

John Black Public School - School Council Minutes

Date: Thursday, September 15th 2022

Time: 6:30pm

Location: John Black Public School Library

Chair: Melissa Mulligan & Carrie-Ann Nind

Treasurer: Catherine Shelton-Galdes

Secretary: Shared Responsibility (September – Catherine Shelton-Galdes)

Principal: Sarah Schoettler

School Members Present: Sarah Schoettler, Luke Kordupel

Council Members Present: Melissa Mulligan, Carrie-Ann Nind, Anneke McCabe, Natalie Dorie (virtually), Sarah deLange, Jessica McClennan, Tara Darroch, Kerri Cavell, April Albano, Cassidy Fair, Melissa Cornell, Catherine Shelton-Galdes,

Regrets: Rami Kridli

Minutes	Action Items
<p>1. Meet and Greet, Introductions and Regrets Everyone in attendance introduced themselves briefly and an attendance sheet was passed around.</p>	
<p>2. Principal's Report Land Acknowledgement: The grade 3s at John Black have learned that the Haudenosaunee {ho-da-ne-show-ne} people lost their land in upper New York when they fought for the British in the American Revolution. Sir Frederick Haldimand {hal-de-mand} gave the Six Nations people 10 km on both sides of the Grand River, this includes where our school is now, in thanks for their help in the war. Today the Six Nations only have 4.6% of their original land grant because the rest was either sold or stolen.</p> <p>Covid Update: Our direction from the board is that we are back in business as it was and it has been so great to interact and be back to how it was prior to Covid. This does mean that we are continuing to encourage parents to use the Covid Screening tool if their child is sick and to stay home until better. If a student or staff member does have covid, they can return if they are feeling better but are to continue to wear a mask for 10 days from the day of symptoms as it is still contagious.</p> <p>Staffing Update: This year we have grown over 20 students. With this our numbers are higher than last year and we are in the midst of reorganizing classes this week. Changes include balancing the kindergarten classes as Mr. Hepburn's class grew to 31 students. We will be gaining an additional ECE who will work with Ms. Weaver's class. Our grade 6/7 class will be changing to a straight 7 and our grade 6's will be moving into the 5/6 and straight 6. This movement has affected our junior and primary classes and so a few students will be moving from each class which has resulted in the grade 2 becoming a 2½. We know that change can be difficult for students and families, though I'm confident we can support our students through this shift and build the resilience in our students.</p> <p>New staff hired over the summer are: Holly Ekerich who is currently teaching the 6/7</p>	

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Nicole Berger who is teaching french for Ms. Angst while on maternity leave
Colin Hepburn who is teaching in Kindergarten and
Trish Keiswetter who is the ECE in Mr. Hepburn's class.
Ms. Cooper is back as ECE in Ms. Weaver's kindergarten class

We are off to a great start at John Black. Our students and staff are settling in quite well and have been spending time developing their class community, learning about each other, building class norms and getting used to school routines. I ran an assembly on Friday where I read the book All are Welcome to the whole school, reviewed school rules and reminders around the use of personal devices, student safety and Ms. Mooney reviewed the rules for Gagaball. The students loved being all together in the gym, so much so they clapped after Oh Canada and clapped when Ms. Mooney was called up to review the rules. The students themselves were focused and engaged the entire time. It was a great end to the week.

Updates to Nutrition break routines: I have adjusted the recess and lunch times so that all students in the building are eating at the same time and are outside at the same time. We are back to designated areas for each division which gives students their own space and prevents issues between the different age groups. I.e. Primary's are in their own area, not around the older students. It's working really well and the kids have adjusted seamlessly.

Gagaball is a huge hit! The best part of it all is that many students can play at the same time allowing for large groups to play. We are rotating the use of it by having Juniors access it for a full week then intermediates the next. A big thanks to our council for raising the funds for this great addition to our yard.

Lunches: To reduce waste, we are once again promoting **boomerang lunches** and so students do come home with any wrappers from their lunch. We are back to fully recycling and composting so food waste is no longer in our garbage cans. Thanks to Ms. Matheson who continues to run a great program. She is also starting up Food and Friends this week so classes will have access to the snack bins. She is also going to be planning salad days again and to maintain healthy hygiene, we will have designated student servers. Thank you to our parents for helping our school to remain eco-friendly!

Staff Professional Develop to continue building our capacity with Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression teaching and learning - This year, we will be building a common language and understanding with the book **Respond and Rebuild**. It is written by the Teacher's union ETFO and there are only lessons for every grade demonstrating how to embed anti-racist and oppressive teaching into curriculum based lessons.

UGDSB Student Census: The student census is being shared with parents starting next week. The UGDSB Counts Student Census is a confidential and voluntary online survey. We will ask questions about:

- first languages
- indigeneity
- ethnicity/cultural origins
- racial background
- religious/spiritual affiliation
- gender
- sexual orientation

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- disabilities
- citizenship
- socio-economic status

The Ministry of Education requires school boards to collect identity-based student data. This is in order to **“identify and monitor racial disparities in order to eliminate systemic racism and advance racial equity.”**

The census data will be joined with information we already collect for research purposes (e.g., attendance, student achievement, credit accumulation, graduation rate, suspensions/ expulsions/ exclusions, special education services, and academic/ extracurricular program participation).

Communication: Our school website and email through school messenger are the two main forms of communication I use to share pertinent information with our families. I will also share recorded messages through school messenger to connect with families in that manner as well. The John Black Twitter account is another space used to recognize days of significance, retweet board and transportation messaging as well as sharing highlights of school events and classroom learning. Check us out on Twitter - @JohnBlackPS

September Open House: Our open house is on Thursday, September 29th. Reorganization will be over and parents will have the opportunity to meet the teacher, see the classroom and the school. It will be a wonderful night!

Terry Fox - We are considering doing the Terry Fox run on the morning of the 29th. We will be talking about it at our Directions meeting next week. More information will be shared when details are worked out.

Extracurriculars - Luke will share more!

World Teacher’s Day - October 5th

3. Teacher’s Report

We have had a great start at John Black! We as teachers are happy to be able to offer extra curriculars and services for the students around the school. We are thrilled that so many of our students are signing up and remaining engaged!

Here are some of the highlights happening in each division.

Junior

Green team

Snack bin

intramural soccer

Cross Country

Intermediate

GSA

Announcers

Cross country

intermediate football

Kindergarten helpers

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Office helpers
Rock band/music club

4. School Council Elections

Carrie-Ann and Melissa volunteered to be Co-Chairs of the School Council for a second year, Catherine as Treasurer for a second year, Anneka and Jessica agreed to share the role of Secretary. A motion was put forward to accept the volunteers into these roles, all in attendance voted and the motion passed.

Discussion was had about Voting vs. Non-Voting members. Voting members are required to attend a minimum of 6 (two-thirds) of the 8 meetings planned for this year. This requirement is in place to achieve quorum, so motions can be brought forward and voted on at meetings.

5. Financial Report

BANKING ACTIVITY for the 2021/2022 School Year			
	Income	Expense	Balance
Opening book balance May 28, 2021			\$ 7,706.77
Phys Ed. Equipment (Gatorskin balls & floor hockey)		\$ 459.15	
Retirement Plaque for Principal Gossling-Spears		\$ 96.05	
Chromebooks for Learning Commons		\$ 2,082.00	
Fall Fundraiser (SchoolCash Online and cash)	\$ 2,685.00		
Fall Fundraiser Ice Cream Bar Prizes		\$ 181.88	
Community Fund (Paid Out)		\$ 390.95	
DPA/Recess Equipment		\$ 500.00	
Teacher Appreciation (cookies&coffee in staff room)		\$ 46.50	
Sled-a-Thon (SchoolCash Online and cash)	\$ 6,791.25		
Sled-a-Thon Prizes & Ice Cream		\$ 236.21	
Appreciation day gifts for custodian, principal&admin.		\$ 55.00	
Grade 8 Graduation 2022		\$ 500.00	
Community Fund - close out fund with Walmart gift cards to school		\$ 109.05	
Chromebooks		\$ 7,000.00	
Popsicles for Playday		\$ 43.92	
* Kindergarten, Primary, Junior & Intermediate Wish lists *		\$ 1,166.16	
Totals:	\$ 9,476.25	\$ 12,866.87	
Balance as of June 27, 2022			\$ 4,316.15

FORECASTED INCOME & EXPENSES:			
	Income	Expense	Balance
Balance as of June 27, 2022			\$ 4,316.15
* Kindergarten, Primary, Junior & Intermediate Wish lists *		\$ 497.98	
Used ski equipment		\$ 500.00	
Gaga Ball Court		\$ 4,000.00	
September 2022 Open House		\$ 800.00	
Contingency Fund (Hold until needed-playground repairs etc.)		\$ 1,000.00	
Upper Grand Learning Foundation:			
Fall Fundraiser (in UGLF account)	\$ 144.38		for Gaga Ball
Sled-a-Thon Fundraiser (in UGLF account)	\$ 844.25		for Gaga Ball
Donation SM Polymers (in UGLF account)	\$ 2,000.00		for Gaga Ball
Sled-a-Thon 2019 Fundraiser (in UGLF account)	\$ 388.00		for Chromebook
Totals:	\$ 3,376.63	\$ 6,797.98	
FORECASTED BALANCE			\$ 894.80

* Wish Lists consist of:
 Kindergarten (number sense tool, magnet building set etc.) - \$ 244.51
 Primary classes (STEM supplies, leveled readers etc.) - \$ 395.50
 Junior classes (science materials) - \$ 563.87
 Intermediate Classes (HDMI microscope, slides etc.) - \$ 460.26

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<p>Bank Balance as of September 13th, 2022 is \$4,316.15 Plans for the September Open House have been cut back, forecasted expense has been reduced from \$800 to approximately \$100-\$200</p>	
<p>6. Planning a. Student / School Day Enrichment Meal Days - 131 responses to the Subway/Booster Juice survey were received in June. ‘Very likely to order’ responses totalled 104, ‘not very likely’ responses totalled 27. This is enough interest to run the program. Since the school will be offering pizza days on Monday and Friday, Subway and Booster Juice will rotate on Wednesdays. Two smoothie sizes will be made available. Unlike previous years, leftover smoothies will not be stored in the school freezer.</p> <p>b. Social Events September 29th Open House - Families will be able to order whole pizzas in advance through SchoolCash Online. Cost for a medium (8 piece) pizza is \$10.50, sell for \$12. School Council will provide juice boxes at no charge. 6:30pm start. Suggest bringing picnic blankets to eat outside on the lawn, if it rains families can move into the gym. Fire services has offered to park their fire truck outside.</p> <p>Halloween / Costume Dance - Suggested date for the Costume Dance is Thursday, October 27th. There are no PA days on a Friday in October so a suggestion was made to run the dance from 6:00 - 7:30, which is shorter than previous years. Since this is a School Council event we’ll need to purchase insurance.</p> <p>c. Fundraising Deferred until the next meeting.</p>	<p><i>Catherine to coordinate meal days with the school.</i></p> <p><i>Melissa to request a fire truck and purchase juice boxes for Open House.</i></p> <p><i>Carrie-Ann to spearhead the dance committee. Catherine to look into insurance.</i></p>
<p>7. New Business (Round Table Input) Facebook - Sarah has been managing the School Council Facebook account and wondered if people wanting to solicit their services was permissible. It was decided that it wasn’t. Comments requesting a service can stay. But allowing people to “advertise” may be seen as an endorsement. It was suggested a note be added on the Facebook page to inform people that posts selling services will be removed.</p> <p>PIC Parent Involvement Committee - Carrie-Ann explained what PIC was to anyone unaware and shared the upcoming meeting date. Parent Involvement Committee Meetings (PIC), 7pm Oct 26th (changed from Oct 24th) Nov 28th Jan 30th Feb 27th March 27th May 29th</p> <p>Virtual vs. In Person Meetings - Many prefer in person School Council meetings. In order to accommodate all, it was decided meetings would alternate between in person and virtual. Future meeting dates are:</p>	

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School Council Meetings, 6:30-7:30pm Sept 15th - in person October 6th - virtual November 3rd - in person January 12th 2023 - virtual February 9th - in person March - no meeting April 6th - virtual May 11th - in person June - social	
8. Meeting adjourned 8:10pm Next Meeting – Thursday, October 6th - VIRTUAL	