

John Black Public School – School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: February 9, 2023

Time: 6:30pm

Location: Online due to bad weather

Co-Chairs: Melissa Mulligan & Carrie-Ann Nind

Treasurer: Catherine Shelton-Galdes

Secretary: Jessica McClennan

Principal: Sarah Schoettler

School Members Present: Sarah Schoettler, Luke Kordupel, Jason Swan

Council Members Present: Melissa Mulligan, Carrie-Ann Nind, Anneke McCabe, Rami Kridli, Natalie Dorie, Melanie Novak, Catherine Shelton-Galdes, Melissa Cornell, Kerri Cavell, Jessica McClennan, Cassidy Fair, G. Dhanjal

Regrets:

| Minutes | Action Items |
|---|--------------|
| 1. Welcome, Introductions and Regrets Agenda approved by Jessica McClennan, seconded by Catherine Shelton-Galdes | |
| 2. Review and Approval of January 2023 Meeting Minutes Approved by Rami Kridli, seconded by Anneke McCabe. | |
| 3. Principal's Report Rock Climbing: Big thanks to Mr. Kordupel for organizing a week full of Rock climbing in the gym here at John Black. There were very few students who didn't participate and teachers shared how much their class enjoyed the experience. With this feedback, Mr. Kordupel will be pre-booking for the last week of January next year. To help cover the cost, we were able to use the ministry learning opportunities grant to support outdoor education allocated to our school at the amount of \$2400.00 which was approximately half of the cost, bringing down the overall cost per student significantly. Take Care of Yourself Day: This week is Children's Mental Health Week and so in addition to the daily positive messaging and the "You are not alone" initiative lead by our student wellness team (supported by Jen Dykstra our CYC), Mrs. Mooney and student council have planned "Take care of yourself day" which will take place during the middle block on February 14th. Students will rotate through various wellness activities designed to support the mental wellness of our students and to give them a break in their day. This is an initiative that the students came up with themselves. As a take away, I have purchased a sensory calming strip for each student. We are really looking forward to this day. February is Black Heritage, Black Brilliance and Black Futures month: Teachers are engaging students in celebrating the culture, innovation and contributions of black Canadians. Our board has provided a rich calendar of opportunities and resources for teachers to access with their students and this week we had a presentation by Tracey Cains called And Then it Happened where she shared the history of her family who were enslaved and found freedom through the underground railroad. She used her voice to share music and engage the students - it was very informative and wonderful to learn through her family history. On February 16th, the African Inventors Museum Exhibit will be set up in the LLC and each class will have the opportunity to visit the exhibit, learn about African inventors. Belal Taha, our superintendent, has funded this opportunity for our school as the CW Black Committee found this exhibit and hoped for schools in the area to have the opportunity to enjoy it. during Black Heritage month. | |

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Term 1 Report Cards

Our teachers have done a great job writing their reports. Parents/Guardians can access Report cards and IEP's on February 16th.

4. Teacher Report

Junior

Starting soon will be junior basketball intramurals, yoga, and dance club.

Skills Canada will also soon be beginning which will be an extracurricular activity for students.

Grade 3,4,5,6 will be traveling to Crawford Lake at the end of the month.

Primary

Pinball intramurals are ongoing. Ms. Nollert will be leading the students with some intermediate volunteers.

Intermediate

Intramural Volleyball wrapped up in December with a tournament at JD Hogarth for the girls' team and Elora for the boys team.

Intermediate Wrestling is continuing Monday mornings at 7:15 am with Dave Ritter (CW's Wrestling coach). We have approximately 10 students who have come out regularly.

Drama club continues to meet and is blocking for their upcoming play performance in the Spring.

Rock Band/Music Club meets weekly and is preparing a song for CBC music competition.

The Forest of Reading is run through the Ontario Library Association. It consists of several types of books aimed at different age levels, with 10 books in each of the programs.

Blue Spruce - The Kindergarten up to the Grade $\frac{3}{4}$ classes are meeting every week to share one of the Blue Spruce books. There are a number of "mystery readers" - staff within the school - who are volunteering to read each of the books. We will be participating in a vote for our favourite book within the school in April. There will be some form of celebration - still working on details. Every student in the Grades $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ classes has a passport they are able to fill out with their teacher. The school purchased 1 copy of each of these books.

Silver Birch/Silver Birch Express - this is aimed at mainly grades 3-6. Mr. Swan is working to meet with these students each week to exchange books and read together. Several staff members have read some of these books and over the next few weeks students will get a passport to fill out and get signed by those staff members. This group is not very big at the moment, but new members have been encouraged to come each week and Mr. Swan has been sharing the program with classes as they come through for book exchange and if he sees them throughout the week. There will again be a vote in April at the school level and our votes will be sent into the Ontario Library Association as well as some sort of celebration. We have purchased 2 copies of each of these books which will be added to the book collection here at school.

Red Maple - this program is aimed at mainly grades 6-8. There is not much interest in this program at the moment. Mr. Swan has been holding time each week for students to join if they wish. We have purchased 2 copies of each of these books to be added to the school collections. Voting will be the same Silver Birch.

Yellow Cedar - these are non-fiction books through the Forest of Reading Program. Mr. Swan is not running this as a club currently, but 1 copy of each of these books were purchased to help build up our non-fiction collection of books.

In addition, 57 new books have been added to the library through the store credit we had at Magic Pebble Books as a result of the book fairs both last year and this year. The school gets a 20% discount on materials though Magic Pebble. These books are currently being cataloged at the Board Office and will be on the shelves as soon as they return.

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5. Financial Report

| BANKING ACTIVITY | | | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | Income | Expense | Balance |
| Opening book balance June 27, 2022 | | | \$ 4,316.15 |
| Pizza for September '22 Open House | \$ 540.00 | \$ 522.76 | |
| Event Insurance (Covered until Oct. 31, 2023) | | \$ 205.20 | |
| Fall Family Dance | \$ 817.75 | \$ 313.68 | |
| Teacher Appreciation Day (cookies & coffee in staff room) | | \$ 47.15 | |
| Upper Grand Learning Foundation (UGLF) Account | \$ 2,988.63 | | |
| Gaga Ball Court directly from UGLF Account | | \$ 2,988.63 | |
| Gaga Ball Court | | \$ 511.37 | |
| Mabel's Labels | \$ 110.70 | | |
| Booster Juice - 1st session | \$ 3,219.20 | \$ 2,909.87 | |
| Subway - 1st session | \$ 3,243.50 | \$ 3,119.97 | |
| Winter 2022 Fundraiser | \$ 1,266.00 | \$ 170.86 | |
| Movie Night - Paws of Fury | | \$ 61.05 | |
| Booster Juice - 2nd Session | \$ 3,668.75 | | |
| Subway - 2nd Session | \$ 4,244.50 | \$ 839.05 | |
| Ski Equipment (second hand) | | \$ 118.59 | |
| | | | |
| Totals: | \$ 20,099.03 | \$ 11,808.18 | |
| Balance as of February 8, 2023 | | | \$ 12,607.00 |

| FORECASTED INCOME & EXPENSES: | | | |
|---|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | Income | Expense | Balance |
| Balance as of February 8, 2023 | | | \$ 12,607.00 |
| Balance of JK/SK, Primary, JR & Intmed Wish lists (voted 02/2022) | | \$ 497.98 | |
| Used ski equipment (\$500 voted 02/2022) | | \$ 381.41 | |
| Gaga Ball Court (\$4000 voted 05/2022) | | \$ 500.00 | |
| Contingency Fund (Hold until needed - playground repairs etc.) | | \$ 1,000.00 | |
| Funding from the UGDSB | \$ 500.00 | \$ 500.00 | TBD |
| Subway - 1st session | \$ 19.50 | | |
| Booster Juice - 2nd session | \$ 50.25 | \$ 3,308.77 | |
| Subway - 2nd session | \$ 32.50 | \$ 3,250.45 | |
| Fieldtrip expenses/Bussing | | \$ 1,750.00 | |
| Movie Night - Paws of Fury | | | TBD |
| HST Refund (this will take some time to come in) | \$ 1,300.00 | | |
| Upper Grand Learning Foundation Account: | | | |
| Sled-a-Thon 2019 Fundraiser (in UGLF account) | \$ 388.00 | \$ 388.00 | for Chromebooks |
| | | | |
| Totals: | \$ 2,290.25 | \$ 11,576.61 | |
| FORECASTED BALANCE | | | \$ 3,320.64 |

Financials will now be sent out before the meeting begins. This way everyone has a chance to see the report before we begin to talk about it.

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| <p>6. School Council Business Items</p> <p>a. School Lunches: Orders are up 31% for subs and 16% for Booster Juice. Thank you Catherine Shelton-Galdes for all the organising you do to make this happen for the students.</p> <p>b. Teacher Wish Lists: Sarah brought it up at a staff meeting. Jr's would love to have a set of 5 Chromebooks for each classroom. Approx \$405/Chromebook The school is also looking into purchasing technology from the tech fund. TV's were big purchases the last couple of years. Intermediates are asking for a part of the yard to be repaved. This will have to be looked into further. Teachers have a hard deadline of March to submit their wish lists for the classrooms.</p> <p>Donations: Parents can donate through The Upper Grand Learning Fund. Make sure that the donation is for John Black. You will receive a tax receipt.</p> <p>c. Sled-a-Thon: Originally set for Feb 23-24, however there likely won't be enough snow. Sled-a-Thon has been moved to March 1st and 2nd. Will probably need 3 parent volunteers. Motion put forward to donate \$100.00 from parent council to go towards prizes and hot chocolate. Motion Forward: All agree, Motion: Passed</p> <p>d. Movie Night: Canceled due to inclement weather. Has been moved to March 2nd.</p> <p>e. \$500 PIC – Parent Engagement Parent council to receive \$500.00 for school-based funding. Money must be spent by the end of the school year. It can not be carried over. Money has to go parent involvement/education. Examples: Speakers for internet safety, cyber bullying, math presenters, authors of books, mental health. An email will go out to form a sub committee to work on what the money will be spent on and to arrange the event.</p> | |
| <p>8. New Business (Round Table Input)</p> <p>A question was asked about changing the time of parent council meetings from 6:30pm to 7pm. Everyone agreed to keep it the same, as some people have a longer drive home than others. As well as, people like to get home at a decently early time, to enjoy their evening.</p> <p>A question was brought up about the school being able to offer hotdog day? Discussion was had that it would take more volunteers to run. This may be a possibility in the future to offer occasionally. However, John Black prides themselves on offering healthier options.</p> <p>Conversation was had about how sad the basketball nets are looking. Perhaps placement can be looked at in the future. Kerri C. has offered help with mulch if needed.</p> | <p><i>Sarah Schoettler to look into adding an option online to donate to the Red Cross for the disaster in Syria.</i></p> |
| <p>9. Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm Next Meeting – In the library April 6th 6:30pm Enjoy your March Break.</p> | |