

JANUARY 2024 SIB PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES



Wednesday January 24th 2024 @6:30pm

Mission Statement: *The mission of Sir Isaac Brock Public School is to celebrate the uniqueness of each individual, and enable all students and staff to achieve their highest potential, through mutual respect, individual opportunity and support of school, home and community.*

Meeting is being held at the SIB library. Those in attendance are: Harpreet Jhooti, Michelle Macdonald, Amy Hunt-Brito, Emma Lee, Steve Viveiros, Kozue Schmidt, Sreeja Venugopal, Tiffany Sinker, Jen Apgar

Meeting commenced @6:30pm

Principal's Report: Mrs. Sinkovitz has been promoted and we wish her all the best at her new school. Please welcome Jen Apgar who is now the new Vice Principal at SIB! Mrs. Apgar joins us from Jean Little Public School, and she started in her new position here at SIB on January 8th 2024.

Our school is growing. We are now at 560 students! We need more staff, as all classes are over capacity. There are many newly landed immigrant families who have joined our community, and it is a pleasure to see that roughly 80% of staff members are translating their correspondence to parents/guardians in their native language, so that all important information can be shared. It is imperative to keep the lines of communication between school and home, open and accessible for everyone in order to ensure student success.

There is now a Student Leadership group of roughly 12-16 students who represent the diversity of our school. I am listening to their many great suggestions for improvements that can be made at SIB. They suggested turning the prayer room into a multi-faith prayer room which is a great idea and one that we support, as it is welcoming and inclusive to students of all religious beliefs. These students have recently made themselves nametags, so that they can be greeters whenever we have assemblies. They have also suggested some signage to be placed near the entrance of the school in order for those that are new to the school community, to be able to navigate their way around to the office, gym, etc. They would also like to have a gratitude wall where they can show appreciation for staff and students. The Student Leadership group will also be planning some school events throughout the year, and we are looking forward to seeing what they come up with!

The Land Acknowledgement has been removed from our daily announcements as it is currently under revision.

We have purchased a Chromebook Stand Up Cart at a cost of \$2400 for the library. The school has temporarily covered this cost for now, but the funds will need to be reimbursed from Parent Council accounts, at a later date.

Once again, all adults must be vigilant and follow the rules of the road during pick-up and drop-off times. There are many adults engaging in unsafe practices, so student patrollers have been removed from the entrance of the parking lot for safety reasons. We are asking for pedestrians that are walking southbound along Colonial Drive on the west sidewalk, to take the path along the kiss and drive up to the open gate that leads directly to the school yard.

This Friday January 26th, is a PD Day which teachers will use to work on term one report cards. These report cards will be available online on Friday February 16th 2024. Parents are always welcome and encouraged to have discussions with their child's teacher at any time throughout the school year, should they have any concerns. Please don't hesitate to reach out.

We are looking into making some school yard enhancements; another basketball hoop, repainting the asphalt, buying playground equipment bags for every class, more sand in the sand pit, playwalls and benches - will all be looked into.

As a reminder, school yard supervision doesn't begin until 8:25 am on school days. We only have 1 person who is available to provide yard duty. It will be suggested to them to try to circulate around the school grounds a bit more, to help ensure everyone's safety.

Fundraising: Parent Council is hosting a school wide Dance-A-Thon in the gymnasium on Wednesday February 14th. Each class has been asked to collectively come up with their top 3 song requests, and they will be added to the playlist. Each student will also receive a treat as they leave the dance and are heading back to class. This fundraiser will be available only on School Cash Online, with a public link that students can share with their family and friends, and anyone else that may wish to donate. All funds raised from this fundraiser will go directly towards supporting our school yard enhancements. **Parent Council members have voted on and approved for all funds raised from the Dance-A-Thon to be deposited into the Greening account #1300. Parent Council members have also voted on and approved for an approximate \$300 to be spent and withdrawn from the Student Res/Activities/Comm account #5051, in order to purchase supplies needed for the Dance-A-Thon (lights, treats, etc).**

Family Fun Night: This year the only food truck we will have, will be the Ice Cream Truck. We are looking into hiring a company to BBQ for us, we will still be offering Dominos pizza as well, and the water wagon application has already been submitted.

Treasurer: Nothing has changed. The subs brought in a total of \$855.20, so we will be offering them again as a lunch option for the months of February and March. It has already been posted to School Cash Online for those who would like to order. **Parent Council members have voted**

on and approved for the \$855.20 raised from Subway sales to be deposited into the Student Res/Activities/Comm account #5051.

The next Parent Council meeting will be held on Wednesday February 21st @6:30pm

Meeting adjourned @7:51pm