

Meeting Minutes November 16th, 2023

Land Acknowledgement, Anti-Racism Statement and Meeting Norms

Introductions

Sarah Spears, Shelby, Lindsay, Anna, Jess, Celine (CYC), Katie, Lindsay, Krista Buckta, April Romanelli, Carla

Celine (What is a CYC)?

CYC (Child and Youth Councillor)- works for social/emotional needs to support student success

-helps with programming for proactive approaches

-uses MooZoom for SEL in Grade 1-6 classrooms

-chooses a clip on a different emotion, provides a reaction option for students to look at various emotional reactions to situations (e.g., rejection)

-Wellness Works is an UGDSB program where we have done Connection and Empathy so far

-is here 2 days a week- one day is in classrooms and one day is with individual students

-incorporates the Wellness Works themes into social skills groups

-Brig Bothers, Big Sisters in School Mentoring

-Go Girls! Program by BBS

-Bullying Awareness presentation

-Grand Valley Playdays (recess team building and mentorship activities)

Questions

-Why "Go Girls"? Offered by BBBS for only female-identifying girls in Grade 5ish

-used to be run by Family Transition Place

Microaggressions (Buckta)

- Younger children were touching a student's hair (black student with natural style), older students were making generalized comments (why does it look that way or look different)
- Presentation created about microaggressions for staff
- It is an every day, subtle, intentional or unintentional interaction or behaviour that communicates some sort of bias towards historically marginalized groups
- Created simple activities based on the books to be able to have students look at personal boundaries, hair, etc
- The microaggressions in the school are not often intentional, but students just do not understand the situations or how to approach things
- Teaching boundaries and respect is helpful is having students stop "othering" students who are different from themselves
- *Dialogue about how to support students at home*
- The big idea is allow ALL students to feel included, comfortable and safe in their environment

EQAO Scores From June 2023

- Grade 3 reading scores slightly below provincial average. Almost 40 percent level 1-2 (10% higher than board/province)
- Grade 6 reading scores– 85% at or above grade level (similar to the provincial/board averages)
- Grade 3 writing scores are slightly lower, but very close to board/provincial averages (~60% at or above grade level)
- Grade 6 writing scores– ~90% at or above grade level
- had put in phonemic awareness practices 1-8 last year. Intermediates reported a huge increase in writing abilities last year.

- Grade 3 math, 50% meeting grade level (55% board level and 60% as a province)
- Grade 6 math, 40% at grade level (lower than the board by 4 percent and lower than the province by 2 percent)
- provincial issues with this- lack of focus on math (focus in on literacy), and COVID related schooling issues
- math lead will be coming to the school to work with the Grade 3 teachers
- as a staff, looking at high yield strategies to work with students
- one of the number one predictors of a students success in math is how they understand a number line
- will be a staff/school focus on number lines with each student getting a number line to learn how to tie back numeracy and other math strands back to lines
- creation of small groups for numeracy to help students work on their gaps

Question- how accurate are the scores?

Answer- it is the data we get and it as accurate as it can be, so we will use it to guide our next steps

Discussion- some students might rush through, some have diverse needs, etc

Cookie Fundraiser

- frozen cookie dough from today until November 30th
- opens today
- will be either pick up at the school or delivery by your child
- Delivery is December 14th
- will be advertised in the GV moms group, newsletter, etc

Breakfast Program (Food and Friends)

- Thanks to Lindsay Good for her role
- Lindsay is moving (has done it for 6 years)
- Katie will be taking over the program
- It runs all day long. It is a snack bin with things like cheese, yogurt, crackers, muffins, fruits, granola bars, etc

Parking on Agricultural Centre Track

- The arena allows us to use their parking lot, but some parents are parking in the field itself
- For safety, please do not drive in that area and have students walk on the sidewalk

Principal's Report

- Many things are up and running with more to come
- Kindergarten Play Yard has been a success with fencing. It has been very well received. It helps with supporting all students
- Winter Dance December 15th, 2024 (each grade will go one grade at a time)
 - Grade 7 and 8s will be collecting the students and returning
 - Will be donating to the food drive during the dance (bring non-perishable items)
- Potential spring dance
- Book Fair volunteers still needed (contact Mrs. MacDonald)

Volunteer Opportunities

Cut laminating