

Bells Corners Public School Council Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday January 9th, 2024, 6:40pm (Online Due to Weather)

Present: Sadhana Lad, Marianne Tilton, Elysa Esposito, Paisley Fleming, Destinee Quick, Sandra Pedersen, Troy Baker, Amy Cameron, Meaghan Mullen, Stacey Price, Zia Hannan, Kaylee Jobin

Absent: Tracy Donnelle, Katie Dumont

Meeting called to order by Sandra at 6:40pm

Approval of Agenda and Previous Minutes

Moved: Troy Baker

Seconded: Zia Hannan

Principal's Report - Sadhana Lad

- The month of December was spent on preparing for presentations in classrooms and to our parent community. Celebrating the holidays where educators showcased songs, instrumentals and poetry. Students were excited to showcase what they have learned with their educators. The assembly was an opportunity for families to see what we have achieved throughout the month.
BordenBall tournament will be taking place for grade 6 students.
- **Literacy** - focus is K-2 and ensuring all students meet the required language skills for their given grade level by the end of June (strand B in curriculum) - (e.g. phonemic awareness, letter knowledge, word recognition)
 - Centers
 - Decodable texts
 - Systematic phonics instruction (UFLI)
 - Daily practice of phonemic awareness skills
 - Ongoing assessment (6-8 week cycles for tier 2 intervention, beginning/middle/end of school year screeners - DIBELS)
- **Math** - number sense and spatial sense with a focus on knowledge, understanding and application
 - Centers
 - Number Talks as a daily routine
 - Routines in mathematics (planning and predictability)
- **GET REAL Workshop Jr 4-6**
 - Intro & the "why" - Speakers will introduce The Get REAL Movement, the objective of the workshop, themselves, and the program's three grounding core values.
 - Identity & Stories - Speakers will explain human identity and use the Gender Unicorn to expand on 4 parts of identity followed by sharing their personal coming

out stories to relate the information to human lives.

-Reflection activity - Speakers will lead students in an interactive activity highlighting the humanity of their stories and the courage and vulnerability needed in justice work.

-Allyship - Speakers will define allyship, provide tangible examples to support the 2SLGBTQ+ community, and share a video on the subject (if time permits).

-Gender Stereotypes - Speakers will define gender stereotypes, highlight their harmful effects, and introduce breaking gender stereotypes as a form of allyship.

-Commitment & Q&A - Speakers will ask students to reflect on the workshop and answer as many student questions as time permits.

- **Dr. Aisha & Rabbi Brian**

Rabbi Menachem M. Blum is the Executive Director and Spiritual Leader of the Ottawa Torah Centre. He is often seen presenting workshops that facilitate inter-cultural understanding and initiate dialogue.

Originally a successful Biologist, Dr. Aisha Sherazi is the Pastoral Care Worker at Merivale High School. She is also a freelance writer for the Ottawa Citizen and uses her writing to promote peace and Dialogue.

Workshop 1: Stereotypes and Prejudices – What Are They?

Time: 45 mins to 1 hr Age group: for our students in grades 3-6

Through a slideshow students are asked to offer their perceptions and judgments about the images they are shown. They are then led through an exercise that addresses stereotypes about nations and cultures, towards a discussion about prejudice. Works well in assembly format with large groups, as well as classes.

Workshop 2: Why Bat Hangs Upside Down

Time: 45 mins to 1 hr Age group: for our students in grades K-2

Using a story about a bat that becomes isolated, students are led through a discussion about inclusivity and belonging. Students work in groups to produce a skit to illustrate the lessons learned from the story. Younger students take part in their own puppet activity.

- **Lakeview - PRO Grant - partnership - Media Smart Presentation (tech & parents)**

Thank you to School Council for our white boards.

Educator's Report - Marianne Tilton

- A good start to 2024 as students and educators returned after the break excited to be together again.

- Procedural writing (how to) is being taught across most classrooms this month. (Example shared of making hot chocolate then writing the steps).
- On the educator side of things there is a lot of collaborating on collecting observations and data as we head towards reporting. Educators are learning more about reporting on the new language curriculum.

Treasurer's Report - Paisley Fleming

Current Balance as of 5 Jan 2024: \$27, 456.65

Per statement dated 20 Nov 2023:

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

Outstanding cheques as of 9 Jan 2023: \$2,635.85

Cash on hand: Nil

Approximate balance available: **\$ 2,800** (unassigned funds)

- Fall Pizza funds have all been deposited- the amount raised was **\$914.00** ●
- MacMillan fundraiser has been deposited - the amount raised was **\$375.00** ●
- \$992.16 was provided to staff for classroom supplies to date, leaving \$507.84 available in the allotted funds if any additional staff wishes to submit receipts. ● The Garnett and Elsie Bilmar Funds for Kids donation have been added to the council ledger under its own funds line
- \$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

Matters for Discussion

- ★ MacMillans recap - Troy
 - Raised \$375, last year \$847
 - Items were all packaged in boxes and needed to be organized into orders, then labelled. This was completed in the morning which made the pick up easy in the afternoon. Recommend asking for grocery bags for next year to make it easier to sort. Marianne had extra plastic garbage bags to use. Also ensure we have label tape, pens and sharpies for next year if we repeat. Takes approx 1.5hrs to sort.

- There was a package without a name, sorted out and order given to correct person
 - Found out that their products do not need to be frozen, so storage at the school is not a problem anymore (ie. freezer space)
 - Stacey: mix up with the food. They switched out food without consulting with customers. It was upsetting.
 - Amy: Wish there was an option given as a substitute instead of MacMillans deciding independently. Parmesan Pigs in a Blanket were substituted with BBQ Buffalo Wings (not similar)
 - Troy/Sandra: 4 orders in total mixed up, extra things were added in at no cost to make up for it.
 - Follow up with Macmillans needed so that this is not repeated
- ★ Pizza Days update - Kaylee
- First pizza day for Winter 2024 is Feb 2nd. The remainder of the dates to be determined outside of this meeting. Will update council at next meeting.
 - Last pizza day of the school year: June 21st 2024
- ★ PRO Grant - Jan 12
- Sadhana: Email from Lakeview. Looking into collaborating with them. They would host, BCPS would provide refreshments.
 - \$1000 honorarium NFP, split the cost with Lakeview \$500
 - Application due January 12th
 - i. How did Lakeview handle the application and can we do something similar as they did? What are the eligibility criteria for the grant?
 - Could use the grant for \$ for translators?
 - Sandra to write application - due in 3 days.
 - Math Night/Mental Health - to be discussed more thoroughly next meeting
- ★ OSASC - Meaghan attending OCASC next week
- ★ Cake Walk
- being renamed to Dessert Dash Raffle due to colonial ties with the term “Cake Walk”
 - February 14th, everything is staying the same. 9:30am start, end by 2pm
 - Holding in the gym is better than the library
- ★ The following agenda items to be discussed at next meeting due to time constraints:
- Parent Polling - need to create poll
 - Mental Health/Math
 - Movie Night - how to choose movie?

Announcements (next meeting)

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

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:04pm