

## **Paisley Road School Council Meeting Minutes - Apr 18, 2023**

Date: Apr 18, 2023

Meeting Called by: Logan Kennedy

Note Taker: Annica Napier

Attendees: Sheena Grinwis, Kirk Runciman, Laura Vanderveldt, Stacy Roberts-Munn, Logan Kennedy, Nathan Johnston, Alexandra Grosse, Annica Napier

### **Agenda Topics**

Topic 1: Welcome and Greetings

Topic 2: Review of Minutes from March Meeting

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

Topic 3: Principal's Report

1. Our Kindergarten students finally had their Play with Clay session on April 4 th . Two previous dates were postponed due to the weather and busses being cancelled.
2. Mrs. Richer's Grade 5/6 class organized a Food Drive for the school, over two days, at the end of March. As a result of their efforts, the students collected more than 500 items, totaling 590 pounds of food for the Food Bank.
3. In March, as part of the school's celebration of Black History Month, Madame Gareau organized a visit to the school by Baba Williams, an African drummer. During his visit to the school, Baba led each class through an interactive drum workshop. When kids participate in group drumming, they are sharpening skills such as attention, impulse control, decision-making, turn-taking and sharing. Thank you School Council, for providing financial support to make this very fun workshop a reality for our students.
4. The school recently created its Literacy Plan. The Literacy Plan emerged as a result of the Ontario Human Rights Commission's Right to Read Inquiry. As a result of this inquiry the Ministry of Education created a Teachers' Guide to Effective Reading Instruction, which provides information about developing early reading skills, as well as highlighting instructional strategies and practices that are most effective. Included in the strategies and practices is an emphasis on explicit instruction in the following areas: phonological and phonemic awareness, alphabet knowledge, phonics, word study, with the goal of building fluency and comprehension with students.
5. On Friday, April 14 th the first presenter to support the use of our French Cultural Funding visited the school. Mike Ford presented several original interactive songs exploring the wonders of the French language, Canadian history, sustainability, and treaty responsibility to our Junior French Immersion students. A presentation for our

Core French students will occur on April 19 th while our Kindergarten and Primary students will have their presentation on May 9 th . Once again, thank you to School Council for subsidizing these opportunities for our students.

6. The UGDSB's Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) is hosting a free event for parents and guardians on April 26th at Centre Wellington District High School in Fergus beginning at 5:30pm. PIC presents "Building Engaging School Councils." Whether currently part of a School Council or if they are looking to become involved, this event is an opportunity open to all parents and guardians to discuss, learn and share with each other. Here is a link to more information about this event and instructions for registering:

<https://www.ugdsb.ca/blog/parents-guardians-invited-to-pic-spring-event-building-engaging-school-councils/>

#### Topic 4: Teacher's Report

- Lots of things are happening in the school, thankful for council support!
- Wondering if Council would like to have a table at the JK Orientation (morning of June 2nd - PA day)? *Answer: Yes*
- Mme Gareau had a meeting with Food & Friends.
  - The Clothing Fundraiser provided \$2000 and that was appreciated and helped us qualify for grants for the Food & Friends program.
  - Next year, we are wanting to participate in the Live Free Campaign to qualify for additional grants to support this program. *Next year: do this fundraiser next January?*
- Nathan will follow up to make sure Leslie Work knows there is \$1500 in a fund for Maker Kits and \$2000 for Library Books.

#### Topic 5: Treasurer's Report

- Dance a thon update: \$7673.80 raised. Record money raised for this fundraiser. There are still expenses to be reimbursed: \$630
- Seed Fundraiser: raised \$2775, get to keep about half of that!
  - There are a couple volunteers who will help with the distribution of seed packets when they arrive.
- In the February meeting we had agreed to bump up music funding to cover a drumming event that took place, we also agreed to give \$2000 for decodable readers.
- We have roughly \$8000 that we can still allocate to areas in need.
  - There was mention of: jerseys, grad gifts, more decodables, staff appreciation breakfast coming up, music funding needs another top up (e.g. to buy more drums), Kindie Programming.
  - What is the biggest need?

### Suggested Allocations

- \$3000 for the \*new\* fund 'School Yard' (encompasses outdoor areas)
- \$500 for Music
- \$500 for Staff Appreciation Breakfast
- \$1500 for YearBooks (subsidize)
- \$1000 for Decodable Readers (which would bring us up to \$3000 allocation for this school year)
- \$1000 for school Jerseys
- \$500 to top up Grad Gifts
  
- All allocations approved and agreed upon by council.

### Topic 6: Staff Appreciation Breakfast

- During the Teacher Appreciation Week, we will host it on May 12th at 8:00AM
- Katie Franks will be coordinating with Logan.
  - *They will be looking for some parent volunteers for the morning of.*
- Budget is \$500

### Topic 8: End of Year Event

- First meeting tomorrow with the fundraising.
- Date confirmed: June 8.

### Topic 9: Other Business

- To think about in the future: could we provide information sessions for families about reading and reading resources, including explaining new methods and strategies (i.e. decodable readers)
  - Maybe offer an info session during the fall open house, or perhaps at the end of year before the summer break.
- Planning and coordination of events for next school year and increased involvement.
  - Update Sign out front ahead of the council meetings.
- This Friday (April 21) the classes that won the Dance-a-Thon draws will have their popcorn and movie parties.
  - We have purchased a license to stream movies (better selection).
  - We have this for one year from date of purchase (begins April 2023, ends April 2024)
  - **Teachers are welcome to use this service for the next year. Greg will provide details for how to do this.**
- Teachers have been reminded about their classroom fund and to use it by April 30.

- Teachers have also been encouraged to submit ideas for field trips using Google Forms by May 5th.
  - This will be a more systematic way to evaluate the needs of the various classes and subsidize accordingly.
  - Logan to receive submissions and bring them to the council executive.
  - We need to determine what is a reasonable max cost for the student/family.
  - Consider providing an option for some families to pay for an extra kid, helping other families who don't have the funds (i.e. 'take a penny, leave a penny')

Meeting Adjourned 7:40pm

Next Meeting **THURSDAY** May 18th 6:30pm in-person in the school library  
Hybrid option to join online: [meet.google.com/rot-tzyt-eik](https://meet.google.com/rot-tzyt-eik)