

**Brimwood Boulevard Junior Public School**

4:30pm Tuesday, February 22, 2022

Via zoom

**Board Attendance:** Etienne Mercieca (Principal), Sana Khan (Chair), Nancy Mann (Secretary), Gina Tassopoulos (Teacher)

7 additional video participants

Absent: Simone Dublin

**Meeting Commencement:** 4:36 pm

Welcome message: Sana Khan

**1. Principal Updates**

**Etienne Mercieca**

- Report cards emailed last week; if there are requests to print the report card we are more than happy to do that; we intend to have students download the report cards on the google drive (electronic portfolio of documents)
- Parent teacher interviews were through zoom and the phone
- Many parents needed the support of an interpreter and they are challenging to book

Staffing Updates:

- Parents in French Immersion (FI) stream are aware of staffing challenges, a number of French teachers have been off
- Our French EA was successful obtaining a full-time in another school; TDSB has no available French EAs for hire
- We hired an English EA
- We are often 1-2 supply teachers short each day so we have had to be creative to cover classes, which impacts some areas; there must be a teacher with each class, which is first priority; we've been able to cover supply vacancies one way or another
- Hopefully there will be more supply teachers in the system upcoming, as promised

Extracurricular Activities

- Extracurricular activities are able to resume gradually; there is new government guidance for extracurricular activities; will be voluntary for students to participate in extramural activities during recesses; there will be a schedule sent to parents about these upcoming extramural activities
- Hopefully there will be track and field at our school this spring; currently, only grade 7 up are able to travel to other schools

EQAO Testing

- EQAO will be running again; it gives us a sense of where students are performing; grade levels, IEPs, ESL

- FI students- grade 3 Math EQAO portion is in French; in grade 6 Math and English are in English, English while taught in French
- Government is looking at where the gaps are, given Covid and teacher strike

#### Switch Requests

- Student switch requests are closed now; the school system is not as flexible as one might think (ie. full classes, therefore, no physical space to place students); some classes are over caps
- In the English program from K-3 at Brimwood, there is no physical space for students to go back into the classroom (in-person learning)
- Grade 4-6 English program could potentially accommodate
- FI has space to accommodate (3-5 student spaces)
- The requests will be taken, though it is up to the superintendent

#### Parking

- Preference is parents not to enter through the parking lot; please do not enter into the parking lot; please park and/or drop-off students elsewhere
- Please do not use the bus loop to drop off or pick up children
- The bus drivers have a schedule to pick-up and drop-off at other schools; when there is a delay it has a domino effect for drop-off and pick-up at other schools
- Starting at 8am, there is supervision on the playground; it is better to arrive closer to 8am than bell time (8:10)
- We encourage parents to follow traffic and parking guidelines, to be safe with their driving, drop-off of students; it's better to be late than to be unsafe
- Parents parking on side streets, please mind the orange line. Where the orange line is, there should be no cars parked there. Aside from it being against parking regulations, there is then no space to turn onto the side street when cars are parked in the yellow zone

#### Other Items

- Student/staff screening updated last week; please present the updated tool/sheet; teachers have copies or can be obtained through office; our teachers do not have the technology to use the online app; paper version has been successful

#### Discussion/feedback from those in attendance:

- Traffic situation is becoming dangerous - in front of school on the road, at cross walk and in parking lot
- Lot and parking loop is overused, dangerous, improper parking on road and side streets, dangerous driving such as U-turns and speeding, loading of children into vehicles on road-side
- Is there a possibility to have police/parking enforcement to visit to educate or offer deterrent methods/ticketing?
- Could we form a committee and revisit the crossing guard issue and present this to our elected officials?
- Perhaps there could be student involvement to petition government
- Executive will meet with Etienne to discuss further, form a sub-committee to explore more actions to address this problem

## **2. Outdoor Space/Learning ideas**

**Nancy Mann**

- Thank you to Mr. Mercieca for the outdoor replacement basketball hoop near door 4
- Mr. Mercieca has requested and has submitted for the following items: 2 outdoor benches and triple hoops
- Student participation in any mural design and rock painting
- Garden/planting boxes suggested to be installed
- Portables may be gone by next year, or at least one portable, so more space may be available in the asphalt area
- Line painting of more games/activities on asphalt look the most feasible and could be done as early as this spring
- Brimwood's 50th anniversary year will be in 2025 so that can be taken into consideration for any mural or art design, perhaps might come with some extra budget to mark the occasion
- Using outdoor walls for murals or for attaching anything is challenging due to the nature of the wall, same for indoor walls
- Some proposed enhancements such as line painting and garden boxes may fall under existing budget

Next steps- Executive to meet with Mr. Mercieca to discuss outdoor enhancement plans in more detail and plan for steps to move forward

**Next Council meeting: March 22<sup>nd</sup> 4:30pm**

**Meeting Adjourned: 5:47 pm**