

FA Hamilton School Council Meeting
May 19, 2022 ; 6:30pm
Google Meet

Participants who attended the meeting: Catrina Watson, Christine Labelle, Caroline Folkman, Steph deWaard, Liz Martineau, Ryan de Boer, Nathan Adams, Mike and Joyce Poulin, Benjamin Crocher, Jill Mills, Dorothy Doman

Thank you to all the parents who attended the meeting. We had a great turn out. I apologize if I missed anyone, or spelled names incorrectly.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and summary of today's agenda by Catrina Watson.

2. Land Acknowledgement and Anti-racism

A land Acknowledgement statement, an anti-racism and equity statement were shared by Nathan Adams.

3. Principal's update

- April 27 was Office Coordinator Appreciation Day, April 29 was Custodial and Maintenance Staff Appreciation Day and May 16th was OSSTF Support Staff Appreciation Day. Staff and students took the opportunity to say thank you to Mme Wozniak, M. Williams and M. Russell, our school custodians, M. Bobby, our electrician, M. Mike, our carpenter, M. Bill, our Health and Safety Officer, M. Brad and M. Bill, the folks from Maintenance who support our school, as well as Mme Fairchild, our CYC and Mme Muzzy, our EA.
- May 2-6 was Education and Mental Health Week. Our school focussed on the theme of "les super pouvoirs". Everyone has superpowers that they use to help themselves and others. Staff and students shared their super-powers through class discussions, during activities with Learning buddies, over the Google Meet announcements and throughout bulletin board displays in the school.
- Retro Night took place on May 5th. On S'engage leadership students hosted the event. It was a great success. It was wonderful to have families in the building again and we look forward to many more opportunities to spend time together as a community. Thanks to donations, pizza and snack sales, the On S'engage team raised enough funds for their t-shirts as well as to purchase new recess play items for each classroom (approximately \$500). On S'engage students are currently working through the process of preparing the list of items they would like to order for the school. Thank you FAH families for your support!
- Mme Lauriault, a retired UGDSB teacher, joined our Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 1/2 and Grade 2/3 students and staff for short activities which connect the Borel Maisonny (i.e., Bien Lire, Aimer Lire sound acquisition program) to writing. Mme Lauriault is a dynamic instructor and both our staff and students enjoy their time with her. She will soon be moving to the Ottawa area and we wish her all the best in her new endeavours.

- On May 13th, Mme Tipler, M. Devenny and Mme Mui's classes participated in a virtual escape room activity en français. There was friendly competition between the classes and much debate about whether or not using hints is a good strategy.
- Students have been diligently working on the outdoor classroom. The garden beds have been cleaned out and are ready for asparagus (Merci M. Grzesik!) and to plant seeds (Merci aux amis dans la classe de Mme Mansfield). Mulch has been spread and students are currently working on a no mow zone for wildflowers.
- On April 30, a small but mighty team of staff, students and their families participated in Guelph's Community Clean and Green event. Over sixty people participated. Our FAH team cleaned up Hanlon Creek Park.
- On S'engage leaders have choreographed dances for students in JK-Grade 6. The music, as well as the moves, for these dances, incorporate expectations from the Ontario Arts curriculum for Dance. M. Adams has supported both the On S'engage leaders through this process as well as incorporated the dances into his dance program. Students will learn their dances and share with other classes.
- Mme Labelle has submitted our annual OPHEA Healthy Schools report and Mme Yakabuskie has submitted our annual Eco-School report. We will receive updates in June about the results of our certification for this year.
- The Board is in the process of establishing a Multi-Year Plan. For more information, please visit www.ugdsb.ca/myp
- This past week, students in Grade 5 and 6 have worked in the gym with artists Michael Cywink and Gerry Ranger on a "Water is Life - Healing Through Colour" project. The Ontario Arts Council provided funding for this project. Tomorrow, a sharing circle will take place. Once the paint has completely dried, the paintings will be coated with a clear protector and then mounted on the walls of the school. We plan on connecting this project to water in our community, for example, our groundwater as well as the Hanlon Creek.

Classroom Placement Process

- February - projected numbers are provided to the Board.
- March - a tentative organization is shared with the school. This includes preliminary staffing information.
- April-Summer - the school staffing process takes place as per the Collective Agreements
- May - projected numbers are provided to the Board. This could result in changes to staffing and to the tentative organization
- Conversations about class placements are not finalized until late August
- September - actual enrollment numbers are submitted to the Board. Allocations for staffing and school organizations are reviewed. Reorganization may occur.

The District Staffing Committee works at the Board level to ensure that every class in each school meets the Ministry requirements and contractual guidelines for class sizes.

The Preliminary, Tentative Organization for 2022-2023 is: (please keep in mind that this may change if the number of students enrolled in each grade changes)

- 3 Kindergarten Classes
- Grade 1

- Grade 1/2
- Grade 2
- Grade 3
- Grade 3/4
- Grade 4/5
- Grade 5
- Grade 6

Critical Renewal Project Update

Work that has begun:

- Lighting throughout the school and daycare

Work to be completed in the Summer:

- Flooring in main floor hallways
- Rooms 10-11-12 counter and sink
- Front office
- Library
- Washroom upgrades
- Painting in stairwells
- Driveway and parking lot repaving

4. Playground Update (Provided by Mme Labelle)

Current Status from April, 2021 Annual Inspection

- Contractor has completed work
- UGDSB will remove the remaining bar, clean up area this spring-summer

Results from the April 22, 2022 Annual Inspection

Kindergarten Climber Area:

- Chin up bar is not fixed (i.e., rotates)
- Pod Climber - chain rungs are rusted and worn
- Wood playhouse structure - wood posts are splintering, rotting, splitting, damaged

Dome Climber Area:

- Upper Body Equipment (i.e., HOH Rings) - rungs are rusted and worn

Playground Repairs

Quotation to replace the chin up bar, pod climber and HOH Rings- Parcs

- Chin up bar is not fixed (i.e., rotates)
 - Pod Climber - chain rungs are rusted and worn
 - Upper Body Equipment (i.e., HOH Rings) - rungs are rusted and worn
- Various quotes for removal or replacement of various parts were obtained. Council will go over in more detail during the June parent council meeting.

5. Financial Update: Provided by Steph deWaard

Financial Update

Fred A. Hamilton Public School

Financial Summary Date: May 13, 2022

RBC Account Names:	Opening Balance:	Credits:	Debits:	New Balance:	Notes
SC - Fundraising General	\$265.83		\$75.60	\$190.23	(deduction for UGDSB School Council Insurance May1-July31)
SC - Milk	\$264.32			\$264.32	
SC - Playground Maintenance	\$2,900.96		\$206.00	\$2,694.96	(deduction for ParksKreations playground maintenance)
Total Balance:	\$3,431.11			\$3,149.51	

Other Accounts:				
UGDSB Learning Foundation	\$1,169.00	\$1,169.00	\$0.00	(deduction for ParksKreations playground maintenance)
PRO Grant Fund	\$219.04	\$137.30	\$81.74	(deduction for S'engage leadership group)

Spending commitments: ParksKreations playground repairs totaled = \$1553.73 (including 178.75 HST that School Council is exempt from paying)
S'engage leadership group will continue to spend PRO Grant Fund (\$50 for June Trivia)

How much money do we have? 190.23 + 264.32 = **\$454.55**

6. Milk Program

- Now set-up in lunchbox orders
- Milk can be ordered for June 6 until June 24
- Liz and Catrina will manage the first organization after morning drop-off on June 6
- If the process works well, we will create a set of notes to reference next year

7. June Event

- Insurance has been purchased (\$75.80)
- Confirmed Food Trucks: Pete's Grill (an ice cream truck and a possible second food truck was a possibility, but not confirmed)
- Activities: Liz is lead-various activities and crafts were proposed. Some require more supervision, so depending on number of volunteers the specific activities may be tweaked

- Snacks/Desserts table- having additional snacks/drinks sold by council at the event was discussed. It was proposed that we could sell things like chips, drinks, and freezies instead of having a second food truck.
- Silent Auction?
 - Letter is complete
 - Some interest by parent volunteer-Catrina and Caroline and parent volunteers to follow up and see if we can go forward with this

Volunteers are still needed!!!! Please email sc.fahamilton@ugdsb.on.ca if you are able to volunteer some time the day of the event!!!

8. Staff Appreciation

Various ideas were presented. It was decided that anything food related would need to be prepackaged at this time. This eliminated any suggestions of baked goods etc. It was suggested that at the June event, one of the craft stations could have a large piece of craft paper where students and parents could write messages of thanks to the teachers and school staff. Council will go ahead with this initiative.

9. School Council Items in Storage

Steph, Catrina and Liz will go to school on Friday May 20, 2022 at 2:15 to sort through the items the Council has stored in the school. They will take inventory of items we are keeping, and donate/discard items that are no longer needed.

10. Open Discussion

Parent Communications- This is a subject that has been brought up various times during the year, in an attempt to try to easily get important information to parents. There had previously been feedback from parents that the school was sending out too much information. Members on Council shared that many parents seem to feel the opposite, and don't seem to get information reliably. Mme Labelle shares important information via UGConnect, Google Classrooms and the school website. Those would be the first places to check for information. Council wondered if periodic emails to parents for important information could be done. It was proposed that a quarterly newsletter be emailed to parents with important Council info on it. This can be discussed more next year.

Holiday event guidelines- There were some questions about Spirit Day guidelines. Mme Labelle assured parents that holidays and traditions are celebrated, but that the school follows the Board's spirit day guidelines.

September Placement- Mme Labelle went over in detail the process that is involved in building classrooms. Please see the notes in the "principal's update" section of these minutes.

Field trips - A question on whether field trips would be taking place during the remainder of the year this year was asked. Mme Labelle responded that the board has asked that field trips that

require buses be limited at this time, due to the shortage of bus drivers. City track is an exception but the buses cannot affect the morning or afternoon bus routes. It is hoped that next year, field trips can resume. A question regarding the return of DancEd next year was asked. Mme Labelle and M. Adams are planning to have DancEd back next year and a date will be decided upon shortly based on the DancEd team's availability.

11. Next meeting

Catrina proposed that we have a meeting June 16, 2022 at 6:30pm. It would be a shorter meeting to focus on playground repairs. An additional meeting in June was approved by Council.