

School Council  
Meeting Minutes  
Sept. 28, 2022

**Opening:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm by Marianne Millsap.

**Present:**

Marianne Millsap – Principal  
Ashley Hopkins– Vice Principal  
Karen Kennedy  
Carly Ferris  
Amber Gallagher  
Annalea Kidd  
Melissa Irwin  
Carli Lang  
Amy Ouchterlony

Stephanie  
Heidi Fuller  
Lourdes Mehlhorn  
Jennifer Robertson  
Shannon Wright  
Oswald  
Kathleen  
Susan Hall  
Andrea Jones

**Welcome:**

Marianne welcomed everyone and introduced herself. She explained this meeting would be for elections only and that there would be time for questions at the end. A full meeting will be picked at the end. Ashley Hopkins, the VP, also introduced herself.

Marianne introduced Jennifer Robertson as School Council's Teacher Rep. Jennifer is the Resource Teacher at Primrose and attends council meetings as a liaison between the teaching staff and Council. She keeps us in the loop of what's happening in the school and shares any questions and information the teachers would like to share.

Marianne said there would be a Community Representative and a Non-Teaching Staff Representative on Council. Once Council is chosen, the members will seek to fill these roles.

Marianne asked all in attendance to introduce themselves.

**Treasurer's Report**

Marianne gave the treasurer's report this evening as a new Treasurer will be nominated this evening. The outgoing Treasurer, Colleen Kee, has moved on with her children in high school.

Marianne spoke on the tremendous efforts of planning and fundraising by the Council last year towards the new Natural Playground. Many donors from the community, along with specific fundraising efforts by Council, allowed the first phase of the new playground to be completed

over the summer. The fund is approximately \$1400, which is held for any repairs or replacements needed.

Pizza- Funds will need to be raised

Maintenance Fund for Playground Structure- \$2,000

Meet The Teacher Fund- \$250 (this will change after tomorrow's BBQ for purchases of supplies)

Breakfast With Santa- \$2,000

Classroom Fund-\$ 248

Eco Club- \$1,079

Winter Clothing Fund- \$347

School Council- \$168

## **Principal's Report**

Marianne read the Primrose Land Acknowledgement. She mentioned the Land Acknowledgement is available on the Primrose website.

Marianne spoke on the classroom reorganization. About 50 students were moved mainly from grades 1 and 2. She also mentioned the student population currently sits at 592.

Marianne then spoke about how the staff has been amazing through all the water issues, noting that things are on the upswing regarding the situation. She hopes a public meeting with the Board will be coming soon to address questions, concerns, and timelines for the new well.

## **Events**

Marianne spoke of the successes of the Terry Fox Run (the amount raised will come out in an email) and the Intermediate and Junior Soccer tournaments.

The Cross Country Meet is coming up on October 4th. Erika Williamson is asking for volunteers, as many are needed for this day. Marianne also mentioned the need for volunteers, saying the more we can get, the better, resulting in more activities available.

Volunteers require a Vulnerable Sector Check which is available online. You will also need a letter from the school. Please contact Ashley Hopkins ([ashley.hopkins@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:ashley.hopkins@ugdsb.on.ca)) to receive one. Get your VSC here: <https://www.opp.ca/index.php?id=147&lng=en>

## **Elections**

Marianne initiated the elections by stating that all parents are welcome to attend any Council meeting. Council meetings are the best place to stay informed on what is happening in the school, give feedback, and ask questions. When you attend at least four meetings, you become a voting member.

Marianne then read the UGDSB Equity Statement, which can be found on the Board's website as follows:

"The Upper Grand District School Board (UGDSB) is committed to the principles of equity through inclusive and culturally responsive programming, services, and operations in accordance with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the Ontario *Human Rights Code*, and the *Education Act*.

The UGDSB values all students, employees, and families, regardless of age, ancestry, colour, race, citizenship, ethnic origin, place of origin, creed, ability, family status, marital status, gender identity, gender expression, socio-economic status, employment, housing, sex, and sexual orientation<sup>[1]</sup>, and is committed to creating and maintaining a learning and working environment where everyone can participate fully, thrive, and reach their full potential, free from trauma, bias, stereotyping, oppression and systemic racism.

The UGDSB recognizes that many identities do not exist in a single form and are often intersecting with multiple identities. Intersectionality can create a compounding impact on oppression, discrimination and racism. The UGDSB is committed to identifying and disrupting systemic racism and oppression in all of its forms."

Nominations were held in the following format:

- Marianne stated each Council position one at a time and read a description of the role.
- The nominees for each position were named and asked to discuss why they wanted to be in that role
- If there was more than one nominee, there was an anonymous vote by all attendees
- the nominee is chosen for each role and then motioned in

Positions were officially filled as follows:

**Chair-Karen Kennedy**  
**Co-Chair-Carly Ferris**  
**Vice Chair- Amber Gallagher**  
**Secretary- Melissa Irwin**  
**Treasurer- Lourdes Mehlhorn**

The elections were followed by a discussion about filling the Community Member and Non-Teaching Staff roles. Jennifer Robertson reached out to our previous Community Rep, Andrew James, and Council will reach out to those who may suit the role of Non-Teaching Staff Rep role.

**Questions:**

Q- Is there a Student Council?

A- Marianne mentioned Primrose doesn't have a student council. She said a student council is usually initiated by a teacher as an extracurricular activity. It was noted Primrose either had a Student Council or an equity team, specifically the Puma PAC (Principal's Advisory Committee), where students were chosen by their peers to speak on behalf of their classmates. It was discussed that either a Student Council or Equity Team would be looked into getting started again this year.

Q- Is the Breakfast Program still using individually packaged items?

A- Marianne said at this time, yes, they are. The EAs and student helpers are currently delivering to classes maintaining the importance of not singling any child out. It will be discussed at the next council meeting to bring back parent helpers and use whole fruits, veggies, dairy, and grains.

Q- Are the snacks only available for children who finish their lunch?

A- Marianne stressed that the items available are for all starting first thing in the morning until after the second nutrition break. Teachers are to allow this regardless of the child's lunch being finished unless a parent says they want their child to eat their lunch first. This will be clarified to teachers.

Marianne also mentioned the Hygiene Closet and Winter Clothes (located in the staff room) are also available for any student who needs them.

**Adjournment:**

Marianne adjourned the meeting at 7:55 PM.

Minutes Submitted By: Melissa Irwin

Minutes Approved By: Executive & Admin.

Next Meeting Set For: Wednesday, October 5th at 6:30 p.m. in the Learning Commons (Library)