

School Council
Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2022

Opening:

Karen Kennedy called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm due to technical difficulties with the online portion.

Present:

Marianne Millsap – Principal	Amy Ouchterlony
Ashley Hopkins – Vice Principal	Shannon Wright
Karen Kennedy – Co-Chair	Andrea Jones
Susan Hall	Heidi Fuller
Amber Gallagher – Vice Chair	Krystal Murray
Lourdes Mehlhorn – Treasurer	Jenna Hartlen
Jen Robertson – Teacher Rep	Romena Singh
Alana Mercury	
Annalea Kidd	

Welcome: Karen welcomed everyone, the meeting commenced, and minutes passed.

Principal's report: Marianne stated Remembrance Day is Friday, and they plan to have their first real assembly since Covid. Assemblies will be open to the community eventually, but until capacity issues are figured out, it is being kept in-house. Jen Robertson will be taking a few students to the ceremony in Mansfield.

Staff is working hard to try and get all students involved in extracurriculars. They are currently tracking who is participating in what so that they can see who is not involved and try to engage them. Marianne and Ashley are also trying to build staff community and morale through potlucks and Friday treat day.

Breakfast with Santa has been cancelled this year due to time constraints making it difficult to give the event the attention it deserves. Marianne wanted to thank Shannon for all the time and effort she had put into it until this point. She also stated many schools are forgoing such events this year due to time. Talks are already occurring about a spring or late winter replacement event.

Marianne stated they are forming a water committee to filter the communities' questions and concerns to the board. She has reached out to a few people with expertise and is asking anyone with knowledge or insight to bring to the committee to email her.

Q. Mulmur newsletter had an update about design specs being completed and a well driller to be contracted within the next 2 weeks. Is this new news?

A. No, it is not. This was announced in the water update last week.

Q. Why was Primrose going on strike with no CUPE workers in the school, and why is remote learning the default for these situations?

A. Marianne stated she does not know exactly why all schools were closed but assumed it was because it was too difficult to figure out which could open and which could not and also that maintenance repair that comes into the school is CUPE. As for the online portion, she does not know other than they are trying to keep kids learning.

Teacher Report: Jennifer Robertson gave the report; she stated that Grade 1's are learning about phonemes, blending, patterning and Remembrance Day art. Dave Parsons states that it is getting tricky to run the class as supplies are dwindling with 29 kids. They are also working on finishing off the contributions of Canadian cultural groups and then moving on to space! Claire Clarke is taking her different classes to the learning commons. They will choose an animal and a season and research what that animal does in the season. They are then drawing a picture of the animal and using a program to animate the animal's mouth. Once that is complete, the student will use their voice to bring the animal to life, telling everyone about it.

Sherie Anderson sends a huge thank you to Annalea for all her help with the Grade 3 garden program, the kids love it! They are also trying to get a seed project up and running in the commons for other kids to explore. Sherie also asked for funds to purchase a set of Forest of Reading books. Annalea motioned for approval, and Shannon seconded. Nobody against. Sherie also wants everyone to know the book fair is coming soon, and they are looking for volunteers to run the cash in the mornings and the last block of days 3 and 4. If interested in helping, please email sanderson@ugcloud.ca

Q. Should we send a mass email to get it out to more people?

A. Marianne will speak with Sherie to get things sorted out.

Jen let everyone know that the French teachers had sent a proposal asking for funds for a French program that comes to the school. It is a Festival cultural experience (F.E.T.E) that is board approved and brings French celebrations alive through fun things like face painting, cookie decorating, crafts and many other things. They proposed running it for 85 Grade 5 & 6 children as a day program can only fit 90. This would leave grades 5 & 6 in split classes out. After discussion council asked for some scenarios to be created, including seeing about running two days to include all children in the grade levels. Marianne will get back to us. The cost is \$898.35 for the 90 students over one day. There is also a \$400 one-time grant that can be used. This would leave \$1300 unfunded. The discussion was tabled until more talks with the French teachers could be had.

Jen let everyone know that Big Brothers & Sisters are back in the school. It is Treaties Recognition week, tomorrow is school colours day, and the Boys & Girls volleyball teams had so much interest that the juniors were given permission to have two teams! Kindies are going on a field trip to Fiddlehead Farm on Monday. A group of staff went for first aid training, and Ashley went for suicide prevention training. Some of our bus patrollers also went to a training day at Laurelwoods and did a great job! Grade 6,7 & 8 students will be going on a field trip to see the play Matilda Jr in Shelburne, and the choir has come back and will be entering in CBC Music Class Challenge. If anyone knows of someone who would like to accompany the choir on guitar or piano, please let Jen know.

Progress reports will be going out soon and include modified and alternative IEPs.

Treasure Report: Lourdes gave a quick update saying that Meet the Teacher BBQ raised \$817.40, pizza is bringing in a healthy amount every month, and all other accounts are the same other than the playground, which increased \$420 from bottle returns and Honda volunteer money. As a reminder, any Honda Associate or spouse can submit their volunteer hours with an organization for up to \$500 to be donated to that organization.

Eco Report – Ashley stated Eco is working on a school-wide audit with Dufferin Waste coming in to teach the kids how to sort. Sherie, with some kids, is creating an eco display for the front case. Take me outside day was last week and went very well. They are keeping on track to reach platinum again this year.

Q. Have you looked into Climate Action Dufferin to hold a workshop? It is free and fun.

A. They have not heard of the program and will look into it.

Other Business:

Shannon presented some ideas for fundraising events later in the year. She suggested starting to plan the Christmas event for next year soon so there is no panic. She also said a company called Professor Jams creates fun dance-type parties. Her ideas are documented and will be discussed further at a later date.

The Domino's Pizza Fundraiser brought in \$305.

Karen told the group there was going to be a Honeywood Christmas Bash. She sent the poster to Jen Robertson to put on announcements if she wishes.

A parent asked if we could do a skate at Honeywood as a fundraiser. There was a general chat but no commitment as of yet.

Adjournment:

Karen Kennedy adjourned the meeting at 7:52 pm.

Minutes Submitted By: Amber Gallagher for Melissa Irwin

Minutes Approved By: Executive & Admin.