**Edward Johnson School Council Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, February 8, 2022 – 6:30 p.m.**

Katherine W. Meghan O. Nadine P. Natasha H. Kate B. Sandya L.

Natasha H. Catherine F. Alana S. Monica G.

Land acknowledgement – Alana

Welcome and approval of December Minutes – Natasha

* **Minutes approved**

Principal’s Report - Katherine

* Proud of the fact that we loaned out 110 chrome books and most have been returned. Process was pretty seamless this time around, much easier to track.
* Things have being going well since the return to in-school learning.
* Classes are cohorting at recess, thanks to Meagan for helping as a noon-hour supervisor
* Noon-hour equity and inclusion club has been on hold, hoping to get them together next week
* Katherine put a call out to teachers to ask what they are doing in their classrooms for Black Brilliance, Black Futures month to share with the equity club. Has had lots of positive responses
* Information about Public Health’s WHY survey has gone home to parents. Student participate will take place between Feb 14th and 25th. Still need to sort out the logistics with staff. Parents and staff are also invited to complete a survey, that can be done any time now.
* Katherine has received 21 responses to her open-ended survey question looking for feedback. Will leave it open a bit longer, hoping to get a bit more feedback
* The return of pizza and booster juice has been a success (other than a few glitches last week). M. A-Lofton’s class is helping with Booster Juice and M. Roberts’ class is helping with pizza.
* On-time registration for JK FI is now closed. We did not reach the cap this year (cap is 46, we are at 41 registered)
* Report cards will be accessible to parents next week, likely online. Communication about this will come from the Board.
* Katherine owes the students an extra 15 minutes of recess as a reward for how well everyone did with the food drive – this will be happening soon.
* Spirit day tomorrow, going to preview our Dance Ed video. The video will be shared in the Google classroom. This will be a surprise for the students.
1. Teachers Report – Sandya Lachmansingh
* Return to in-school has gone quite well
* The outdoor equipment provided by council is being used, kids really enjoy it
* Students seem to be enjoying the extra space on the playground with the cohorting (particularly the older grades)
* Have heard that EQAO will be happening this year

Treasurer’s Report – Catherine

* Holiday basket fundraiser earned $3,165; of this amount, $2,915 will be sent to Upper Grand Learning Fund and $250 will cover the cost of baskets. Meagan and Catherine will work on coordinating tax receipts for this.
* Have allocated $500 for the Grade 6 grad

Fundraising Update – Natasha

* Dance-a-thon
	+ Typically done in March
	+ Looking to form a sub-committee (come up with theme, put together music, etc.) Alana and Kate can help out with this.
	+ Could have each class go to the gym on their own to participate; exact format will depend on any restrictions that are in place.
* Spring flowers
	+ Possible fundraiser for May
	+ One option is to sell gift cards for Royal city Nursery in $25 or $50 denominations. We would get a 20% kickback from Royal City. Simple logistics for this option.
	+ Another option is actual flower baskets purchased from a nursery. 10” hanging baskets with mixed plants and colours or geraniums (four different colour options). These baskets cost $15 each to us. We would need to decide what to charge per basket (i.e. $20 or $25)
	+ If we go the basket route we will need to coordinate the logistics of delivery and pickup. Delivery would need to be Mon-Fri between 9am and 4pm, likely at the end of May
	+ **The decision was made to offer both a $25 basket or a $25 gift card; parents can choose which one they would like to purchase.**
	+ Kate offered to help with any logistics
	+ We should look at running the fundraiser starting in April so we can get numbers to the nurseries

PIC Update – Monica

* Going to be two parent-engagement events
	+ March 3, 2022 – blend of some pre-recorded presentations from the Board and a live Q & A. Will include some information around My Blueprint and how assessments are completed; also some discussion around destreaming.
	+ Still formulating the second event; may focus on equity, diversity and indigenous rights – TBD
* No further discussion around when volunteers will be allowed back in schools. Board is aware that schools really want to move forward with having volunteers in the school again.
* PIC grant options
	+ Each school council has funds they can use to organize outreach events for parents. Supposed to be in support of parents in the school community, educational, engagement. Two suggestions for council to consider:
		- #1 – Literacy Night: Could hire a school-board approved professional or invite someone from the Board to talk to us about literacy. Katherine suggested promotion of oral/spoken French in our community as an idea.
		- #2 – Something fun (i.e. trivia contest, scavenger hunt, online cultural event, art, dance, etc.). Perhaps Gurdeep Pandher.
		- **Decision was made to go ahead with #2 (there are also some school generated funds that could go towards the cost of this, if needed)**

Grad Committee – Katherine

* Thanks to school council for the $500 allocation
* Will be sending an email out to all parents of Grade 6 students to get the ball rolling on planning for grad this year

Misc.

* Alana mentioned that Mike Foley wanted to join our meeting tonight but had a conflict and couldn’t make it (Board Trustee for our school/area). He wanted to put it out to council, if anyone has any questions they would like answers to, send him an email and he will try to help (michael.foley1@ugdsb.on.ca).

Conclusion of meeting

Next meeting Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.