

Paisley Road School Council Meeting Minutes - Jan 19, 2023

Date: Jan 19, 2023

Meeting Called by: Logan Kennedy

Note Taker: Annica Napier

Attendees: Annica Napier, Brittney Cumming , Sheena Grinwis, Laura Vanderveldt, Stacy Roberts-Munn, Greg Routenburg, Izabella K, Logan Kennedy, Nathan Johnston, Alexandra Grosse, Dana Greenlaw

Agenda Topics

Topic 1: Welcome and Greetings

- Went around the group and introduced ourselves, welcomed new members.

Topic 2: Review of Minutes from November Meeting

- Greg brought forth a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Stacy. All in favour.

Topic 3: Principal's Report (presented by Vice-Principal Sheena Grinwis)

1. During the last two days of school prior to the holidays, classes enjoyed a virtual assembly slideshow. The slideshow consisted of many classes singing holiday songs and/or displaying artwork.
2. On Tuesday, January 17th the Grade 1 classes attending the River Run Centre for a presentation entitled, Will's Jams. Will's Jams explore themes of literacy, imagination, creativity, and living a healthy, active lifestyle. The River Run Centre performances are paid for by Linamar.
3. This summer, the school's hallways, door frames and gymnasium will be repainted. The school has not been painted in many years as is due for a refresh. Each classroom will also be receiving new window coverings in the form of roller blinds.
4. Two new lunch time initiatives have started at the school. Madame Murphy recently started the Knitting Club while Mr. Higgins will be working with the Junior students who will be playing intramural basketball.
5. A PA Day is scheduled for the UGDSB on Friday, January 27th . This day will be used by teachers to begin writing Term 1 report cards.

Questions: **How are field trips scheduled?** It's up to the classroom teacher.

- Council would like to make sure it's communicated to teachers that there is funding available to support field trips if needed.

Topic 4: Treasurer's Report

- We had a few fundraising events in the last couple months.

- Planet Bean fundraiser a success! We made over \$1100 dollars - funds will go towards supporting the Library.
- Holiday Craft sale: we made \$1400. In the past we've raised anywhere between \$1600-\$2000. Considering this was our first year back after several years away this is considered a great success and something we can build from (we had to limit the number of gifts each student bought to make sure there was enough inventory)
- Clothing drive brought in \$690
- Classroom Fund: \$150/teacher. We want to make sure teachers are aware of this and utilize it. Mr. Johnston will send a reminder email to teachers.
- In the past we have done a staff appreciation breakfast.
 - Start planning in the spring?
 - Reach out to Lisa (past chair) for intel on how that was coordinated.
- Next meeting we can talk about further allocations and other needs?
 - Sheena suggested that there may be a need for more "decodable readers" to help support the reading program. One set with 25 books costs roughly \$175.
 - **What is a decodable reader?** As we're introducing sounds, they start with some vowels and consonants, so books target the sounds that go with the letters (as opposed to using other cuing systems that we're wanting to move away from - i.e. looking at the picture)
 - There are options for every grade level and in both languages.
 - Forest of Reading? How much support do they need?
 - Mr Johnston and Mr Sennitt will spread the word that teachers can come to council with ideas/initiatives for us to support.

Topic 5: Teacher's Report

- All questions/comments were addressed elsewhere in the meeting.

Topic 6: Fundraising Update

- Pizza Update by Stacy
 - This term we got rid of day-of slice sales and have switched to Prepaid and Pay-as-you-go. Most parents have paid upfront.
 - It's been much smoother without the slice sales, but there are some extra slices still so we need to figure out what we should do about that. Some do get stored in the freezer, to be used as needed, but we can only store so much.
 - Ideas: extra slices be frozen and used for "pizza parties" for rotating classes every once in a while?
- Winter Clothing Sale
 - It was an event that prioritized getting families and kids access to warm clothing. This was a lot of work but I think the school community really

valued it. If we commit to it annually and notify families in September, people can plan to use this resource even more. The sale timed with the interview was ideal and should likely be the format for the future.

- Front Foyer was a location (preferable over the empty classroom)
- Perhaps at the last meeting in the year make some decisions about timing of events/fundraisers come the fall so we're heading to hit the ground running.
- Planet Bean
 - The fundraiser itself did well but there were some drawbacks with money collection and distribution of the goods. We would need to reconsider the feasibility of doing it again especially given the busy time of year.
 - There were some new parents engaged in the counting of money - many thanks to the volunteers!
 - Big thanks to Izabella for spearheading this fundraiser and all the work that went into it!
- Craft Sale
 - Popular and fun as always. Thank you to everyone who helped out - especially Izabella and Kariel!
 - Next year:
 - We should aim to start in late Oct/early November. This should be a key council meeting topic at September 2023's meeting.
 - We need to clarify about getting tables from the Board.
 - Having the event in the last week before Christmas on Tuesday was great and will be our plan for next year, too.
 - It is key to make as many wrapping bags ahead of time as possible!
 - Communicate to families after Thanksgiving
 - There was a question whether we wanted teachers/classes to help in the making of the crafts? Yes please! Let's communicate that next year.
- Thoughts on other possible fundraisers:
 - Native Seeds in the spring? Before Easter or Mother's/Father's day?
 - Do we know anyone who is a web developer who could streamline an online order option for fundraisers (as opposed to School Cash Online)
 - Incorporate a "giving back" fundraiser that supports a Foodbank or equivalent: perhaps at Family Fun Night in June?

Topic 7: Dance-a-thon (**Friday March 10th**)

- Dana and Alex will be leading
- Greg has been in touch with Rachel Cooper (who previously led the dance-a-thon) to get some info on how she ran it. She sent Dana and Alex the Google Drive documents.
- This is an event where we can reach out to the broader council network to recruit some volunteers.

- Some preliminary ideas:
 - Glowsticks, leis, photobooth area with props (how would we print? Just use digital?) Prizes
 - Greg will look into photobooth options

Meeting Adjourned 7:30pm

Next Meeting **TUESDAY** Feb 21st 6:30pm in-person in the school library
Hybrid option to join online: link will be sent out ahead of the next meeting

CONDENSED NOTES FOR TEACHERS:

- Council would like to make sure it's communicated to teachers that there is funding available to support field trips if needed.
- Classroom Fund: \$150/teacher. We want to make sure teachers are aware of this and utilize it.
- Thoughts on extra pizza slices being frozen and once there is a large enough amount, they could be used for "pizza parties" for rotating classes every once in a while?
- Re: Craft Sale. There was a question whether we wanted teachers/classes to help in the making of the crafts? Yes please! We will communicate that next year.