



Rousseau School Council Meeting – November 13, 2023

Location – School Library and MS Teams

ITEM	NOTES
Welcome and Land Acknowledgement	Call to order 6:30 pm Reading of the Land Acknowledgement
Introduction of New Members	
Approval of Minutes	October Meeting Minutes posted online (https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/rousseau/school-council/) Minutes approved
Teacher Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Mrs. Stinson is the Teacher representative for 2023-2024 School Council.▪ Teacher updates:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Mrs. Fernandez: swag orders will be ready in approximately 2 weeks and will be delivered to students once delivered.○ Three Junior classes did Focus on Nature as their Fall trip and it was a great success!○ December Movie night – information regarding date to follow (noted parent feedback: more notice desired).○ Mrs. Fernandez' Grade 3/4A class will begin selling Kernals Popcorn in January as a fundraiser for the swim team and other school events.▪ Primary Choir began after Thanksgiving. They prepared for the Remembrance Day assembly and it was a great success. After December assembly, Junior choir typically takes a break for January/February, then will work towards a Spring performance (Music Monday, the first Monday in May – a celebration of music in Canada)▪ Mrs. Fawcett is leading the Junior choir who also performed at the Remembrance Day assembly and also did very well.▪ Both choirs will be gearing up for a performance opportunity in December. Date still TBA <p>Teachers wish list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Is this something we want to do?▪ It has been a mix in the past i.e. teachers expressing a desire for what they would like to get, and also identifying needs of the classrooms▪ If teachers were presented with an opportunity to voice and identify things that they could use, they would likely take it.
Principal Report	<p>Staffing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Mr. Peters has returned to 12A; Ms. Grad finished her LTO▪ JSA currently has afternoons with Ms. Dunwoodie until Ms. Richarz returns full time▪ Ms. Kostandoff is our new 0.5 Phys Ed teacher▪ Ms. McFadden is our new French teacher

	<p>Enrollment numbers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Student enrollment currently at 255 students ▪ For this year, Rousseau is open to out of catchment applicant – if the student does not live in the Rousseau area, out of catchment applications being accepted. This may not be the situation in coming years (depending on how the Board reviews numbers and school capacity) ▪ Lego club started – every school in Board will be given a Lego Robotics Kit. Ms. McFadden will be attending Board-wide learning session, and then intends to bring those learnings back to the students (via classrooms and/or Lego club) ▪ Rousseau will be applying for Heathy Schools Certification (Ms. Kostanoff will be initiating and leading) ▪ School Annual Plan – to be submitted to Superintendent, and intention is that it aligns with strategic directions of the Board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continuing on path for early reading: have program consultants in school ▪ Teachers will work towards gathering data and deciding where and how to group children, and who may need more support (i.e Empower Reading). ▪ Math: for most recent EQAO testing, Math scores for Grade 3 and 6 were relatively low for Rousseau Q: can we get a copy of the EQAO results? Where are they available? <i>On EQAO website</i> Q: Is the drop pandemic-related? ▪ Support strategies include engaging staff in more pedagogy tasks, professional development for staff, learning around new pedagogies. ▪ Staff will be given a survey to find out what Math manipulatives teachers have in their classroom (an inventory). ▪ Facilities Supervisor: would like to paint the interior hallways and doors. Will be happening, dates TBA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Repaving of the parking lot will also be happening at some point. <p>Q: How about improvements and additions to outdoor spaces for the students?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cleanliness/state of washrooms in the school: Principal needs to connect with caretaker ▪ Forest is now out of bounds, and the hill leading to the forest is now also out of bounds
<p>Student Report</p>	<p>No student report this month.</p> <p>In the past, Mrs. Fawcett has used this as a leadership opportunity with the grade 6 students to join, share their perspectives.</p> <p>➔ Moojean to touch base with Mrs. Fawcett to see whether she has a plan for student participation</p>
<p>Fundraising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poinsettia - Wrapping Paper - Groove A Thon - Fun Fair 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wrapping paper fundraiser information went out on Friday/Monday. Due back on November 24th. Return is 40% (*ensure this return rate is communicated to school families!), with the opportunity to go to 43% depending on sales. - Poinsettias: Council members had looked into it and is happy to lead it, but unsure about offering a second fundraiser leading up to Christmas. Jenny is happy to lead the effort (will send content to Moojean and what will be needed to get orders up on School CashOnline); will need Moojean to help distribute the communication. Order deadline is 7 days prior to desired shipment date

	<p>Order deadline: November 30th with a single drop off date</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thoughts about a write-a-cheque campaign? 20 families participated last year, and over the years the participation hasn't been great. - Mindful that parents/volunteers would be the ones responsible for organizing and distributing products for fundraisers. <p>Groove A Thon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Super fun fundraiser, easy to run, and generated a lot of money. - Success in the past with offering option for cash. - How would we want to handle/offer prizes? <p>Fun Fair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If Fun Fair may happen, planning would need to start early. - Goal: prizes for silent auction by February - Should we do a call out for volunteers now, or maybe have better luck with a call out for volunteers in the new year? - Typically held on a Friday - Early December: Put a call out to begin gathering volunteer committee to lead the planning (can we include photos, visuals of previous years?) - Kim to look into what can be rented/booked
Safe Routes to School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ C. Stinson submitted. Focused on parking lot – it is becoming more of a concern and increasingly unsafe. - What solutions might be something can be done? What recourse is available? - Teachers are witnessing lots of close calls. Afternoon pick is particularly concerning. - Proposal: traffic committee to oversee and help coach incoming/outgoing vehicles
New Business	<p>Winter clothing drive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collection of warm weather wear to donate to sister school - Harmony happy to organize and bring to the school (Lake Avenue school)
Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reach out with a flyer/email from the Parent Council to the Parents/families of the school to introduce us and plan for the year (K. Strecker has drafted, Council members to review and then be sent out to families)
Adjournment	

Next meeting is Monday, December 11th at 6:30 pm