

Sunnylea Junior School Council Meeting Minutes - Wednesday 11 Nov @ 6:30 pm

Attending: Jenni Sirenko; Joanna Downs; Ted Mercer; Julie Bockmann-Mitton; Cathay Gulli (Parent Observer); Diana Alviani; Kelly MacIntosh; Hajni Bowers; Alexandra Smith Sakellis; Gloria Camilleri (Staff); Jackie Stafford (Staff); Jessica Lowes (Staff); Melissa McCready; Manu Singh (Parent Observer); Sima Heyat; Anna Maxfield; Christine Howe; Danna Breadworth; Heather McCourt; Tiffany Kress; Loriann Halliday

1. **Approval of Minutes & Land Acknowledgement** - Tiffany Kress & Loriann Halliday
 - a. Approval of October 2023 minutes - Jenny Sirenko and Alexandra Smith Sakellis
 - b. Approval of November 2023 Agenda - Julie Bockmann-Mitton and Kelly MacIntosh
2. **Election of Open Positions** - Tiffany Kress & Loriann Halliday
 - a. Sima Heyat has accepted the role of D&I committee lead. Looking for co-leads
3. **External Speaker** - Julia Graham from Stonegate Community Healthcare Centre
 - a. Christchurch St James Church Food bank on Park Lawn has seen a 300% increase in clients from before pandemic.
 - b. Can The Council help spread the word that the Food Bank needs volunteers - Open two Wednesdays and one Saturday a month
 - c. Need help with unpacking, packing, deliveries, intake, translation (Ukrainian plus African and Mexican Refugees)
 - d. Also looking for winter coat donations - adult & child
 - e. The CHC also helps with emergency food boxes and offer a Good Food Market where they sell food at cost. The CHC does a fundraiser at this time of year. \$25 donation for a good food box with fresh fruit and veg for one family
4. **Report from the Staff** - Jackie Stafford, Gloria Camilleri & Jessica Lowes
 - a. Halloween - difficult for parents to come to parade and to change the kids at lunch, if not beginning or end of the day. Hoping for first thing in morning.
 - b. Fun Fridays reintroduced - Plan to continue the event with varying formats
 - c. Sports
 - i. Girls Basketball - Tournament at end of November. Practice during recesses, not lunch. Might do a few before or after school practice.
 - ii. Boys volleyball - Tournament - no date yet. Practice during recesses, not lunch. Might do a few before or after school practice.
 - iii. Co-ed Hockey - No tryouts; kids have to play outside of school and have their own equipment.
 - d. Remembrance Day - Two children from each class place poppy on wreath; Friday at 10:30 in school yard
 - e. Report Cards - Tuesday 14 November
 - f. Parent teacher chat - Tried a new online sign-up process, with great feedback
 - g. Staffing Situation - Massive staffing shortage of Educational Assistants (EAs) and Lunch-room attendants.
 - i. Try not to pick-up kids for appointments during lunch hour - try before or after

- ii. Looking for parent volunteers - contact Jackie Stafford if can help. Police check required.
 - h. Parent Library - up and running. Children can take a Parent Library book as well as a regular Library book
 - i. EQAO Testing complete and results being tabulated. Will be shared in Nov
 - j. Food Bank Collection & Clothing Drive for General Mercer School - Still taking donations. General Mercer Principal said a big thank-you. Need more gently used Kid and Adult clothing
 - k. Brad Folley - Taylor Swift event - All the money collected to go to Food Insecurity. Grade 5 class will decide where it gets distributed.
 - l. Holiday Hampers - Will commit to 6 families this year again. Organizers requesting help putting the hampers together. Collection is Dec 14-16
 - m. Kindergarten Yard Renovation timing - evaluation in Spring 2024; will be a couple of years before it's complete
 - n. Holiday Concerts - Each teacher thinking about format for their classroom
5. **Treasurer's Report** - Joanna Downs & Christine McCarthy-Howe
- a. Funding Request: \$1,211 for buses for Roy Thompson Hall Trip - \$1,211 - Approved
 - b. Balance Sheet reviewed
6. **Fundraising & School Spirit** - Jenni Sirenko
- a. Poinsettias this year until Nov 15
 - b. Fresh from Farm are available - need volunteers Nov 23 - 2:30 - 3:30
 - c. Cupcake from Bakesale Giftcards coming
7. **Other Items:**
- a. Traffic Safety - Heather McCourt
 - i. Bloor street bike lanes causing more cars on side streets. If seeing this, please call 311 to log complaints
 - ii. Garbage Collection - Get in touch with Jackie Stafford if you see trucks on roads from 8:35 to 8:55
 - b. Hot lunch updates - Pita Pit - pick-up is mostly by older grades.
 - c. Air quality & CO2 monitors - Continue to pass them around.
8. Close - next meeting is virtual on January 10th, 2024.