

Rousseau School Council Meeting

Tuesday May 18, 2021

6:30pm-8:05 pm

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

Student Council Attendees: Finley Holt, Sophia Manzine

School Community Attendees: N/A

Meeting Summary

1. Welcome – By Mr. Gris including the Land Acknowledgement.
2. *Student Report* – Finley Holt and Sophia Manzine
 - “Beach Day” Spirit Day Friday May 28, 2021.
 - Thank you from the students for the opportunity to purchase grad-wear and yearbooks that were made available to the grade 6 class. The students find the grad-wear cozy and comfortable and are also appreciative of the time and effort that was given to the creation of the yearbook.
 - Students are keeping in touch with each other through virtual forms of communication during the current lockdown.
3. *Teacher Report* – Ms. Fawcett/Ms. Bennett
 - Virtual Talent Show for Grades 1-6 – Video auditions will be held in the coming weeks and the final production piece will be posted the last week of school.
 - Grade 6 celebration will likely be another virtual ceremony which will be similar to the 2019/2020 year.
 - Scientists in Schools – Opportunity to have two classes attend a virtual program that will be attended by the Grades 5 and 6 students. Materials will be included in the cost and will be provided in advance of the virtual visit.
4. *Principal’s Report*
 - Student Census
 - HWDSB census link has been sent out to parents for completion for JK – Grade 4. Grades 5 and 6 will be completed in class. Questions, and additional information can be found at <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/equity/we-all-count-hwdsb-student-census-2021/>.
 - Facilities Update:
 - Mr. Labelle has delivered the blackboard for the outdoor classroom to be installed outside when students return. Total cost was approximately \$400 from the

principal's fund for the material. Next year the students will decorate the back of the blackboard to deter graffiti.

- Stumps have been donated to the children's playground and will be installed by the blackboard installations.
 - Remote Learning
 - Parent portal is now open to select if students want to select in-person or remote learning in 2021/2022 school year. Preference needs to be completed by June 1st; otherwise in-class learning would be assumed.
 - Learn.Disrupt.Rebuild
 - Materials are now available to parents in addition to teachers for Modules 1 and 2 to reinforce the learning that is completed with the teachers. Module 3 is currently being taught in the classrooms. Module 4 will be introduced in September.
5. Anti-Racism Guest Speaker
- Student Speaker
 - Proposed as a launch to the 2021/2022 year to motivate and included the students
 - Dejehan Hamilton
 - First Canadian steel pan graduate of Berklee College of Music
 - \$1,500 per engagement
 - Could use \$500 in the parent involvement fund available for this purpose
 - Speaking engagements include talking about lived experience as a black person, and how to deal with anti-black racism, and racism as a whole.
 - https://www.gigsalad.com/dejehan_hamilton_boston
 - Parent Speaker
 - Proposed as a parent night to focus on parents and caregivers as a more academic focus
 - Usha James or Maria Vamvalis are both facilitators with the Critical Thinking Consortium
 - Speakers which can support the learning being taught with the Learn.Disrupt.Rebuild program
 - Addresses unconscious bias
6. Kindergarten Night
- Families will be invited to a virtual kindergarten orientation.
 - This will include:
 - Staff
 - Speech and Language Support
 - YMCA Program
 - School Council Representative
7. Financial Update
- Balance after currently is \$4,445.88, less \$1,900 for the mud kitchens and tables approved in April 2021.

8. School Council Year End Business

- 2021/2022 School Council Executive Election Planning
- Possible School Council member to speak at kindergarten orientation about school council
- Elections to take place on first school council meeting – September 21, 2021
- Mobile sign will be updated to promote the election
- Inclusive themed recruitment flyer to be posted around the school in September to engage parents and caregivers
- Declaration of Interest Forms to be distributed September 10, 2021 with a return date of September 17, 2021. These forms will include a parent or guardian who would like to participate as a general member (the ability to vote on 2021/2022 council items) or an intention to run for an executive position.
- Information of the results of the forms will be sent out on September 20, 2021 to prepare for the first school council meeting.
- Parents and caregivers in attendance at the first meeting who have returned the declaration form will form the voting members of the 2021/2022 School Council.

9. Other Items

- Thank you to the teachers for their time and effort into a difficult 2020/2021 school year!

10. Next Meeting: Tuesday September 21, 2021.

Meeting Closed at 8:05 pm