

School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: November 4, 2021

Time: 7:00pm

Council Members:

Jennifer Harvey (Principal)
Lindsay Gauvreau (Chair)
Atul Mathews (Secretary)
Christine Sipeki (Treasurer)
Nicole Burton (Voting Member)
Stacey Smith (Voting Member)
Jen Agnew (Voting Member)

Parents/Families:

Breia Merla (Umbrella Childcare)
Kim Ahmetovic
Mike and Dana
Christine Penny
Jason Rusnak

Chair calls meeting to order. Land Acknowledgement read out.

Approval of October 2021 meeting minutes.

M: Stacey Smith, S: Atul Matthews

Home and school report – Stacey Smith

- Food bank collections. 859 pounds of food and CAD 20 collected for Stoney Creek Food Bank. Started with parents
- Online pumpkin decorating contest. 133 pumpkins given out from 2 properties. Over 100 pumpkin photos submitted. Finished judging it and winners will be announced shortly
- Remembrance Day ceremony – wreath purchased to lay at the Stoney Creek cenotaph. Hope to take children next year.
- Paint tutorials through OFSA is going strong. Completed the pumpkin painting one. November 11 is the next one – field of poppies. Details available on Instagram page
- Next home and school meeting on November 25 at 7:00PM.
- President of OFSA met the Ontario Education Minister. Advocated for parents to return to school. Survey available and parents requested to fill the same.

Create new bylaws

- Members to take back latest copy and review the bylaws and suggest updates as required
- Plan to finalize the new bylaws by 17th of December

Treasurer report

- Need to vote on usage of Student Generated Funds (SGF)
- CAD \$5,927.42 is available as SGF carried forward from Memorial and Mountain View. This money is now available for South Meadow.
- Principal to check with Supt on what we can spend the money collected on
- New things for budget to be spent on to be decided post the meeting
- M: Jen Agnew S: Stacey Smith

Chair's Report:

- Update on ASST.
 - Waiting for a report from Callaway
 - Stop signs and cross walks to be installed in front of the school. Adding more crosswalks in the neighborhood. Maria Pearson working on it
 - Possible hands up survey done in class to get a baseline on who walks/drives/bus
 - Nicole will share with JH.
 - Parking situation has worsened. People are blocking driveways. Crossing guards need to get there earlier. Kids crossing roads before guards in place.
 - Daycare drop off in front of school is also an issue. It's not a kiss and run zone.
 - School needs to give parking options. There needs to be a presence in the front of the school.
- Virtual Fundraising
 - Christmas fundraiser – can we do it?
 - Sport shirts have been requested from teachers
 - All fundraisers must be online and as contactless as possible
 - Will vote on fundraising ASAP
- CAD 500 Parent Engagement Fund
 - Need to vote on what we would like to spend this on

- Could use the money to improve engagement on parent surveys – gift cards for returning parent surveys
- Please email with ideas

Principal's Report

- Introduction of new principal.
- Enrollment: As of today, our enrollment is 536 (this includes our Remote Gr. 2 class)
- Staffing:
 - As of November 1st, we have a 0.5 Vice Principal, Mrs. Susanna Costa-Popovich who recently retired as Principal of Janet Lee Elementary School. Wonderful to have her support as I transition into this new role!
 - We will be hiring 1.5 Educational Assistants this month as two of our staff are moving to new positions at Tiffany Hills Elementary School
- Students:
 - Been meeting the students and they are great! They helped me design the title of my community newsletters, landing on “The Howler”. They were very excited to help and their creativity came through. I have put the idea in their heads my next ask of them is to create a school moto. I’d like to have parent, guardian and community input on this as well.
 - Branding the school – clothing, moto, pictures/decals – let’s get the ball rolling!
 - Senior Basketball is the next sport to come – try outs will be organized soon with season starting in the new year. Mrs. Pickard is organizing and will be coaching the girls, we are still looking for a coach for the boys team
 - CCAT Gifted Testing for Grade 4 will take place in classes
 - November 11th – In school Virtual Remembrance Day followed by a class by class placement of poppies on a cross in both hallways.
 - Report Cards go home with students on November 19th
 - PA Day is on November 26th all day learning for educators. No school this day.
 - Photo Day – November 30th, Remote Grade 2 class is invited as well to attend, they just need to contact the office for an appointment. No class photo, but head shots will be arranged in a class composite.
 - Screener verification logs – as a school, we’re doing really well with this! Please keep it up!

- School Grounds:
 - Have not received an update about grass yet. Here's hoping soon!
 - Reminder for students to stay away from the orange fence
 - Basketball nets near the grass will go back up soon for DPA activities only

- Budget :
 - \$5,927.42
 - Requests: iPads in Primary and Junior classes (10 @ \$3,940.00) plus cost of cases

- Fundraising:
 - If fundraising – perhaps to support the purchase of more iPads?
 - Team clothing – perhaps school t-shirts for teams? Go through kids to help with design – they seem to really enjoy this and want to give input.
 - Updating library and classroom readers with Culturally responsive literature

- More Fundraising ideas –
 - Spirit wear
 - Sports wear
 - Books for library
 - Partner with Scholastic at school level

- Next meeting date - December 1st @ 7pm

- Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.