

**Edward Johnson School Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, January 24, 2023, 6:30-7:30pm**

Attendance: Meghan O., Meghan Wadleigh, Natasha P., Nadine P., Olivier Cutz,  
Joining virtually: Anita K., Mahrukh S.

1. Land Acknowledgement - Olivier

2. Principal's Report - Olivier

- Staffing updates
  - Mme Forbes is on leave and Mme Kavanagh is covering
  - Mme Teasdale is on leave and Mme Harrison is covering
  - Mme Owen retired and Mme Shirton-Smith has taken over
  - M Teasdale is covering Mme Robins' maternity leave and Mme Smith is covering Mme Hill's maternity leave
  - Mme Tendick has retired but is doing some supply teaching
  - Mme O'Blenes is offering reading/tutoring support
  - A new EA started today, Trisha Dokis (Carla Scheffold has moved on)
- EQAO
  - Olivier offered a brief summary of our school's results
  - Our school has done well relative to the Board and Province; of course there is always room for improvement
  - Testing was delivered in a new format. It was all done on laptops and students had access to tools not previously available to them
  - A link to the complete results can be found on our website (posted in November)
- Reading interventions
  - The Director of Ed has restructured how the Curriculum Dept works and how they support teachers
  - There is much more emphasis on reading and reading supports
  - In addition to classroom teacher support (i.e. one-on-one reading with students) there are two levels of support offered with Mme Motto for those students who need more help
  - Our school also shares an early reading teacher with King George. She works with 15 students, 4 times per week
  - And we also have a reading tutor (Mme O'Blenes) two days per week
- Experiential learning
  - There is a bit of push to get more of this going now that we are not restricted by Covid
  - Grants are available
  - Mme Connoll secured funding to have the Guelph Outdoor School work with four classes over the next few weeks
  - Will be an arts-related programming running from February to the beginning of March - drumming/percussion

- Adam Bowman, professional drummer and Juno-nominated Guelph musician will come to our school for 5 sessions with the Junior students (i.e. the Grade 2/3 split and up)
- Olivier will do sessions with the younger students
- The theme “Feel the Beat” has been tossed around; may also try to tie in with Black Brilliance
- Adam’s fee is \$3,000, which works out to just under \$22 per student for the Junior students; there is no additional cost for Olivier to work with the younger students
- FYI - Council previously allocated \$2,600 in the budget for a residency program so those are the funds we will access
- Discussion around a reasonable amount to ask families to contribute to the cost of the program. If we charge \$10 per Junior student, this would bring Council’s cost down to approx. \$1,600.
- **Motion to go ahead with the program at a cost of \$3,000 and charge Junior students \$10 each - PASSED**
- Logo contest
  - Professional designer has come up with two designs that are based on the final three student submissions
  - Olivier suggested bringing it to the students for a vote. He will touch base with the Board about the proposed logo change before submitting the choices for a student vote.

### 3. Teacher’s Report - Meghan Wadleigh

- Mme Stolfi and Meghan Wadleigh are going to share this role for the time being
- The Kindergarten team has a request for funds for outdoor FDK toys
  - Just shy of 90 Kindie kids in the yard
  - Short on outside recess material
  - Looking for high quality shovels, buckets, and containers
  - There is approx. \$300 already budgeted for the three Kindergarten classes to dedicate to outdoor recess toys
  - Meghan W and Meghan O will work on this together; Council previously stocked outdoor toy bins for all classes so we should take stock of what is still remaining of those supplies and make sure they are being used for recess as opposed to programming.

### 4. Treasurer’s Report - Meghan

- We need \$21,000 to meet budgeted commitments for the 2022-23 school year
- Approx. \$300 - \$400 per month income from Subway (approx. \$3,000 for the year)
- Approx. \$1,100 - \$1,300 per month coming from pizza (approx. \$9,000 for the year)

- Our balance at the UGLF is \$13,221 (of this amount, \$5,000 is allocated for playground maintenance). These funds are in addition to what's held in our Council operating account.
- **Action item for March meeting - We need to make a decision about how much of our current funds to allocate specifically to the new playground structure, so it can be set aside.**

#### 5. Fundraising

- **Dance-a-thon date will be Thursday, March 2, 2023 (before the PD day)**

#### 6. Mud Kitchen - Nadine

- Brant Ave PS worked with the College Heights SS construction program to build mud kitchens and market stands for their younger students
- Nadine connected with Carol Beatson, Tech Ed Dept head construction woodworking at CHSS. She's very interested in working with us on this project
- Carol had some good ideas and provided a mock-up of a free-standing, 5 foot long, double sided kitchen (so it wouldn't need to be up against a fence/wall). She also suggested a market stand.
- The first step would be to submit a Greening form to the Board for approval (similar to the process for our playground submission). Once approved we would work with Carol to customize the final design and then she would work with the students to determine/source material and build.
- They used spruce treated with an exterior finish (i.e. similar to a deck) as opposed to cedar to save money (cedar would have doubled the cost)
- Carol would charge us for material cost and a small amount to compensate for student labour and her time. She estimated the double-sided mud kitchen and a market stand could be done for about \$2,000 all in (mud kitchen about \$1,200 - \$1,500 and market stand \$250 - \$500).
- She has a new group of students starting in February. Depending on when we get started, this project could be finished before the end of the school year.
- Meghan W. will reach out to the Kindergarten team to see if there is interest in this project and if they have any preference as to location (i.e. Kindergarten enclosure, the "Forest", etc.).
- Olivier will reach out to the Principal at Brant Ave PS to

#### 7. PIC update - Mahrukh

- Next PIC meeting is next week, no real updates for now
- There were some PIC events previously scheduled but they were either canceled (due to lack of interest) or postponed.

#### 8. Conclusion of Meeting - Thanks for coming out!