

Agincourt Road School Council Meeting Minutes

19 April 2022 at 7:00pm

Absent: Randy Beer (Support Staff Representative), Wendy Carter (Staff Rep), Yinka Ademmuyiwa (Secretary)

Present: Kim Meegan (Chair), Carmen Mackay (Principal), Courtney O'Halloran (Vice Principal), Melissa Muysson (Treasurer), Amy Herbert (Vice Chair), Genna McBain (Events), Erin Nire (Parent Involvement), Sarah Mitchelson

- 1. Call to order**
- 2. Land acknowledgement – Vice Principal**
- 3. Approval of last meeting's minutes**
- 4. School representative reports**

Principal's Report

- Mask mandate update. Staff and students must be masked. Parents can apply for exemptions for student masking. Additional information available in info email to parents, including reasons for exemptions (e.g. medical reasons, disabilities, developmental, mental health, creed accommodations, etc.). Application must be approved by the principal.
- School experiencing staffing shortages which resulted in 6 classes being closed 6/7 April. Decision made with superintendent. Still short staffed but making it work. Notes of appreciation for support and rescheduling were echoed by council.
 - Q: Is there a reserved list of vetted non-teacher resources? Yes, emergency Occasional Teachers list is used. We also have access to teacher candidates with temporary certificates, who have also been added to the system.
- Many families observing religious holidays. Hope all families are well.
- Grade 8 leaving ceremony photos took place on Thursday the 14th. No retakes for absences. No proofs received yet. Individual photos took place the week prior on the 8th (changed dates). No retakes available.
- Additional spirit wear has arrived and went home today with those who ordered.
- Leaving ceremony for grade 8s. Still no direction. Uncertain if an in-person event will be permitted. Grade 8 hoodies being coordinated. As soon as we have confirmation of ceremony, this will be communicated to grade 8 parents asap. No support will be expected from grade 7 parents.
 - Q: Grade 8 parents potential to organize outside of school. Can we communicate through the school? No, not if school sanctioned.
 - Q: Can school council use funds to support? No, because not school sanctioned.
 - Q: Can we approve money in advance in case it is approved? Yes. Amount to be confirmed.
- Pizza orders email sent out. Orders are being received. Will be looking for older students to help parent volunteers. Council acknowledged the work put in by Erin to make this happen, also Colette who supported.
 - Q: Is Heather Pilkey still volunteering? Likely her last year. Would council like to acknowledge this effort? Yes.

- Staffing process has started April-September. Looking at school allocation and teacher assignments and time tabling. ECEs and EAs follow in May. Principal's email to families regarding learning/social needs and child class placement to follow.

Vice Principal's Report

- Grade 4-8 will be completing school climate survey. To be completed by 29 April.
- 3 additional Spring fire drills to be scheduled. Cohort distancing as much as possible.
- EQAO 3,4,6 grades. All digital format. No long answer responses in math. Long answer responses in English will have type or written options. 3 sections, each section to be completed in one sitting. Dates TBD.
- Play structures still off limit at the school. Require safety inspection by the board. Will access them as soon as safe and allowed to do so.
- Message re: save the date for grade 8 families re: going to "highschool information night" on 28 April 7-9pm. Instructional coaches and talks about equity, wellness, etc.
- 22 April earth day to be followed by a 29 April spirit day to celebrate

Teacher Rep (Wendy Carter absent, represented by Carmen)

- Request for purchase of additional outdoor equipment (lost) and gym equipment (moved outside) to replenish. Request for \$500 was approved by council. If costs are over and above, Carmen will reach out to council.

5. Council executive reports

Chair

- PRO Grant speaker Paul Davis coming virtually to speak to parents 9 May on cyber bullying, sexting, etc. 8:30-9:30pm. Will work with Erin to get word out to Facebook.
- Do we want to do more for speakers for parents? Consensus was no.

Vice-Chair

- Gardening update. Little additional information available. Amy not available to coordinate a large scale gardening event, but available to support and help out. Acknowledged a parent who expressed an interest in getting more involved in gardening at the school. Genna to elaborate during her update.

Treasurer

- \$7000 remains uncommitted.
- Typically, council has allocated \$300 for leaving ceremony but has not been done for 4 years. Expect costs may have increased? Council approved \$300 for leaving ceremony.
- Gift card for Heather approved at \$50.
- Q: What have we raised in fundraising so far this year? \$1600. All for outdoor classroom.

Events/Volunteer Coordinator

- Coffee Cart staff appreciation. Sarah organized but needed to reschedule to 20 May. Requested that this be kept a secret surprise for staff.
- Grill Master secured for 9 June. No worry cancellation. Same menu as in previous years which included a vegetarian option. Volunteers for cash and serving will be required. Have also tried to book Merry Dairy.

- Walkathon 18 May (19 May rain date). To be coordinated by classes. Approach to be confirmed. Cash through Cash Online.
 - Potential for posters to be developed and hung in the school.
 - Call out for students to submit creative announcements.
- Outdoor classroom update. Parent reached out for support and fundraising. Would have liked to get started this Summer, but realize that we haven't been able to raise as many funds as in a normal year.
 - Rain barrel fundraiser. Parent has put in the application. No communications distributed yet. Online order. Delivered to your house (for a fee). Portion of proceeds go back to the school. End of May timeframe.
- Harry from Belair Community Association wants to help with gardening. Could take the role of community member on council. Would need to nominate him and make it official. Amy offered to be a guide for Harry and other parent (Ghislaine). Would like to restart a gardening committee.

Parent Involvement

- Pizza program being set up for Mondays and Friday. Good feedback so far. Not offered to JK/SK due to portion sizes, scheduling, and to have something to look forward to in Grade 1. Heather volunteering on Monday and another on Friday with some backups available.
 - Q: Pizza days typically have 2 parents. Do we need 2 per day? Plan to offset with student volunteers and backups are available. How many older students do we need? 2 lunches happening right now. Lunch monitors are not available. If starting in May, will likely not be a problem (if structures can open). Principal to confirm logistics.
 - Q: Is there an option for staff to purchase pizza? They don't use Cash Online. Erin to verify through Colette. Council also has a mailbox that teachers could use to place an order with a cheque.
- Q: Grade 8 leaving event could be published on Facebook? To be confirmed.

6. Next meeting in 17 May 2022.

7. Adjournment