

Parent Council Meeting Minutes - Princess Margaret Public School – May 2nd, 2024

In attendance: Andrea Papavasiliou, Billie Jo R., Emily M., Rebecca L., Ida C., Sabrina F., Tracy P., Justine O., Raquel K., Kiri L.

Regrets: Emily D.

1. Land Acknowledgement and Anti-Racism Statement

2. Principal's Report (full report follows the Minutes)

- Many events in April: Presentation with Michael Jacques, anti-bullying presentation from OPP Officer Amy, visit from Director Sovran and Superintendent, basketball season wrapped up, grade 6 students organized a schoolyard clean-up on Earth Day, visit from local author Carolyn J. Morris with 3-day old chicks!
- Lots of fun to come in May: Theatre Orangeville visit, Art Meditation workshops, high school visits, Special Olympics & peer coaching, Bike Roadeo, Swim to Survive, Family Night / Arts' Night, etc.
- Multi-Year Plan update: Director is focusing on grade 3 EQAO (Ontario's Education Quality and Accountability Office) math, vocabulary, skills, strategies, familiarity with technology. Grade 3 and grade 6 students, from May 27 to June 6, will write the assessments of reading, writing and mathematics.
- Feedback from Director Sovran's first visit to PMPS: He observed the culture of caring from the staff, that children are polite and engaged; He appreciated the diversity of work on the walls: art, math, science, math challenges, exemplars, etc.; He noted teacher application of best practices; He noted the building feels calm; He appreciated positive teacher attitudes.
- Work with EQAO: The Board has provided professional development for grade 3 reading teachers; PMPS is engaged in practice testing for EQAO.

3. Status Report on Recent Initiatives from Co-Chair

- Little Caesar's fundraiser raised a total of \$775 for PMPS
- Parent Council purchased 27 new anti-bullying titles for the PMPS library (Emily M)
- Parent Council hosted another community clean-up event at Dragon Fly Park for Earth Day weekend. Local Mayor Lisa Post joined our clean-up crew! Thank you to 14 volunteers who joined our efforts.
- OPP Presentation with Officer Amy was fantastic. Looking forward to the next one. Council will take notes to share with those who missed it next time.
- Playground equipment repair and maintenance completed.
- Emily M and Billie Jo completed/sent in the Principal Leadership Questionnaire.
- School garden still has 3 plots available for vegetable gardening this summer.
- Voted for/Approved \$500 for Grade 8 Graduation from Parent Council fundraising.
- Voted for/Approved \$100 from PIC money to refund photocopying costs for the year.

4. Logistics for Arts Night/Family Fun Night – June 7th, 5-7pm

- Sabrina and Becky to purchase items for 3 raffle baskets. Voted for/Approved \$400 from PIC funds for this.
- Every attendee will receive a ballot. Billie Jo to create ballots.
- We will host 5 game stations with Student Council volunteers. Art displays will be in the Library. Choir/Band will be in the Gym.
- We will order pizza from Pizza Depot. Sabrina to buy pop from Cosco. We will create school cash on-line account with Jodi for advance sales of pizza and pop. \$2/slice & \$1/pop. Two Council members will host pizza stations that night.
- Parent Council will donate funds raised from pizza/pop to Student Council.
- Billie Jo and Ida to bring coolers with ice.
- Student Council will sell/run the freezies and popcorn sales that night.

Next Parent Council Social Night Out will be on Tuesday, May 28th, at 6pm. Location TBD.

Next meeting (and our last of this school year) will be on Thursday, May 30th at 6pm.

Principal's Report: PMPS School Council **May 2nd, 2024**

Land Acknowledgement:

Princess Margaret Public School is situated on the ancestral, treaty and title lands of the Anishinaabek Ojibwe Nation, specifically the Michi Saagig of the Credit land. This Nation holds legal and specific rights in their respective territories. This area has been and continues to be home for Indigenous Peoples and non-Indigenous peoples.

- What action(s) do you commit to, and will state with the land acknowledgement in your building?

My commitment this evening: Continue to encourage staff to sign up for Island Lake opportunities and to celebrate Indigenous People's month with people of significance on announcements.

Board's Equity Statement:

Anti-Black and anti-Indigenous racism is deeply rooted in our country, society, institutions and our history, and much work needs to be done to address this systemic racism. As an educational community we have a responsibility to identify and describe racism and oppression and then work to dismantle it. The Upper Grand District School Board is committed to disrupting systemic racism and oppression in all of its forms. We will implement ongoing mandatory anti-racism and anti-oppression training for all staff, review our protocols and policies, including our hiring practices, and be fully transparent and

accountable to all Upper Grand students, staff, families, and stakeholders in an ongoing manner.

Principal's Report:

We had a terrific last month including special presentations and activities such as:

- Michael Jacques (K-8 recess inclusion, 6-8 writing process, classroom visits, staff meeting, and parent night)**
- OPP Cyber Bullying & Social Media Parent/Caregiver Presentation**
- Director & Superintendent visit**
- Basketball mini tournaments and county tournament**
- Grade 6 school wide clean up.**
- Local author visit (with chicks).....**

Multi Year Plan: 2 week sprints (goals): Director and Superintendent focus: grade 3

- Examine with grade 3 and 6 staff (and additional staff at staff meeting) strand break down, common math vocabulary that is needed to write EQAO, problem solving DICE method, technology and general tips
(grade 6 slides: Grade 6 EQAO small groups)
- Review the EQAO Prep document 23/24 with grade 3 and 6 staff (and additional staff at staff meeting)
- Review attendance data and intervene with letters (one on one conversations ongoing and phone calls teachers and principals)
- Review grade 3 & 6 ongoing tracking of students who are struggling to meet provincial expectations
- Ask staff (with a focus on grade 3 and 6) to continue collecting data for all students, but with a focus on students with lagging skills

Director & Superintendent Visit:

I wanted to take this opportunity and share with you the very positive feedback that the Director shared with me on his visit. He wanted me to share the following with staff:

- The culture of the school- he said it is very clear how warm and welcoming the building feels. He feels how much staff care, how hard they work, and he knows the difference they are making in helping kids be here and improve their outcomes in life.
- The walls: he was impressed with the quality of the student and teacher work on the walls: from math, to literacy, to science, and the arts. He loved the math questions in the hallways. He said simply that it was not fluff on the walls but true student work.
- Focus on the arts: He said that math and literacy are important but so is the arts and he was impressed with the quality of both the art and the music, and how this motivates students to be here.
- Best practices: After our conversation, walking around, and reviewing data, he said we have all the pieces for great growth, it may take time but to keep at it. He could not pick something and say, you should be doing this, or you are missing this.
- The calm in the building: He said he felt how calm the building was and he felt that he probably ran this way all the time

-The *yeah but*: Peter said he is very aware of the needs in our community, however, from the work that he saw, the staff that he met, what I shared, that staff don't use this to make excuses for underperformance or not trying something. He really appreciated this, as it is easy to do when things are hard. He appreciated the high expectations that we have for all students.

Data that was shared (Grade 3 Continues to the Board Focus) with the Director:

Grade 3 Reading:

22/23 EQAO 68.2 % (down 1.8% year before): Goal is 80% for this year.

-L (Fountas and Pinnell reading diagnostic) or higher, student is more likely to be successful on EQAO for language:

- 88% current grade 3 students are likely to be successful on EQAO
- 12% are not likely to be successful right now.

Of those 12% , all students are; in the middle of investigations with the family dr., diagnosed by the family dr, working with the family for a private psyc assessment, on the school waitlist for psyc testing, and/or have had a school psyc test completed and awaiting feedback

-P (Fountas and Pinnell reading diagnostic) or higher meet provincial standard at the end of the year:

- **48% are at a level P or higher and will meet the provincial standard right now**
- **52% are not at a level P and currently do not meet the provincial standard**
- ***Good news of the 52% (14 students), 10 students are one to two levels away from a level P. If those 10 students move just one to two levels by the end of this school year, 85% of our students would meet the provincial standard.***

This is fantastic news and shows how hard we have worked this year to connect families to supports and how hard we have worked with students as well. Great work.

Grade 3 Math:

22/23 EQAO 63.6% (up 19.6% from last year): Goal for this year is 75%

Math screener data: steady progress over 3 screeners:

- 56% scored at risk or mid at risk (screener 1)/ 44% not at risk
- 50% scored at risk or mid at risk (screener 2)/ 50% not at risk
- 30% scored at risk or mid at risk (screener 3 March 2024)/ 70% not at risk

EQAO practice test (completed with help of program dept, stimulation of real test as close as possible)

- 47.53% was the average mark of students (written late in March)

(highest student mark was 78.57 % and lowest student mark was 17.86%)

- 7% of students scored a 75% or above
- 15% of students scored a 63% or above (last year's EQAO score)

On practice test:

Both grade 3 classes struggled with the following concepts.

We need to teach (test was administered in late March) and/or review the following:

-Highest priority: coding, mean, congruency, fractions, expression, missing numbers from a subtraction question

-Mid priority: number lines, patterning, faces/edges/vertices, perimeter.

Important Upcoming Dates:

-May 6th: Theatre Orangeville comes to PMPS to present a play to grades $\frac{2}{3}$ -8.

-May 6th-May 10th: Mental Health & Education Week

-May 7th: Art & Meditation Workshops: Grade 1, $\frac{1}{2}$, and $\frac{2}{3}$

-May 8th: Junior & Intermediate Chess Tournament at CMES (details coming soon)

-May 9th: Art Meditation workshop Grades 6-8 (grade 7 first block, grade 6 middle block, grade 8 last block)

-May 9th: Grade 8 visit to ODSS- am only

-May 10th: Art Meditation workshop: Gr 3, Gr 4/5 , and Gr $\frac{4}{5}$

-May 13th: Grade 7 History Class: Indigenous guest speaker

-May 15th: Special Olympics

-May 15th: Bike Roadeo-am (information to come)

-May 16th: EA & CYC appreciation day

-May 27th to June 6th: Grade 3 & 6 EQAO small groups in library (information to come)

-May 31st: Grade $\frac{7}{8}$ vaccination clinic

-May 31st: Grade 3 Swim to Survive

-May 31st: New JK Orientation (information to come for new JKs)

-June 6th-Annual Arts Night, Family Fun Night & Food (put on by Parent Council, more information to come)

-June 7th: PD Day (am: literacy & math, pm: report card writing)

-June 14th: Grade 3 Swim to Survive

-June 19th: K-2 Police Officer presentations

-June 21st: Grade 6 organized School Wide Clean Up

-June 21st: Jump Rope for Heart

-June 21st: Grade 3 Swim to Survive

-June 24th: Grade 8 grad

-June 25th: report cards go home

-June 27th: Last day with students

-June 28th: PD Day

Upcoming Spirit Days for Early May:

-May 3rd: Star Wars Day (May the 4th be with you)- Star Wars, clothes representing space etc.

-More dates to come...