

Gateway Public School Council

Meeting minutes

Meeting date Nov 11, 2024

Principal: Ms.Mikki Hymus

Vice Principal: Marcello Bozin

Location: Teachers staff room, In person

Co-chairs: Sara samdani & Lubna zakaria

School Staff members: Ms.Johnson, Mr.Rahi, Mr.Hames

Treasurer: Mr. Tariq Lada

Community representative: Mehreen Rashid

Parent caregiver and community engagement worker: Mona Khan

School council members attended the meeting: Amir Barlas, Amanda Skinner, Nazerah, Marwa, Raakia Azhar, Farhat Yasmeen, Mazhar, Mohammad Abdul Hatab, and Fatmata.

Minutes recorded by: Faiza Maqbool

Meeting time: 5:30 pm -6:45 pm

Next meeting: Dec 09, 2024

Agenda Item: Elections

Discussion: There are two vacant positions in the Sc. The selection will be done by appointment. If more than two parents expressed their interest, a decision will be made through internal voting using MS/Google Forms.

Conclusion: The names of interested parents will be collected. Elections will be done by Google form.

Action items: The Co-chairs will share the MS/Google forms to vote for nominees.

Agenda item: School statement of needs (SSON)

Discussion: The Co-chairs have asked the members if they want to work on a committee for SSON. The co-chairs and a sub-committee from the parent council will lead the project.

Conclusion: The CO-chairs will prepare and share the M/S Google Form. A meeting with the community engagement officer will be arranged to finalize the submissions, plans, and procedures.

Agenda item: SCIG (School Council Innovation Grant)

Discussion: The Co-chairs have gathered the names of committee members, who will be working on SCIG.

Conclusion: Parent council members will vote for the topic they want to choose for the SCIG project. Voting will be done.

Action items: SC will submit the SCIG application after finalizing the project.

Agenda item: SC fundraising plan

Discussion: A team/committee is made to plan the SC fundraising activities.

Conclusion: ideas will be gathered from all the members and parents to plan the events that involve the community.

Action items: A zoom meeting will be arranged.

Agenda item: Financial Update

Discussion: Mr. Tariq Lada could not attend due to unforeseen circumstances. Sara provided the update on behalf of the treasurer.

Action item: Mr. Tariq Lada will update us on the financial position in the next meeting to budget the fundraisers.

Agenda item: Prayer

Discussion: Jummah prayer was requested by parents to start beside daily prayer.

Conclusion: Jummah prayer will be performed in two sets with two groups of juniors and seniors. SC offered their full support if any volunteering efforts were required to achieve this task. Lubna volunteered to prepare her son too for this task along with other kids. Mr. Rahi commented that he knew a few kids who could take responsibility for this task, efficiently.

Action items: Follow up with Mr. Rahi and Ms. Hymmus on planning and organizing of Jummah prayer under Mehreen Rashid's supervision.

Agenda item: school improvement plan now known as student achievement plan.

Conclusion: course of action discussed.

Agenda item: Winterfest:

Discussion: Winter Fest is scheduled in December. It will be in the morning. Further details will be shared. Members have offered to volunteer.

Agenda item: EQAO

Discussion: As told by the principal there is a dip in numeracy, reading and writing scores. She has further explained that other instruments/tools are also being used in school to gauge students' performance like DRA scores, KAS etc.

Agenda item: Children's Day Nov 20 & Canada History Week Nov 18

Discussion: Ideas are welcomed by parents and council members on how to highlight these important dates in school.

Agenda item: Amanda's project

Discussion: Amanda introduced her project as a part of the fundraising plan. As the detailed project was not shared to the principal and co-chairs beforehand, a detailed review of the project will be done by the co-chairs and SC. The project has a timeline and budget attached/suggested to it. Permission of principal and treasurer will be requested to get clarity on feasibility.

Action items: Co-chairs will discuss with Principal, treasurer and SC members.

Agenda item : Communication, Nazeireh presented her idea to start a new Whatsapp group for communication among SC members.

Discussion: The WhatsApp joining form was not shared with the Co-chairs and principal before the meeting, the Co-chairs expressed their reservations about its implementation

immediately. The decision to create a new WhatsApp with its pros and cons will be discussed in detail with the SC members and a decision will be made through voting in Consultation with the Principal. Advice from everyone will also be requested to get clarity if a new mode of communication is required in the presence of an official TDSB communication strategy.

Action items: Discuss the idea among all members of SC and perform internal voting if the need arises.

- The Principal gave a detailed explanation of agenda topics along with the construction update.
- Amir Barlas proposed an idea about ROBOTICS. Discussions will continue in the next meeting.
- The meeting concluded at 6.40 pm by Sara.

Next meeting: 9 December,2024.