

VPS School Council Meeting June 1-2022 Minutes

Attending

Attendees: *Jason McAlister, Carla Anderson, Tricia Radburn, Mark Hallman, Jane Bibby, Beth Ann Burgess, Erin Marriott. David DiCenzo*

1) Welcome and Ice-Breaker

- Mark welcomes all
- What was your highlight of the past school year?
- Mark is excited about Dance Ed...and subs!
- Jane is full of joy because they just had their Dance Ed at King George!
- Carla's is that we made it through a whole year with limited remote learning! A great step to regular stuff.
- Jason says seeing the resiliency of the students...it's normal for them now. They wore masks and didn't care! Parents worried more than them.
- Erin says great having kids in school for most of it, and not having to be the teacher!
- We accomplished quite a bit as a council for the limitations!

2) Information items

Chair Message (Mark)

- Thanks for all of your hard work during another challenging year. I think we accomplished quite a lot, despite the challenges that we faced as a school and council. Wishing you the best during your summer and look forward to seeing you in the fall!

Principal Update (Carla)

- Mrs. Jane Bibby-Principal of L'Ecole King George (introduction, connection with families going to KG)
- May 2-6 Education and Mental Health Week
- Poster: We're Not Alone...a good visual in the school
- Peter Sovereign visited
- May 16 -World Education Support Personnel Day
- Farewell to Mrs. Di Ilio ...she has accepted a full-time position at another school
- Hired Jordan Cousins as Planning Teacher
- Jump Rope for Heart raised \$7646 for Heart and Stroke, organized by Mme de Rijcke and Mme Melin...great work of almost \$8,000 raised!
- *Multi-Year Plan: survey to be completed*
- *Survey link in char bar...due June 6*
- Sand top-up done by Board...do we need more? Put that on radar for next year.
- Removal of 3 slide play structure
- Carla offers thanks for council's work and the communication to parents about it
- "I think we made the right choice," says Carla
- Board person from Operations saw and wondered if the crack could be fixed...it may be welded

- He will ask for permission and if he gets the go-ahead, will come out next week, try to do the repair, and hope it passes Board inspection
- If it doesn't pass, will be removed in the summer
- A family emailed and said they want to save the slide!
- Unfortunately, we cannot source it out to a non-Board group
- We will keep trying! Hopeful!
- EQAO for Grade 3 students scheduled for May 30-June 2
- Platform has had technical difficulties
- Started EQAO on June 1...will resume next week
- Grade 6 EQAO will be June 15
- Track and Field Day on June 2
- Pride Flag will be raised on June 2
- Classes will do some sidewalk chalk art to celebrate kindness
- Selecting Safety Patrols for the upcoming year
- Dance Ed begins on June 9
- Repairs at John Fox Auditorium so no performances
- Might do final performance at GCVI
- Victory gym would be nice but it's small
- There WILL be a final performance...not sure how it will look just yet...but it will be on June 16

Treasurer Update (Beth Ann)

- Beth Ann sharing financials
- Were able to make more than we anticipated
- Used reserve
- Starting next school year with \$6.500
- Plan a budget meeting at the beginning of the new school year
- Four LTO teachers are departing...Beth Ann will buy some gift cards for them
- Teachers used about \$5,000 of \$6.400 allotted
- Kelly has communicated there was a window for processing, to avoid lingering amounts
- Beth Ann recalls times in the past when only half was used
- \$250 budgeted for graduation
- Carla mentions there were some teacher requests after money was delegated...notes that Kelly was trying to stick to the budget
- She was kind in letting them know the deadline was coming
- Carla has communicated to teachers we are trying to be tidy
- Process is to go through teacher rep or the teacher can come on the agenda and share their proposal
- Call will go out in September for proposals
- The money we have going into the year means we will have to be conservative...we unfortunately do not have a big pool as in previous years
- Mark asks if we have always done \$15 per student
- Answerer is no...started much lower and gradually went up
- What is the \$250 for graduation?
- We are calling it Transitions, for grade 4s going to King George and grade 6s going to Willow
- There will be cake for one and the ice cream lady for the other
- Mark mentioned the Beaver Tail truck from the food truck festival...could be good to set up for future graduations

- Knowing there is more ability to fundraise next year is good
- We will need to be realistic about what we can promise
- We have to be very intentional
- Different in the post-Dessert Party era
- It's a different mindset...we were always privileged enough to allocate generously
- Two years without real fundraising has depleted us

3) Discussion items

Sub Orders (Mark)

- Getting progressively more orders each week! 86 this week
- Not a great margin but an excellent reintroduction to food at school
- \$150 worth of playground equipment from Canadian Tire purchased using proceeds from sub orders
- Carla says they are being used! "Good shopping!"
- Do we continue subs in the Fall? Gone well
- Beth Ann mentions it's very heavy leaning to the older grades
- Subs are big for little kids
- Maybe get back to a pizza model
- Great new people are signing up!
- Mark got some emails at Victory Gmail account...easy to get signed up
- Options for younger kids?

Grounds Update (Carla and Beth Ann)

- Carla forwarded a copy of the book about planning grounds projects
- Kelly and Carla will be a conduit with the Board...just need the specifics
- Typically, we have names available...but Carla hasn't met many people given the erratic nature of the last few years
- Want to populate the spreadsheet Beth Ann created
- Will be available in the Google Drive
- Created an Inventory of what council has done over the years
- How to Plan a Playground document also in the Drive
- New meeting June 22
- Newsletter sent out to families week of May 23
- Council voted in favour of removal of the damaged playground structure
- Update on ideas and plans for the replacement of the structure
- New parents interested in being involved!
- We need to be on top of our structures and make sure they are maintained to the right standard
- Knowing the lifespan of these items is important
- Go to the Drive to see what we have! We will be transparent and open as possible
- Carla says thanks for the mulch!

Spirit Wear (Jason)

- Over 200 pieces ordered
- Distributed to students on June 1

- Profit from the number of items ordered...very successful
- Great to see!

Orientation Bags for New Families

- How much PIC funding remains?
- Some PIC money has been spent on newsletters
- Are we interested in this?
- Carla has purchased the JK Orientation bags for this year
- Our reserve for next year is different
- Instead of for JK Orientation maybe just for new families
- Drawstring VPS bags with newsletter inside, and maybe an equity book
- A nice bag for new families
- Just an idea
- Do we have different ideas?
- Jason thinks it has been good spending the money on newsletters...people have been happy about this
- A good use of the money

Prep for September

- While we usually have our budget meeting in June for the following school year, we will continue to hold this in September given the uncertainty in carrying out programs, although hopefully, this is getting better!
- Enrichment Clusters Committee has requested funding for next year
- Equity Committee is wondering about any support for inviting a member of the local First Nation or Inuit community to participate in a school initiative. We have a few ideas and would like to know if we are in a position to offer payment?
- Can we offer compensation for a speaker? Will be determined in September Budget Meeting
- Are there rules around compensating speakers? Yes. It's tricky. Carla will look into it
- Carla notes staff might not know of the financial starting point for next year
- Carla asks that the council ask people requesting things to go through her
- Is the Budget Meeting separate or part of the first meeting?
- Beth Ann suggests that we establish voting members first in an initial meeting and then have a Budget Meeting
- Hope that we can get another co-chair and stay on this schedule

4) Newsletter

- Possibly one more?
- Yes
- What we funded this year
- What we hope to fund next year
- Call for those interested in grounds/structures
- Garden plots are being used by our classrooms, watch them grow this summer!
- Exciting!
- Mark will put some items together and Beth Ann will include some graphs

- Will be great to have a slide update...so release the week of the 20th

5) Other Business

- Beth Ann wanted to share something from two retired teachers
- They showed a tea towel from 1999...self-portraits of all the students
- They sold tons of them!
- "Beyond adorable!"
- Something she had not seen before
- "What better way to get kids to do dishes?"
- Amazing, creative idea
- Not too expensive
- "Our fundraising tentpole for next year!"
- Also, suggesting police checks for all council members/volunteers going forward!

6) Adjournment

Have a good evening, folks!
