

Rousseau School Council Meeting

Tuesday January 19, 2021

6:30pm-7:45 pm

School Council Attendees: Kim Strecker (Co-Chair); Allison Assaf (Co-Chair); Harmony Maiuk-Conti (Treasurer); April Burk (Secretary); Mr. John Gris (Principal); Ms. Beth Bennett (Teacher Representative)

School Community Attendees: Bridget Scime; Michelle Rankin; Victoria M

Meeting Summary

1. *Student Report* – N/A
 - *Will be present in February*
2. Welcome – Kim Strecker and Allison Assaf including the Land Acknowledgement by Mr. Gris
3. *Teacher Report* – Ms. Bennett
 - Remote Learning going better than Spring
 - Great support from parents
4. *Principal's Report*
 - Remote Learning
 - Grateful for the work of the staff, and the parent support
 - Children are becoming more confident in the process of remote learning
 - Facilities Update:
 - Desks have been delivered and setup. Tables have been stored onsite in storage areas.
 - No Trespassing Signs have been installed
 - Protocols Update
 - Reminders when children return to school to maintain physical distancing, proper handwashing, and wearing masks. Noted that as of January inspection, all sinks are currently working.
 - Parent Outreach Funds - \$500
 - Community Outreach
 - Suggestion from Harmony Maiuk-Conti to team with a long-term care or retirement home to allow students to contribute letters and art for seniors in the community. Will assist giving children an off-screen purpose for art and learning, and help seniors in isolation. Suggestion from Bridget Scime of pairing seniors with students in a Pen pal type situation. Harmony to speak with the area seniors' homes to assess feasibility. Ms. Bennett has agreed to take the idea back to the other teachers.

- Suggestion from Kim Strecker of an adult colouring book drive for long-term care or retirement homes.
 - Picture Day
 - To be cleared with HWDSB and Public Health when school resumes. No group picture, but a composite of individual pictures.
 - Spirt Day
 - Twin Day to transition to wacky hair day.
 - Elementary Transitions
 - Parent portal is now open to elect a change from remote to in-person, or in-person to remote. Memo has been released from HWDSB on January 11, 2021 detailing this information. Dependant on date the school resumes, and class space. Additional staff may be added to meet demand.
 - Regarding the outstanding item from November, the first transition resulted in a switch of approximately six students.
5. Parent Needs with Remote Learning
- Assess parents needs for loose parts for kindergarten students
 - Dry Erase Sleeves to reduce paper consumption for primary students. Cost is approx. \$1.50 each.
 - Parent “toolbox” - TheraBand’s, plasticine, fidget spinners etc. to facilitate keeping kids occupied and engaged for longer periods of time.
 - Mr. Gris to confirm feasibility with using I-pad distribution protocol with the superintendent
 - To be confirmed if school council funds are eligible to be used for this type of purchase.
6. Financial Update – Current bank balance \$8,450.55 (Less outstanding expense of 10 iPad’s totalling approximately \$5,000 not yet paid until received). The bank account summary was received and approved by the School Council.
7. Other Items
- Voting – As per the Province’s response e-mail, members present at first meeting and fill out the form to be a member of the parent council are eligible to establish quorum. This prevents issues when something a certain group want passed, show up in large numbers to get the specific item passed.
8. Next MS Teams Virtual Meeting: Tuesday February 16, 2020

Meeting Closed at 7:45pm