booking in for next year, but we will not be able to fundraise Krispie Kreme this year.

### **Purpose of our Fundraising**

Justin and I were given the teachers "wish lists" to look over and we feel that the lists have some great requests/ wishes. When the funds come in, we can re-address the specifics or have the teachers update their requests.

Is there a school grant, school improvement plan or a way we can get a digital score board in the Gym?

**7. Next Meeting Date is Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6:00pm, School Library (Learning Commons)**

**8. Adjournment @ 7:23pm**