

DATE: Tuesday, May 3, 2022

Meeting called to order by Troy at 6:34pm

Present: Sadhana Lad, Marianne Tilton, Elysa Esposito, Troy Baker, Dee Campbell, Erin Carter, Sandra Pedersen, Amy Cameron

Principal's Report:

Literacy Initiatives: Closing the gap

The teachers at BCPS will be closely monitoring the development of early reading foundational reading skills (language comprehension & decoding) The development of foundational reading skills are key predictors of future reading success. Targeting literacy skills and overall development of students reading skills is a focus and has been a focus here at Bells Corners. Our primary and junior support focuses on targeted reading group instruction.

The District will be offering training to our staff for universal screeners for our youngest readers - k-2. We will be looking at DIBLES and Haggarty to help screen and give targeted intervention to students most at risk for reading difficulties.

We have encouraged staff to sign up for Reading Teacher's Top Ten Tools course offered by the district.

We will be creating a focus group of staff members interested in this training.

Curriculum connections and hands on engagement for students with:

- **two-part presentation on the sport of Lacrosse!**

This program will teach us that Lacrosse is more than just a sport – through storytelling, videos and engaging delivery. We will experience connection to the land, traditional and historical underpinnings of Indigenous identity as it relates to Lacrosse, and how we now see and play Lacrosse.

The **first part** of this program will be presented to us virtually on **Thursday, May 12th**. We will learn about the history and origins of Lacrosse through an Indigenous lens.

The **second part (date to be determined)**, will take place in person (at BCPS).

Classes will be learning key foundational skills of playing Lacrosse through activity. This component of the program is delivered in-person by skilled Lacrosse players. Students will participate in fun activities using Lacrosse sticks and balls.

- Scientists in the School are also being introduced in our K to 4 classes so far to date.
- Orienteering (grades 4 to 6)
- Little Ray's Reptile June 7th (k-3)
- Reading Buddies in Kindergarten is also starting as well.

Last week Junior students participated in a 2SLGBTQ+ virtual assembly. A District member of the 2SLGBTQ+ team discussed the use of pronouns, names, identity and the connection to the human rights code regarding gender identity and gender expression. At BCPS, we are planning to start a GSA for students.

Student voice and well-being directly impacts how students see themselves as active learners. Part of our student voice initiatives is our monthly virtual assemblies. BCPS students demonstrated how they achieved many of their learning goals during the assembly. Students also showcased some of their learning about the Earth Day and Eid ul fitr. (*Project video of Earth Day*).

Volunteers - huge thank you to all of the council members and volunteers who support our initiatives at BCPS. We are grateful!

The pizza kit fundraiser was a great success. Thank you to Amy for all her hard work. You appealed to the whole school community. They felt like they were contributing to the fundraising initiatives for the school.

\$500 cheque from City of Ottawa (Bells Corners BIA) is at the school for the auction and play structure.

Marianne

Several staff are hosting teacher candidates for placements of various durations in May and June. This enriches student learning experiences and staff teaching practices.

Learning support: Revisions to support groupings are ongoing, the latest changes being implemented now as we continue to boost student learning.

Looking ahead: teachers are beginning to plan for next year, laying the groundwork to help students transition smoothly to their next grade.

Erin (Treasurer)

Pizza Days - we expect a profit of ~\$800. Remember that Kinders eat at 11:15 so pizzas need to arrive by then. No covid-driven staggered recess for Primaries and Juniors anymore.

We have approx \$21,000 in the bank.

The \$10,000 Ottawa Community Foundation Grant that Erin applied for was approved!

Erin is waiting to hear back from Donna at the City re: \$7500 grant.

EVENTS/FUNDRAISERS

- We are now permitted to host events on school property, so Council can look at dates for Year-End BBQ.
- Sadhana is meeting with the grade 6 team next week to plan the Leaving Ceremony. Council has paid for pizza and cake in the past.
- Silent Auction
 - an email to bidders is imminent
 - We need to look at 32auctions again. The site we used this year charged unexpected fees. Troy and Sandra are speaking to the company about refunding the taxes, which is not permitted in Canada on donations. Sandra spoke to CRA. Still working on this.
 - Pickups are Thurs & Fri outside the gym doors