



SAB School Council Meeting Minutes-NOVEMBER 9th, 2020

Attendance-total 25

*Paul Y, Michael K(Principal), *Melissa C-S, Teresa S, Purvi A, Becky M, Sara D, *Corinne F, *Corinne J, Lindsay A, Lindsay S, Amira Kamel-Zia (Vice Principal), Liz B, Antoinette E, Sarah G, Bev M, *Beverley E, Bronwen F, Christine S, James M, *Japmeen J, Melissa B, Michael K, Tammy W, *Tracy S.

*2020-2021 Voting Members

Start time: 6:35pm

Introductions and Welcome from Paul

Approval of Agenda: Michael Kinsey, Corinne Frey

Approval of Minutes: Melissa Churchill-Smith, Purvi Acharya

School Council Voting Member Nominations

We had 13 people self-nominate to be a voting member on the 2020-2021 school council. We have a max of 12, so Purvi stepped out of the voting member role and all those who self-nominated are now a voting member.

These members are:

Paul Younger

Corinne Harper Jones

Japmeen Johal

Tracy Saunders

Lindsay Norman

Beverley Essue

Melissa Churchill-Smith

Corinne Frey

Michael Kinsey

Sara Durbano

Eva Barnes

Sarah Vandervoort

Executive Positions

An email will be put out in the next week for executive positions, which include 2 co-chairs, treasurer and secretary. For a co-chair position they person needs to have previously been in an executive position for 2 years or shadowed.

Fundraising

-difficult year for fundraising, it will be modified and later in the year if any, look at doing some in the 2nd half of the year

-no bazaar

-we need to use our funds up from last year as we cannot carry over any money

-ideas: Flip Give, Indigo (we may have inactive accounts with Indigo and Mabel's Labels)

-Grade 5's: will need a little more help this year as they won't be fundraising. We typically give them \$500.

Meetings

-should we continue to do monthly meetings given the year we will have?

-TDSB requires that we have 4 meetings per school year and we typically do once a month

-we could do every other month and then do a pop-up meeting if required or if it is not working we can return to monthly

VOTE-8 in favour, we will move to every other month in the new year

Chromebook Update

-looking at 60 Chromebooks-issue at the moment is supply chain/demand

- we can get 30 now and the remainder in February
- goal is to have 5 per class
- Dell cost is roughly \$280 per unit, Lenovo vary from \$290 +, but they do have 60 available (\$20,000 + HST)
- Tracy and Corinne to continue to work on this with Mr.Gard to choose the appropriate ones
- look into maintenance as well from manufacturer

After discussion we will move forward with getting half of them now and the other half later

Administration Update-Michael Kanalec

- lunchroom recruiting has worked, and we have new candidates
- Thank you to the new council/parents for their support in screening each day, promoting social distancing, mask wearing, etc.

Staffing

- we have 1.5 office positions, looking to fill these permanently
- Camila has been our temp secretary and we are hoping she moves into the half time position
- we have our full-time position filled by Catherine, who will be joining us from Regal Rd Public School on November 20th
- there are 2 ECE's on extended leaves who still have a few weeks to go and then return

Safe and Caring Schools

- the committee for this meets on November 26th, with Paul Y has the parent rep. Updates to come
- we have been given direction for locker use as we move into the complications of winter weather/gear. There will be a staggered approach in the halls for locker access. This will make transition times longer.

-Please remember to dress for the weather as we will be going outside as much as possible. Fresh air is the best for our learners!

Communications

-Progress reports are going home November 16th

-Interviews will be online or by telephone the week of Nov 16-20th. Link was sent via email

-PARS early French Immersion portal is now open. The deadline is November 27th

-If you require your child's OEN number for the immersion process please contact the office

-Remembrance Day-virtual in the classrooms and hosted by David Hornell school

-Early Literacy Night survey: teachers are planning a night in January, more to come. This night is to create a partnership between home and school. GOAL: To have every child be a reader!

-COVID case in the school: we do not identify the child in our communication home (for privacy). The decision to not shut down the classroom had little to do with Mr.Kanalec, as there is clear protocol governed by the TDSB and Toronto Public Health. When a case is identified an outbreak team is assigned to the school to gather data and they decide which way to do with the class. They work with the family outside of the school as well.

-Thank you to everyone in our community for monitoring their homes closely. We can not drop our guard on distancing and sanitizing.

Teaching and Learning

-Remembrance Day focus on being thankful

-Anti-racism committee is chaired by Amira

-Mantra this year is 'Back to better'-back to a better world from where we were before

-Lots of focus with the kids on mental health. We are seeing mental fatigue with the kids so we are ensuring we offer a safe environment

Questions for Michael

1. School pictures-what's happening? This is the school boards decision. They have 5-7 providers on the approved list and those people have submitted their COVID response plan. These are being vetted by the Health and Safety and Legal team for TDSB. Our provider is Focus on Children-stay tuned, there has not been any messaging as of yet.

-Parents had asked if we could do pictures outside, answer is not a good idea because it is a huge liability, no COVID protocol and the person taking them has to destroy the pictures after 12 months. Many protocols in place so we must be patient as the board figures this out.
2. Parent/Teacher interviews-should the kids be on? In the past our interviews(Grades 1-5) have been student led, but with the interviews being virtual this year it is too hard to do this, so the teacher will be leading. That being said the kids should be present for accountability and be in the loop on expectations from their teacher.
3. Online French Immersion-how can we solve the inequity of online French learning? Background: online Grade 3 french immersion parent was informed that they are not 100% French anymore, they have been given 2 different teachers and are now doing 50% French. Wondering what we can do as it's not equal to those who are attending in person. Answer: Michael not sure where to go with this, but a start would be the trustee Patrick. Some parents have filed complaints. This will most likely not be an immediate fix as French teachers are hard to find.

-Know that the staff will know post covid to bridge this gap that is happening in terms of where there may be a lag in education with the kids online vs. in person

Daycare-Tammy

-also looking into an Anti-Racism committee, will connect with Amira
-playground update: 2 weeks delayed in resurfacing (75% done). They are hoping this week as they ran out of composite rubber

Open Forum

-School statement of needs: this needs to be done by the new executive or a subcommittee. If you want to assist let Paul know.

-Budget: can the teachers use some of their budget towards an extra computer for their classroom? Yes.

-Alderwood library: some teachers would like access to books for certain units for their classroom. The library is looking at opening mid to late November. They will not be opening for book exchange with the school, but staff could take out books for use in the class.

-Meetings: do we continue with the hybrid meeting? If the branch reopens, we may move to only voting members in person and everyone else virtual. We will send an email before the meeting to get a sense of numbers and who can attend so we stick to our numbers.

-Council website: at the moment we do not have one, if there is someone who could volunteer for this that would be great. We could use the same platform or go back to WordPress.

We need to make the minutes available online.

We need someone to help with communication responsibilities, please email the SAB school council if you are interested.

-Virtual students: Michael can now select to send emails to both communities

Question: Can the info about COVID cases be sent to virtual learners/families as well? No as the confidentiality is very strict on who is getting this information. The people in the building are the only need to know people.

-School website: Michael is waiting for the IT department to help as everyone in this department has been redeployed with all the virtual learning.

-Police checks: each year you need to renew your police checks, since a lot of people have missed doing this you can complete this by a) calling Michael and doing it verbally over the phone or b) email Michael and he will send you an email with the correct wording to confirm.

-Sanitization of class with COVID: if you isolate a cohort a deep clean is done. An extra higher level clean is requested by Michael to the custodial staff and they will include things like tabletops, desks and also do high touch surfaces. High touch surfaces are done during the day, and there are surfaces where multiple cohorts are passing by, ie. stairwell, doors, water station, etc.

Inside the class-door handles, lights, sinks, shared rooms are cleaned throughout the day

-Parent night: Purvi to investigate ideas for a virtual night for parents. Some ideas of topics are: mental health, anxiety, numeracy, literacy. We will look at doing a parent survey on what parents would like.

-Mental Health: we use a social worker when needed to support the school.

-Paul to send follow up email to new executive regarding positions available

Next meeting is: Monday, December 7th at 6:30pm