

Bowmore School Council Meeting Minutes Wednesday January 17th, 2024

In Attendance (Zoom Meeting)

Meeting to called to order by Leah at 6:05pm

Land Acknowledgement – Leah

2. Library - Leah Jarvis

- a. Book Fair - all prices, all ranges.
- b. Snuggle Up and Read - Author coming in to read

Schedule:

5-5:30 Kindies

5:30- 6 Grades 1-2

If you have students in both cohorts you can bring your younger kids into the older kids session.

- c. Hannah Suitcase author spoke to 6 students about the book and turning a book into a play. The subject of the Holocaust compliments their in class studies.
- d. Bookmark contest and it will all tie into Love of Reading for the month of Feb. There will be a Book Club in the library during different lunch hours for grades 4-6 and 7-8.
- e. Milk Bag mats - making sleeping mats for Sierra Lionne during lunch and recess. Keep donating milk bags

3. Bowmore Cares -

What is it? Extra support to Bowmore families throughout the year.

-37 students being supported this year (vs LY 13)

-Reached out to many local companies for donations

-\$1500 in the Bowmore Cares fund

-Donating businesses & foundations are vetted through the TDSB.

-Every student got a bag with: Perishable foods, Champion hoodies, gloves, hat, scarf, gloves, hygiene items, gift certificates for groceries donated by a Grade 7 class, Quarry restaurant gift certificates, JumpStart Play gift certificate,

-10 Backpacks full of school supplies were available

-Soles for Shoes: 150 pairs of shoes being donated by Keen (to be vetted by TDSB first)

-Future Idea: Summer package for the families

-Kosta and Vasoula working on how the budget and funds raised will be allocated.

4. Safe and Caring Schools - Vasoula

- Every school has one
- VP Jaqueline Nevue 4 parents members and student members on the committee
- Survey went out in December results are in
 - 100 parents responded and results have been reviewed
 - Teacher and Student results are being reviewed this week
- Topics to address from parent responses
 - Bathroom conditions
 - Bullying and Physical altercations
 - Communications
- Next Steps
 - review teacher and student results
 - collective meeting between all groups
 - build a plan to address topics of concern
- Questions you can reach out to VP N or Leah

5. Admin

- Budget - staff are on the committee
 - Budget can be found on the school website
 - \$160,000 budget for the school year 23/24
 - Some line items (not inclusive)
 - Chairs were purchased to use for the gym (concerts etc).
 - Screen for gym
 - Start up funds for next year (approx \$50 per teacher for supplies)
 - \$10-\$15 per student for distribution materials (pens, papers, folders, bulletin boards, day to day functions)
 - Walkie Talkies were purchased
 - Library - curating collection
 - Phys ed -
- School Improvement Plan
 - Teachers are all being pulled to be a part of the plan process
 - Board has asked for focus on how we are representing marginalized students. Be culturally relevant & responsible.
- Science of Reading work being done
 - Working with Education officer from Ministry Coems twice a week to do mentoring. Develops grade 7 & 8 reading strategies
 - K-Grade 3 teachers took a day to meet with a speech pathologist (Meghan MacIntyre)
 - Phonemic Awareness - Spelliegame.com (2-5)

- Phonics - UFLI Phonics Programme (kindie program)
- Fluency - smalltalk.fm
- Cell phone plan
 - TDSB creating a new policy, current policy is school by school
- Dogs on school property
 - Dogs off leash on the field and in the JK park before/during school is becoming a safety issue. It is an on-leash park. 311 has been called. Asking for the community to call 311 to report so officers will be here to enforce.
 - Dog owners are harassing and bullying when asked to put dogs on leashes.
 - Dog feces coming into the school on shoes.
 - Dog attacks are up 41% in City of Toronto this year, including on TDSB property.
 - Safe and Caring Schools issue - Leah and Reg to connect to bring this to the committee

6. Volunteers

Need parent support to get these off the ground.

- Mini olympics (April) - love of sport, to coincide with olympics coming up. 25 needed, leading up to event and day of event. Contact Laura Crook to volunteer: laura.crook@tdsb.on.ca
- Pollinator Garden - Received a \$1k grant to contribute to the council funds. Volunteers to help co-ordinate further grants and labour in the garden. Email to bowmoresc@google.com
- Carnival (September) - Beginning of year celebration, planning to be done before this school year end. 100's of volunteers are needed leading up to and day of in particular.
- End of Year party - Budget is available for one. Need a volunteer to run it email to bowmoresc@google.com
- Pizza Lunch -
 - Jan 25th: Needs 2 volunteers from 9:30-10:30 to build carrying boxes for grade 1-3 (Jess and team to review young classes to come to lunch room early to eat so they don't have to transport gym and boxes won't be needed)
 - Jan 26th: Need 5 volunteers 11-12:30 to distribute pizza.
- Pancake Breakfast
 - Idea brought up that other schools do it with great fanfare.
 - Would need someone to lead the event in order to actualize