

Bells Corners Public School Council Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday December 5th 2023, 6:42pm (In Person & Online)

Present: Sadhana Lad, Marianne Tilton, Elysa Esposito, Paisley Fleming, Destinee Quick, Sandra Pedersen, Troy Baker, Amy Cameron, Meaghan Mullen, Stacey Price, Katie Dumont, Kaylee Jobin, Fresh-Baked DELIGHTS (LOL)

Absent: Robabah Najafi, Nina Jensen

Meeting called to order by Sandra at 6:42pm

Approval of Agenda and Previous Minutes

Agenda:

Moved: Kaylee

Seconded: Katie

Quick edit to correct November Minutes link (was going to Nov Agenda)

Passed with all in favour

Minutes:

Moved: Troy

Seconded: Seconded

Passed with all in favour

Principal's Report - Sadhana Lad

It was wonderful to see all the families attend parent-educator interviews. We hope you were able to ask questions, provide feedback and ideas to support your student. The interviews are a quick conversation between your child's educator and yourself and we encourage that parents take opportunities to connect with their child's educator anytime during the school year.

We had a very successful KINDNESS (anti-bully) week. Students engaged in a number of activities to promote kindness and a community of care in our school. Students built on their support system by talking about "Who I can talk to?"; they complimented each other with Wonderful YOU Wednesday. Classes will have the opportunity to share their learning with the school during our November Assembly next week.

BCPS continues in their efforts to MAKE KINDNESS THE NORM in our building and around. Students will be participating in our first school-wide virtual Bingo on December 20th. This will be an opportunity to do something fun as a school community and bring us closer together. The more we build positive relationships between students and staff, the more kindness is what we see and feel throughout our entire day!

Our latest student leadership initiative is taking place with a group of grade 6 students who are teaching our Primary students soccer skills.

We look forward to welcoming our families to our **December Assembly on Thursday, December 14th**. This is a monthly activity our entire school engages in every month to share our most recent goals and achievements. We would like to invite families to come and take a look at what our Assemblies are all about. **Kindergarten and Primary (gr 1-3) classes will have their assembly at 1:15 pm. The Junior classes (gr 4-6) will be at 12:15 pm.** We hope to welcome you to our school and share with you all the great things that happen in and around our building.

Food Drive is taking place this week and the Kindergarten classes are organizing this with the help of the Behaviour Integration Program leading this initiative.

Educator's Report - Marianne Tilton

- Educators enjoyed meeting with families for interviews in November. Although there were some hiccups in learning the new booking system, it did result in families being able to select times that worked for them and there were very few no shows.
- Receipts from educators for \$50 reimbursement: remaining submissions handed in for the council treasurer. I believe 19 educators submitted in total (October, November, December). Thank you very much to the council for this support.

Treasurer's Report - Paisley Fleming

Current Balance as of 30 Nov 2023: \$27, 960.70

Per statement dated 20 Nov 2023:

Closing Balance as of 20 Nov 2023: \$27,578.70

Outstanding cheques as of 30 Nov 2023: \$1,141.06

Cash on hand: Nil

Approximate balance available: \$ 4,200 (unassigned funds)

Notes:

- Additional funds for Halloween Dance fundraiser have been deposited - the amount raised increased to \$1033.16
- \$497.03 was provided to staff for classroom supplies to date, leaving \$1002.97 available in the allotted funds if any additional staff wishes to submit receipts.
- \$1800.00 has been added to promised funds as a placeholder for Love to Groove, amount will be adjusted once final total provided
- The school wish list provided to council has all been purchased, with the exception of yoga mats as they were no longer available, for a total of \$1234.11 (includes amount of \$281.50 spent last year). There is \$265.89 still available.
- \$250.00 remains allotted for Butterfly garden, set aside last year
- \$200.00 is also allotted for lice treatment in case that's needed

Items for future planning:

- New year fundraisers, ie cakewalk, winter pizza?
- The Garnett and Elsie Bilmar Funds for Kids donation will be added to the council ledger once BCPS has processed the funds and provided a cheque to the council
 - Approved \$100/\$150 for white boards and markers
 - Elysa updated us: markers have been purchased. As a district we have to use Amazon Business Account. Issues with appearing on the account.

Matters for Discussion

- ★ MacMillans recap - Troy
 - Closed portal, unable to get final numbers from online orders. Approx \$700. We will have to ask Leslie if there are any paper orders. Money will be deposited last week of school before Winter Break
 - MacMillans pickup will be after school in the gym as before
- ★ Pizza Days update - Amy
 - Kaylee is handling pizza days
 - Amy to explain how to go about the flyer/order form for next round of pizza days, what the dates should be etc
- ★ PRO Grant - Jan 12
 - invest in technology to make it easier for us to include more people online, diversify, be inclusive, have a proper virtual set up for these meetings,
 - \$750 for council from ministry, need to apply every year
 - due beginning of January. Need to decide sooner rather than later
 - everyone thinks it's a wonderful idea - can be used beyond just school council
 - guest speakers, parent workshops, translations, welcome package for new families, etc - **CANNOT BE SPENT on paying staff, computers, Ipads, Chromebooks, LCBO/LOTTO gift cards, cannot use for families who need financial support**
 - TechSoup - provides amazing deals for schools and educators, buy through them
 - Sandra will follow up with that
- ★ Thank you card for Andrew/Dina
 - Destinee brought in thank you cards for Andrew/Dina
 - Dina has moved to Kanata and she will no longer be on the BCPS School Council
 - Gift card for Andrew
 - Discussions regarding an honorarium for him
 - Thank you for plaque - lifetime achievement award for Andrew
 - Les and Royce BBQ?
- ★ OSASC - 3rd Thurs of month (except Dec and June)
 - meetings
 - January-May
 - Does anyone from council want to attend? - Meaghan will attend first meeting in 2024
- ★ Parent Polling
 - beginning, middle, end of year - what is important to them, what they would like to see. Tracy gave ideas and examples of what to ask in a detailed email sent to council members following November's meeting
 - Parent polling a good way to remind parents that we have school council and that anyone can join if they have interest
 - limit to questions, no more than 10
 - Suggestions/Comments
 - Sadhana: surveys across the board are not a very big hit - how can we make ours successful
 - Katie - hand out a form with a due date to return
 - Sandra - will need to discuss again, get it out mid-January?
 - Stacey on Tracy's behalf: there are concerns with using paper - wasteful, not green

- ★ End of year BBQ Date
 - June 14th 2024 Friday
- ★ Cake Walk
 - February 14th 2024 - Wednesday Cake Walk
 - Sandra to send links to fliers to Paisley
- ★ Parent Coach fundraiser
 - Parent Coach comes in and parents buy sessions, proceeds go to school
- ★ Presentations to families - literacy last year, mmls, host here, MEDIA SMARTS
- ★ Lunch Lady
 - Fundraising opportunity: choose from menu of foods, come x# times per week, can order night before by midnight
 - Food is “just okay”, expensive
- ★ Another inclusive fundraiser?
 - Pita Pit
 - Subway - Sadhana suggests alternating with pizza days
 - Katie said she will stop in and ask Subway about their school program
- ★ Auction
 - If we come across really cool prizes, start soliciting now.
 - less bundling, more individual prizes
 - Sandra to send us a letter to take to businesses etc

Announcements (next meeting)

Next Meeting: Tuesday , January 9th 2024 - 6:30pm (In Person/Online)

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:09pm