**School Council Meeting**

Grand Valley & District Public School

October 7th, 2021

7:00 – 8:00pm

Location: Virtual Google Meet (Link provided via email)

1. **Welcome and introductions**

In attenance (*ALPHABETICAL)* : Dan Ardis (Principal), Krista Buchta, Marhsa Ellis, Sam Evans, Lindsay Gibson, Corina Mcartney, Nina Mirabelli-Martin, Mark Martin, Klaudia Mirska, Kerry Morrison, Jean Omuruli, Amy Steele, Jess Walt, Shannon

1. **Land Acknowledgment**

Presented by Krista Buchta

* Acknowledge the land and some of the school’s commitment to anti-racism
  + Continue to listen and learn to be a better ally, and to fully grasp what role I can play to support the work needed to dismantle racism and colonialism.
  + Acknowledge the land (the 6 Nations of the Grand River), the people who came before us and the people that still reside in this territory.
  + Commitment to learn, know better and do better

1. **Election process and procedure**

* Ballot and voting must be done virtually this year
* Suggested Modification – identify nominated candidates, make sure they accept nominations then go to voting procedure.
  + In the case of multiple nominations for a single role, a silent/secret ballot procedure is required
    - Google form has been created to collect votes
    - Unfortunately, form is not anonymous to Dan (who is validating the votes) but anonymous to voters

**Jess makes motion to approve new voting procedure for virtual environment. Lindsay Second.**

* Current disconnect between current virtual meetings and bylaws (created before COVID)
  + Nomination form sent out and received for community representative include individuals with children attending the school which doesn’t follow current by-laws that states that community rep be a member of the community who does not have a child attending the school (to maintain objectivity)
* 11 Nominations came in (some duplicated) – tonight’s focus is on Executive member positions
  + Corina Mcartney and Amy Steele – Community Rep
  + Kerry Morrison and Marsha Ellis – Secretary
    - Marsha Ellis withdraws nomination for secretary due to internet connectivity problems.
  + Klaudia Mirska – Chair
  + Noman *Hassan Khan* – Chair and Voting member
    - Not present in meeting so cannot acknowledge nomination for Chair
  + Melody Scarlet and Christina – Voting members
    - Not present in meeting

**Mark nominated for Co-Chair. Seconded by Jess. Nomination accepted by Mark**

**Corina nominated for Treasury. Seconded by Mark. Nomination accepted by Corina**

**Amy nominated for Chair by Nina. Nomination declined by Amy.**

* + Amy – voting member
  + Jess – Voting member
  + Marsha – Voting member
  + Nina – Voting Member – member at large – still part of council not in executive position

*\*note any parent that attends at least 4 meetings is considered a voting member*

* Fundraising chairs and Year-book committee will be discussed in next meeting
* Appointed Executive Members:

Chair – Klaudia Mirski

Co-Chair – Mark Martin

Secretary – Kerry Morrison

Corina Mcartney – Treasurer

Community Rep TBD at next council meeting

**Motion to extend current Parent Council meeting an additional 10 minutes. Approved by Chair (Klaudia).**

1. **Principal Report**

* Student enrollment
  + 360 students (brick and mortar)
  + 9 students remote
  + 15 classrooms
  + 332 students enrolled in June
    - additional registrations = classroom re organization
      * kept 15 classrooms but move around at least 40 students (splitting 2 classrooms)
  + students will not be switching to and from remote
  + there will be 16 classrooms next year
* Air quality and monitoring
  + Industrial grade HEPA filters have been placed in all classrooms this year and run continuously
  + Air quality monitoring conducted in the building (monitors CO2 levels)
    - No issues reported to date.
    - Further details of Air Quality management posted on school website
* Covid protocols and updates
  + No active cases in school so far
  + Parents are screening daily and keeping kids home when necessary
  + Continuing to run 2 staggered breaks
    - Every class has their own mask free recess zone
    - There are also shared areas in the yard where kids can mix and mingle but must wear masks
      * Students are choosing to go into mixed zone and are using masks
    - Slowly opening options for leadership and clubs (limited fashion)
      * Lunch helpers – for the kinder and younger classes
      * Library helpers will be starting with Ms. O’Shea
      * Eco class – starting next week
        + Put garden beds to rest and drafting plans for spring plating - to connect with eco school goals
    - Students are getting mask free time
      * Outdoor learning spaces with class cohorts
      * Forest being used as a learning space
* CCAT testing
  + Screening process for “giftedness”
  + Grade 3 and 4 with parent consent
    - Usually done with just grade 3’s but because it was missed last year grade 4’s students are included
* Parent teacher interview
  + Scheduled for November 27th, 2021
* Progress Report
  + Will be coming home November 20th, 2021
* Construction
  + - All Interior renovations are completed except for some interior/exterior door upgrades
      * Waiting on delayed material
    - Work will be done outside class time (evenings and weekends)
    - Outdoor construction is completed except for area in the front where seed did not take (contractors will come back to remediate)
    - Draining issues were addresses - winter this year will be good
* Halloween
  + Orange and black day – no costumes
    - No treats (school has to be mindful of nutrition requirements, covid procedures and cultural equity)
    - Classrooms will celebrate in different ways
* Walk to school month (October)
  + - Encouraging students to walk/ride/scooter
    - Designated rack area (south entrance)
* Forest walkway
  + Open through October (weather permitting)
    - No winter clearance and maintenance during winter months
* Bus Loop
  + Encourage families to use drop of section (north and south of school)
  + Keep vehicle out of bus look between 8:15-8:35 and 2:45-3:15
    - Work in progress

***QUESTION:*** *Wondering if there is a policy in place for mandatory vaccination for staff? Has there been any difficulty achieving that goal -- of having all staff fully vaccinated?*

***ANSWER****: Late Auguste there wasn’t mandatory vax – moved quickly to mandatory vaccine – all staff have proof of vaccination/testimony of vaccination status. Anyone who’s not, has to default to mandatory testing process. We do have emergency staff come in and supply teacher and support who sign off on attestation form on vaccine status. There are still exceptions (accepted legal reason) they must sign off on their status and get biweekly testing and training on protocols of how to be safe.*

1. **Teachers Report**

* Staff are excited to start booking Scientist in the Classroom
  + Thank you to parent council for setting aside funds last year to make that happen
* Last week was a busy week
  + Terry Fox Run
  + Rowan’s Law Day – purple shirt day
  + Truth and Reconciliation week
    - Orange shirt day / Virtual Orange Shirt Day Assembly
      * Many classes participated in some of the live presentations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada

1. **Treasurer's Report**

* Consolidated council money to general account
* Set aside funds for Scientist in classroom (last year)
  + Create budget line to reflect this at next council meeting
* Account broken into 4 budget categories (misc. fundraising, general, milk, pizza)
  + Float funds left in accounts to kick start fundraisers this year (if they happen)
* One outstanding item for a late grad gift order made in the summer to still come out

1. **Adjournment**

**Next meetings:**

**Thursday November 11th, 2021 at 7pm**

**Thursday December 9th, 2021 at 7pm**

***QUESTION:*** *Is it possible for executives to meet in person (if comfortable)?*

***ANSWER:*** *Unfortunately, not in the school as that isn’t allowed (due to COVID) – only essential staff allowed in the building– but If executives were to meet elsewhere then broadcast virtually to the everyone else then that shouldn’t be a problem.*