

PDPS Community School Council Minutes
6th Meeting of the 2019/2020 School Year
Tuesday June 16, 2020
Via Google Meets

In Attendance: Tina Young, Samantha Burns, Jessica Wagler, Jennifer Brackenbury, Chrissy Schultz, Aren Jenson, Dawn Richmond, Becki Hamilton, Jaime Braunig, Ann Ofori-Atta, Brigitte Balzer, Krista Harvey, Trish Elcombe

Welcome to everyone joining our virtual meeting. Special welcome to Trish Elcombe our new principal for the school year 2020/2021. Trish has many connections to the Plattsville community, and taught at Plattsville school 26 years ago!! Also joining the call is our new Administrative Secretary Krista Harvey. Welcome to Krista and Trish !

Previous Meeting Minutes Approval: Motion to approve minutes: Aren Jenson Motion Seconded: Tina Young

Principal's Report – Jennifer Brackenbury

Exciting to see everyone, sadly we are missing the end of the school year potluck!

Distance Learning: We are in week 13 of school closure, and in week 11 of distance learning. The time has flown by. Had very active participation, positive feedback, and strong numbers participating in various forms.

Teachers have met regularly with students, as well as the EAs supporting students in social emotional supports, and self-regulation. Continued with empower sessions – reading support sessions.

Staffing: With mixed emotions, we share that Mr. Curtis and Mr. McKinley are retiring, and are in their final days of school. It will be a different school without them next year. Both have had longstanding careers in Plattsville, and a very positive influence on the school and community. We welcomed Krista Harvey as the new admin secretary; she has a great personality and cares deeply about students and families, and is amazing at building those relationships. A few other staffing updates: Karen McRorie will teach grade 4; Amy Livingston will teach Kindergarten. There will be 10 home rooms for next year. Potential for change is always possible and class lists are tentative so far.

Pickup of Student belongings went successfully; all but 1 bag has been picked up by families. Lots of lost and found items still to be claimed. Families will have a chance in the fall to come and look at the lost and found items.

Grade 8 Grad: Grad celebrations will be very different this year. All ceremonies have been postponed until the Fall, pending public health guidelines. Kathy Hofstetter-Public Library- Librarian put a message on the library sign to congratulate our grads. Special plans for grads on Wednesday June 24 night to congratulate them.

Sign on Albert Street: is rented by a real estate agent and dentist and is a great income for the school. The grass is getting quite long by the sign, we are looking for a volunteer to cut the grass. A high school student could earn volunteer hours for this, someone in the community could do this every 2 weeks. Need to request help with that.

Fundraising: Dawn Richmond: Rain barrel fundraiser was put on hold due to Covid. Families can still access the campaign and mark items on a wishlist; this same fundraiser can be reopened next year, if we decide to move forward with it. Mabel's Labels is an ongoing fundraiser, items can still be purchased anytime.

Dielman's has reached out to us to ask if we want to go ahead with a fall fundraiser. We have decided to wait until September and see where life is then. The fundraising committee had talked about limiting our heavy fundraising for the "off" years when the grade 7/8's will not be fundraising for their Camp Celtic trip. So we may want to have a lighter year in fundraising. We will have to take a wait and see approach to see what fundraising will look like for the fall. A fundraising meeting should be held in the Fall with the grade 7/8 teachers to coordinate the fundraising efforts so that we are not overwhelming the families and community with too many fundraisers at one time.

Healthy Snack Program: Brigitte Blazer – Fresh From the Farm fundraiser may not be in operation as a fundraiser any longer due to Covid implications. (supply, rising costs) everything is unknown, it will be wait and see....

Hot lunch program – Public health recommendations will be a big part of how our program moves forward; We will wait for that information to come out before we plan anything for fall.

Treasurer's Report: Becki Hamilton: \$957.49 spent on the Awesome Room. \$24,025.33 in the bank account now. Council has budgeted \$4000 to remain in our account for the startup of the 2020/2021 school year in the Fall.

Outdoor Greening Project:

Jennifer Brackenbury: things have moved quickly in the last couple of weeks! Our school has been approved for the outdoor greening project. All proposed parts of our project have been approved for our outdoor Armour stone amphitheater. Phase 1 and 2 will potentially to move forward. Approximately \$24,000 earmarked for this Outdoor Learning space. The money for this project was earned from past and current school fundraising initiatives, such as Pita Pit hot lunch program, Pizza sales, Dieleman Fundraiser, Mabels Labels, Elmira Chicken Sales. Money from the principal's fund has been kicked in to top up any additional money owing.

Council Vote : To Approve use of council funds for the Outdoor Education and Greening Project:
All voted in favour. Unanimously passed. No objections. Verified by comments in google meet.

Parent Council Member Ann Ofori-Atta wanted to take a moment to thank Mrs Brackenbury, and the rest of the staff and students of Plattsville Public School for being so open, welcoming and inclusive. It has made the anxiety of being the only African American family in our school so much easier to deal with.

All the best to Mrs. Brackenbury at her new school in the Fall – you will be missed !

Meeting Adjourned at _7:03_ pm – Thanks for Attending!