



**Gateway Drive School Council**  
Meeting Minutes  
October 18th, 2023 6:30pm

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**Attendance**

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Sheena Grinwis	Jen Thomas	Tasha Trebell
Natalie Leeming	Janna Roberts	Kristen Bustamante
Lisa Petryschuk	Catherine Thurston	Shannon Hause
Ashley Schadenberg	Dinara Banev	Meghan Lewis
Nicole Carnegie	Natasha LeBlanc	Shakur Blagrove
Lisa Pinazo Medeiros	Shannon McLean	Imesia Ewan

- Introductions around the table
- Approval of Minutes
  - No changes to minutes
  - Minutes posted to school website each month for review

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**Principal Update**

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- Lots of sports happening in the school (soccer, hockey, etc), and the kids are all representing us very well!
  - PA Day coming up on October 27th. Staff will be participating in workplace violence training, and also working on report cards.
  - Quote came in for tuning up brass and wind instruments at \$3560, still need to find someone to look at string and percussion instruments. Sheena has applied for a \$1000 grant, and the school is able to contribute \$1000, we still need \$1560. Ashley motioned for School Council to cover the remaining amount, Dinara seconded. Unanimous decision to cover the gap and move forward with instrument maintenance. Meghan suggested Mr. Reeves and Mr. C have a look at string instruments. Mr. Mather looking into getting the strings repaired.
  - Email to come out shortly about Halloween re: what types of costumes are acceptable to wear to school (no depictions of violence, cultural appropriation, etc). Families will also be reminded that distribution of treats will not be allowed, as there are many allergies/food restrictions in the school.
  - EQAO results are in, and they are overall quite low.
    - Grade 3 (31 of 30 students)
      - Reading - 36.7% below standard, 63.3% at or above
      - Writing - 50% below standard, 50% at or above
      - Mathematics - 66.7% below standard, 33.3% at or above
    - Grade 6 (20 of 24 students)
      - Reading - 29.2% below standard, 70.8% at or above
      - Writing - 29.2% below standard, 70.8% at or above
      - Mathematics - 88.3% below standard, 16.7% at or above
- 49% of our students are sitting below the Provincial standard, 51% at standard  
-The grade 6 students were graded on the new math curriculum, which most are not familiar with. The Ministry has named our school a math priority and has assigned us a

math facilitator, who will be available to the entire school.

-Since the grade 6's did not write EQAO in grade 3, there is no comparison to look back on.

-All results are public on the EQAO website.

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### Treasurer Update

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- Account Balance: \$16,067.78 (School Council and Learning Foundation combined)
- Our goal for Phase 2 of the greening project is \$26, 000
- We are hoping to get the school board grant, which would put us at roughly \$20, 000
- We need to look at what our fundraising initiatives for the school year

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### Chair Update

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- Discussed sub-committees and how we can effectively work together to get info out to our school community. Committee meetings once arranged should be communicated to the whole school community, and the school could be available for use if needed. We have decided on 3 committees
  1. Fundraising (Lead assigned for each event)
  2. Eco Committee - Meghan to lead
  3. Communications - Ashley to lead
- School website is quite out of date. Ashley to assess and come up with some ideas to refresh and add new/relevant information.

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### Discussion Items

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- Tasha inquired about Run and Read program coming back in person, not just virtually. Sheena to look into.
- In regards to the replacement trees for the front of the school, we are waiting to hear back from the City on getting locates done. Meghan has about 6 trees to donate that can be planted when we are given the green light.

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### Events & Fundraising

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- Halloween Dance-a-Thon is happening on Oct.31st during the school day
  - In the past there have been very differing opinions on how prizes and fundraising should be handled for the dance. To address inequity, there will be no fundraising prizes or small gifts given out this year. Families are encouraged to fundraise in support of various school initiatives if they are able to/wish to.
  - If parents would like to volunteer at the dance, an up to date criminal records check with the vulnerable sector is required (info to be shared with families via email)
  - Teachers have requested longer time slots for the dance this year. Schedule to be made (combining classes for more time to dance).
  - Discussion about picture taking at the dance. Please do not take pictures of any child except your own if volunteering. Possibility of teachers using a board device for pictures of the dance to be shown only within the school.
- Spirit Wear
  - We are using the same company as last year. \$2 from each item sold goes to the school.
  - Advertising and sales to begin any time now. 2-3 week turnaround on merchandise.
  - We will set up a time and date for families to pick up orders. Deadline to order is

November 10th, and we will open up the website for more spirit wear purchases sometime in the spring.

-Discussion about whether we would be able to sponsor families possibly down the road to make spirit wear more equitable within our school community.

- Krispy Kreme

- sales will open November 6th , and run until November 23rd (or until we sell out).

-Nicole will be picking donuts up the morning of November 29th. The gym is booked to use for distribution.

- Winter Market

-Scheduled for December 19th

-Letter to go home to families requesting donations of small crafts/homemade items

-Suggestion will be made to teachers to possibly have their classes make some items for the sale as well.

- Winter Sing-a-Long

-Date TBD

- Family Day Skate

-Nothing booked as of yet. Looking into booking an arena.

Adjourned at 8:30pm

**Our next meeting will be Wednesday, November 15th, 2023.  
New members are always welcome!**