



Meeting Agenda & Minutes

MEETING: Central Public School Council

DATE: Tuesday, October 18th, 2022

LOCATION: Central Public School OR Google Meet

TIME: 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Amy Ewing, Shannon Gorr, Tia Winters, Norah, Janine Buisman Wilcox, Simone Butters, Michele Collins, Angela McHolm, Rabiah Rizvi, Natalie Alanglois, James Bryson, Charlotte Butler, Juan Hinojosa, Clare Brown, Carolyn Ross, Insa Primessing, Tristan Brookes

REGRETS: Jennifer JJ Jupp, Noelle O'Brien

Discussion ITEMS

Item #.	DESCRIPTION
1.	Welcome & Land Acknowledgement and Anti-Racism Statement (Tia & Amy)
2.	Approval of Agenda (Motion + approval) - Motion to approve the agenda made by Angela, and was seconded by Simone Motion to approve the minutes made by Tia, and seconded by Janine
3.	Principal's Report (Amy) - Katy Heard is our new Kindergarten teacher. We also have some new EAs. We continue to wait to have other EAs onto our roster. CCAT was completed for the grade 3 students (between October 11th and the 14th). Will forward the results to parents as soon as we get them. Photo Day is this Thursday October 20th. They'll be doing individual photos only, not group photos. This means if someone is away on picture day the photo taken on retake day will still be included in the class composite.



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	<p>Students will be allowed to dress up in costumes for Hallowe'en on Monday October 31st. If you choose not to dress up in a costume you can wear orange & black, or you can wear your everyday clothes. More details will be sent soon.</p> <p>Progress Reports & Kindergarten Initial Observations will be available online as of November 16th.</p> <p>The Junior Cross Country Meet is this Friday October 21st in the afternoon.</p> <p>We have a PA Day coming up on Monday October 24th. There is no school for the students. Staff will be here working on Progress Reports.</p> <p>River Run trips are back! Three classes (grades 4/5, 5/6, 5/6) will be going next week to Shakesperience.</p> <p>Treaties Recognition Week will take place on November 6 - 12th. Indigenous Veterans Day is on November 8th.</p> <p>There will be a Remembrance Day assembly on November 11th.</p> <p>Bullying Awareness prevention week takes place from November 20-26th. It will encourage positivity; it will encourage students to be kind, thoughtful and respectful.</p> <p>Parent-Student-Teacher interview sign-up information will be available along with Progress Report information in mid-November. Parent-Student-Teacher interviews will take place on Friday, November 25th (P.A. Day). The interviews may be a hybrid - with the option to do it in-person or virtually. Parents will sign-up via the online system.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Greening & Outdoor spaces update/discussion (JJ)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Fresh from the Farm update <p>JJ reported to Tia (ahead of our meeting via email) that we sold 155 bundles of veggies & apples via the Fresh from the Farm fundraiser. That's down about 20 bundles from the last time we did the fundraiser in 2019. The bundles are heavy and can't be sent home with the students. So we will need to organize a pickup for parents after school and/or at night.</p> <p>Amy let everyone know that the gym can only be used for part of the pickup time because we have to leave the gym accessible for YMCA's after-school care program.</p>



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	<p>JJ has emailed her contact re: the holiday wreath fundraiser. Deadline is TBA - JJ will let us know. JJ is keeping Simone in the loop so that she can take this fundraiser on in the future.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Brief Treasurer's Report - Tristan - Current balance in council funds</p> <p>Tristan reported that we raised \$3228 from the Fresh from the Farm fundraiser. We get 40% of that total.</p> <p>Sports/Outdoor Equipment Update</p> <p>At our last meeting we approved \$500 for sports equipment. Tia found it wasn't enough so she asked the School Council if she could spend more and received approval. Tia also spent \$200 of her own money. She found some Rubbermaid bins and put them in key areas for the kids to take outdoors for recess. She pumped up all the balls. Tia bought and built a storage rack for the gym equipment.</p> <p>Tia is working on some items that had to be returned so the exact amount of money spent on sports equipment is still yet to be determined. The total was around \$960. Tia will get us the exact total for our next meeting.</p> <p>Angela thanked Tia for all her hard work. She wondered if it was necessary for Tia to use her own funds and should we pay her back. Tia said she was happy to make the donation.</p> <p>Shannon said that the students are appreciative and protective of the new equipment. They are taking really good care of it and making sure it all stays in the play yard. However, the equipment will get well used and some of it will eventually get lost. So she wouldn't be surprised if we get a request for replacement equipment in the Spring. Perhaps we should keep a running list? Dollar store brooms are fine because they will eventually get snapped anyway. Full sized shovels are great for the winter, not just for play, but also for students to help shovel around the school.</p> <p>Some of the items purchased: 6-8 basketballs, tennis balls, nubby balls, quite a few dodgeballs, soccer balls, & footballs, silicone frisbees, 13 hoola hoops and more. There was a request for an itemized list of the equipment purchased. Tia will send it.</p>



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6.	<p>Brief update on sports equipment/recess 'bin' rejuvenation (Tia)</p> <p>See Treasurer's Report above.</p>
7.	<p>Fundraising outlook and plans or future events/community building (Tia & All)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Establish a 'map' for the year (holiday greens, chocolates, Planet Bean)- Community building events (Family games night?, other?) <p>Fundraising Ideas</p> <p>We need to decide what fundraisers we want to do for the year.</p> <p>The funds are always well used. For example, the School Council purchased the playground equipment a long time ago. It requires regular maintenance and will need to be replaced at some point.</p> <p>In the past we've also bought teachers classroom readers.</p> <p>The chocolate fundraiser in the past has been successful. More people bought chocolate than coffee and tea. The coffee and chocolate fundraiser was done in March/April last year.</p> <p>Some other things we've done in the past: silent auction, family games night, winter sing-along in December. We have sold popcorn and other snacks in order to fundraise for the Grade 8 trip.</p> <p>Simone said we need to make sure all kids can participate without having to pay to participate so it is equitable.</p> <p>Natalie mentioned in the chat that at her previous school they always included an option for all activities (like a dance, or pizza day, popcorn) to make an additional donation to ensure that all kids can participate (even if they can't pay the \$5 or whatever it cost to purchase the event/activity - especially if it took place during the school day).</p> <p>Nora said she's seen a successful scavenger hunt & games night that ended in the gym where there was a silent auction. It was a nice way to get to know the school, be a community, and also get some funds. There was no pressure to be part of the auction - but it was there for those who were interested.</p> <p>Tia said that Central's Games Night was usually tied to Family Day in February. And the auction was often in November.</p>



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Rabiah made several suggestions via the chat. She suggested a flea market, craft sale, fun run, dance-a-thon, cake walk, gift wrapping station, multicultural fair, recipe book, or popcorn day. [Rabiah's and others' fundraising suggestions made via the chat are included in full in the Addendum below.]

Nora and Janine discussed a family dance, similar to Rabiah's suggestion of a family dance-a-thon.

Natalie mentioned a monthly pizza day, Booster juice sales, or a dance.

Can we allow families to donate extra money for our monthly pizza fundraiser- so all kids can get pizza even if they can't afford it. Shannon said that this is something we've done in the past for pizza and milk.

Amy said that info should be coming out soon re: our monthly pizza fundraiser. No plans for milk yet.

Shannon said we need to make sure whatever we take on is manageable - especially if the teachers are involved - we need to consider times they are most busy, such as when they are working on progress reports/report cards.

Shannon said that we need a map that includes all of our other commitments such as PA days, progress reports/report cards, parent/teacher interviews etc.

Tia said we also need to keep local events in mind. For example, the Santa Claus parade is usually at the end of November. Do we want to do something in early December?

Angela said that the coffee clutch (free coffee to parents) went over well. Cider for the kids would be great. It was low maintenance. It was no cost for families. However, if it is going to be an outdoor event then doing it in the snow is not so appealing. .

Tia said it is good to try new fundraisers, as well as marry our past successful fundraisers.

Spirit Wear

Tia said the last time we offered spirit wear it was to honor the anniversary of the school. That doesn't involve a lot of work on part of the staff. Two years ago there was an option to donate extra money for spirit wear so other kids could be included. We were able to give out spirit wear to quite a few kids.



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Tia said that one problem with spirit wear is that most companies require a minimum - and we've never been able to meet the minimum.

Angela said we can revisit spirit wear in the new year.

Winter Sing-along: December 1st

Shannon said that the winter sing-along was really simple and cost nothing. It was an hour or less.

Simone wanted to know if the teachers will be involved in the winter sing-along? No - they don't have to be there.

Tia said that the holiday sing-along was non-denominational and a lot of fun.

Nora said it would be nice to do a winter sing-along early so that it isn't happening during the busy winter holidays.

Janine suggested a Thursday for the winter sing-along because there are a lot of work holiday parties on Fridays. Thursday Dec. 1st?

Simone suggested the end of November for the winter sing-along because we're excited about winter but not too busy yet with holiday commitments.

Nora suggested tying the winter sing-along to the wreath fundraiser on Monday November 28th. Angela said that a Monday might be a hard day to do an event. Many families already have commitments.

Janine can't come if the winter sing-along is on a Thursday night. Neither can Michele. But that's ok with both of them.

Angela suggested Thursday Dec. 1st for the winter sing-along. Angela said that 6 or 6:30 is good - not too late at night. Plan for an hour. A half an hour to mingle. Angela made a motion to have the winter sing-along on Thursday Dec. 1st and Tia seconded.

February: Storywalk/coffee/games night

Shannon said she's been wanting to do a story walk for a long time. We could use QR codes where kids read parts of the story, and everyone gathers at the end of the walk. She can get other teachers on board if we're interested.

Nora loves the idea of a storywalk.



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Shannon suggested the storywalk, the coffee clutch, and the games night in one event. We agreed February was a good time for an event and/or fundraiser.

Art Show - Early Spring

Simone said that we'd need the teachers' help for an art show, it would be an event that would happen later in the year. Tia suggested early Spring.

Shannon said we typically have a Spring Open House; we could tie the art show to it.

Fundraising vs. Community Building Events

Angela shared that she has a concern re: fundraising and community building. Community building should be prioritized before we jump back into the next fundraiser. It was great to participate at Open House. What events of our own that will we champion?

Nora wants to know if we can have a fundraiser piggyback on a community event?

Angela said that the silent auction was a social event that was also a fundraiser. It was a successful blend. Social events and fundraisers don't have to be separate.

Janine said we can definitely do more than 4 social events in the year. They can be simple things - like families can meetup in the park for a skate.

Angela said what is the purpose of the School Council - fundraising is one part, but we are also the liaison of the school. In the past we've had 5 events - some big like the auction and some smaller like the winter sing-along.

Because of Covid, families mostly saw us do fundraisers last year because we couldn't do the social events. So many families haven't been inside the school because of Covid. So it is nice to do more events both in-school and easy meetups in the community.

Communication

Shannon said perhaps we need an email list for meetups.

Tia said we have a Central Families facebook page. She recommended that parents email her at: tia.centralchair@gmail.com

However, Amy says there is an official email address specifically for contacting the school council. Amy will look into it and find out what that email is - so we will use



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	that email going forward (instead of Tia’s email) for continuity between the School Council Chairs. Tia said perhaps we can do an email newsletter to help with communication.
8.	Meeting Adjournment (All)

Addendum

Fundraising Ideas brought up in the Chat during the October 2022 School Council Meeting

Rabia suggested the following fundraising ideas:

Flea market: Promote a school-wide flea market where families can bring in items they want to sell from home, such as old books or toys. Consider having specific tables for each type of item to keep it organized with proceeds going to the school or charity.

Craft sale: Encourage children and their parents to get creative and create crafts that the public can purchase. Consider having each classroom come up with an idea that they can contribute.

Fun run: Organize a Fun Run or Fun Walk

Dance-a-thon: Invite students and families to partake in a dance-a-thon. They could collect pledges based on how long they stay on the dance floor! Ensure you have a good playlist of upbeat songs, and consider selling snacks and refreshments for additional cost.

Cake walk: Have volunteers bake delicious cakes for the event. Place the cakes in a big circle with a number on each one. Players walk around the circle to music. When the music stops, the organizer draws a number at random. The person standing in front of that number gets to keep the cake

Teacher charity game: Generate excitement among the students about attending a special sports game that has teams made up of their teachers! Sell tickets to watch the game, and consider having a concession stand. It could be a serious game or something comical.

Teacher charity concert: Round up your teachers for a musical concert for the students! Sell tickets to watch the teachers perform songs – either as a big group or in small groups.

Gift-wrapping station: Around major holidays, advertise a gift-wrapping station where parents and students can bring their unwrapped gifts and have them wrapped for a low cost.



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Multicultural fair: Showcase the many delicious foods and unique talents of your students by hosting an event where students are encouraged to share their cultural traditions with one another.

Recipe book: Have students contribute family recipes and create one school-wide recipe book.

Tia:

These are great Rabiah!

Natalie:

Have any fundraising opportunities been done in the past that is fun for the kids during the school day like a monthly pizza day, or I know Victory PS is having Booster Juice offers to order for the lunch hour once a month. Not sure the pros and cons on these. Is there usually Spirit wear to purchase at some point in the year?

Tia:

Oh wow... thanks Natalie! Yes, spirit wear is something I want to offer this year again.

Rabiah:

Natalie also another one would be a popcorn day, rent a popcorn machine and charge a fee to get on breaks

[Note: **Michele** has a membership at the Guelph Tool Library and can borrow a popcorn machine for free if we book it in time]

Natalie:

Rabiah - those are a lot of great ideas :)

Rabiah:

Thanks, can't take all the credit my partner Shyanne is with me.

For those people that feel that way, could we do a wish list from the classrooms and parents could purchase and donate items?

Rabiah:



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[Re: verbal discussion happening re: teacher involvement in fundraisers] Absolutely! Would definitely only be if the teachers were up for it, had the time and would enjoy it! They do so much work!

Shannon:

Are we able to copy all of these great ideas into our minutes or the 'map' that we're making? That way we don't forget anything.

[Tia verbally notes that she's copied the discussion in the chat and has put them in a Word document.]

Natalie:

Just a note for an approach to try to address equity for some activities that we might plan which costs money but take place during the school day - at my previous school we always included an option for all activities (like a dance, or pizza day, popcorn) to make an additional donation to ensure that all kids can participate (even if they can't pay the \$5 or whatever it cost to purchase the event/activity).

Rabiah:

Great point Natalie :)