

Bells Corners Public School Council Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, Apr. 4th, 2023 6:30pm (Virtual/In Person Hybrid Meeting)

Present: Sadhana Lad, Marianne Tilton, Elysa Esposito, Troy Baker, Paisley Fleming, Marc Reside, Destinee Quick, Erin Carter Green, Sandra, Amy Cameron

Meeting called to order by Sandra at 6:36pm

Approval of Agenda

Moved: Troy

Seconded: Destinee

Passed with all in favour.

Approval of previous Minutes

Moved: Troy

Seconded: Destinee

Passed with all in favour.

Discussion on lawn signs from previous minutes (see notes in Matters for Discussion).

Principal's Report - Sadhana Lad

March Bulldogs Video shown.

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Bells Corners has witnessed a month of many learning opportunities. We welcomed Junkyard Symphony to our school who represents two individual performers who use recycled material to teach music and patterns in music. We also welcomed, a student author who is the son of one of BCPS's very own emergency OT/ECEs, who shared a book Ramadan Rocks with the students. The young student was inspirational and demonstrated that any student with a vision to share their story can do the same. Healthy Relationships and Violence Prevention Workshops (offered to grade 5/6 students) were put on by Eastern Ottawa Resource Center and the topics of discussion were:

- Self esteem and body image
- Healthy & unhealthy relationships, setting boundaries
- Conflict resolution/problem solving and assertive communication Defining Unhealthy relationships
- Self-care, mindfulness, emotions (identifying & healthy ways to cope) and support systems/persons

For many of our staff and students celebrating Ramadan this month, BCPS have created spaces for students to fast and pray. We have created two fasting rooms and a prayer space for all students. We had a donation of prayer mats that students and staff are also welcome to use. Staff and students are also recognizing and celebrating Passover and Easter this week.

Dodgeball Intermurals came to an end last week and students were honoured with ribbons for their participation. We thank Ms. Lagzdins and Ms. Hayward for taking the time to organize this during recesses as it was fun for all students and participate. BCPS also sent a team to South March PS to compete in the Chess tournament finals - the competition was fierce and they represented BCPS well.

Upcoming sports events are 3-on-3 basketball Intermurals, debate club, drama club, colouring club, soccer for grade 4 /5 in May, Track & Field in June.

THANK YOU - pinnies, folding floor hockey frames, footballs!!!

Some updates:

Book Fair volunteers are all set. We have a combination of Bells Co-op students and parent volunteers that will be supporting the book fair.

We connected with our Indigenous Team for our District and finding an Indigenous elder needs to be approved by the District. I have filled in a google form to access this resource. A few things to consider for our medicine garden moving forward is what is the purpose of our garden? We need to ensure that it is not performative and who will maintain the garden. We also have plants that have been carefully planted by a volunteer and were part of the original space that called in an Indigenous elder when the OLC was opened. These are a few of the questions that were posed by the Indigenous team. I do feel with this information, that we go ahead with planting but maybe we shift our focus to a garden that may be sustainable or our students can grow herbs that can possibly be used for a healthy snack program? The money can also be used to sustain what the classes would like to be done with an Indigenous lens that ties to our curriculum goals.

The Indigenous farm has been booked for kinders... 15.00/child + busing. We would like to ask Council if they can support with the funding of the bus for students. The Kindergarten Team are fundraising to help cover some of the cost of admission for students.

We would also like to ask Council to help fund busing for grade 1 and ½ to field trip to attend the nature museum. This trip is to enhance learning in science.

Education Week - we would like to share a few of the events (May 1 to 5th)

- Monthly Assembly (with a performance from choir, debate club)
- art display with a theme (surprise!)
- spirit day - wear school colours
- Celebration of education and achievement, showcasing to our commitment to building strong relationships with our students

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Discussion on indigenous herb garden. What is the purpose of the garden? Who will be maintaining it? Need to take a moment and make a solid plan, understand what we need and what we plan on planting.

Current proposed way forward: get guidance from Elder on renewal of the OLC, re-opening it for a new cohort of students.

Motions for bus costs for both field trips (two busses total; \$494): Amy motions, Sandra seconds. Motion Passed.

Grade 6s are going to have a fundraiser: Booster Juice.

Teacher Report - Marianne Tilton

- A number of educators have begun planning field trips for the upcoming months.
- Educators request that families PLEASE label their child's outdoor clothing and sweaters/hoodies as we head into a season in which kids frequently peel layers off while playing outdoors. Mabel's Labels are helpful, or a permanent marker used on the clothing tag.
- The April Popcorn Day was held a little differently to respect the members of our school community who are fasting for Ramadan. We also had a little glitch with a last-minute discovery of some spoiled popcorn leading to the need to restrict sales. Students handled the change of plan with good grace.

Discussion: extra clothing.

A parent reached out asking if there was a budget to purchase extra clothing in case of emergency need. It is noted that kinder age are expected to bring an extra set of clothes, and that is expected to continue. The one item of clothing that would be good to have some extra would be some underwear, as there are times when extra underwear is necessary, and it rarely comes back to the school.

Proposal: add some packs of extra underwear to Council Yearly budget (along with the lice kits).

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Report – 4 Apr 2023

Statement March 2023:

Closing Balance as of 20 Mar 2023: \$24,365.54

Outstanding cheques as of 20 Mar 2023: \$409.63

Cash on hand: Nil

Notes:

- This term's pizza day fundraiser is projected to fundraise approximately **\$1200**.
- \$408.24 remains available in the allotted funds if any additional staff wishes to submit receipts – **if there are new staff who might be interested, let us know**.
- \$2,300.00 remains allotted for Scientist in School/Virtual Ventures, but there is room to increase the amount.
- \$200.00 is also allotted for lice treatment.
- I haven't had the educators reach out about the Butterfly Garden Kit but sent an email to see if they're still interested.

Items for future planning:

- 2023 Auction
- Grade 6 leaving ceremony
- Grade 6 year-end field trip?
- End of year BBQ



Matters for Discussion

- Little Ceasers recap – Amy
 - Started Last Week
 - 22 kits sold so far
 - Sales are a bit slower than previous years; we will extend due date to next week (April 14th)
 - A small slip will go home with students with reminder and extended due date
- Bookfair Volunteers
 - We have enough volunteers now
 - Sandra is available if needed as well
- Movie Night in May - need lead and new night
 - There doesn't seem to be a good night to do this fundraiser, and so we will *not* do this event this year
- End of year BBQ and Auction - start soliciting if moving forward (June 10 or 11 at Lakeview)
 - Settled on June 16th
 - Reach out to Royce and Les for help with BBQ
 - Face painting
 - Games
 - Need to look at what we still have available from previous years
 - Online Auction to be completed before the BBQ
 - Pickup at the BBQ

- Raffle prizes will also be available at the BBQ
- Gr. 6 leaving ceremony prep: t-shirts, lawn signs, awards, etc? DATE?
 - Early discussion on lawn signs (6:39pm-6:42pm)
 - Look to put sign orders with clothing orders
 - Options? Door Signs? Car Decals?
 - This year's leaving ceremony will be Thursday, June 22nd
 - Last year there wasn't much seating
 - Perhaps plan some seating/comfort areas
 - Parent council will help with costs for food/etc.
 - School will engage Council as needed.

Other Items

- Last Pizza Days
 - Will be sending flyers to Leslie this week to be sent out next week (April 11th/12th)
 - Forms due back Mon, April 24th
 - Five pizza days: Apr 28th, May 12th, May 26th, June 9th, June 23rd
 - If a parent would like to help hand out pizza, we always appreciate the help!

Announcements (next meeting)

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 2nd, 2023 - 6:30pm (In-Person/Hybrid)

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:13pm