

Plattsville and District Public School- School Council Meeting

Date: Monday, November 13, 2023

Present: Samantha Burns, Trish Elcombe, Tina Young, Stacey Jorgensen, Dawn Richmond, Brigitte Balzer, Kim Maendel Jones, Ann Ofori-Atta, Chrissy Schultz, Sarah Whyte

Regrets: Riley Weiss

Absent: Valerie Stuart, Melissa Johnston

Welcome

Review of minutes from October meeting

Brigitte moved, Ann seconded

Correction to Trish's name

Treasury Report (S.Jorgensen)

Sept Lunch total \$266.01 has not been updated on documents at this time

Budget update

Approval of draft budget

Discussed at first meeting of the year- looking at school year ahead (draft budget attached)

Sarah moved to approve, Tina seconded

Roles and Responsibilities of Council (S.Burns)

Approval of by-law updates- change to Article 4: membership – added community rep and TVPIC to voting members, added a heading for non voting members

Moved by Brigitte , seconded by Kim

Goals (S.Burns)

Approve wording of fourth goal – option b- add sentence “to align with safe schools plan”
voted and moved to approve

Sub-committee Reports (All)

Confirmed participation and leadership for each group

Hot lunch (S.Burns lead, Janet, Melissa, Tina, Riley)

Pizza orders have increased since last year, sub orders are on par with last year

Program running smoothly so far

Hot lunch team is helpful and working well

Fundraising (D.Richmond lead, Sam, Riley, Sarah, Ann)

We are currently in the middle of the fall fundraisers- due Nov 21. Will distribute items as they arrive.

Totals at this time for current fundraisers- Dominos \$255 mint smoothies \$580

Winter fundraiser - Elmira Poultry (Feb) Butcher Barn- possible spring fundraiser

Safe Schools (Val, Sarah, Brigitte, Ann)

Trish will take the lead for this committee, nothing to report at this time

Parent Engagement (Brigitte lead, Sam, Stacey) focus on year end celebration, May Kindergarten visit

Parent Involvement (**T.Young lead**, Val) focus on communication with families- aim to meet in Jan and have something proposal to submit. (Tina will connect with members that met in the spring)

Festive Feast (**S.Burns lead**, Jamie, Kim , Brigitte, Stacey, Dawn, Tina)

Nutrition program will match our \$400 so total of \$800 – free breakfast for the school

Nutrition program has to use their funds for only pre approved vendors

Possibility of getting milk through school program (Possibility of large milk for cereal to decrease waste)

Egg farm- Chrissy Schultz will connect

Family style – deliver to tables using carts

Have headphones available for students that need them

Craft paper at tables with crayons / place mats

Possible dates- Wed Dec 13 or **Mon Dec 18**

Have a table for those with food sensitivities

Arrange menu, floor plan, do 3 seatings instead of 2 this year (Trish to send timing that will work best)

Bookfair (**K.Maendel lead**, Melissa, Mrs Finnie, Brigitte)

Week of Nov 27

Kim email council with dates and times of fair and where volunteers are needed

Principals Report (T.Elcombe)

Attached below

Other Business (All)

Brigitte and Sam attended Community Connect event in the Township – connected with outreach programs. Brought back info on a few community organizations that may be beneficial to our school community, will pass information along.

Tina- discussed the recess project that was seen at a Woodstock school and discussed the possibility of having senior kids assisting with activities during recess time to help with challenges in the school yard

Chrissy Schultz - discussed student council group spirit week, will be doing a food drive and running a Survivor game for teachers and classes the last 2 weeks before holidays as well will have theme days

Open call Next Meeting

January 15th 2024, virtual meeting

Principal Report to Parent Council

November 13, 2023

Appreciations

Thanks for all you do as School Council Executive to support the students, staff and families of our School Community.

School Organization

Our enrolment remains at 253 students. With support of the PDPS Staff, Parents, Superintendent and Human Resources Departments, we were able to adjust our Grade 3/4 to a straight Grade 3 and moved the 4 Grade 4 students into the two Grade 4/5 classes. This was possible as the move did not affect the Ministry compliance numbers for class sizes board-wide and we were able to maintain their current timetables. The move has been positive for all involved.

We have officially welcomed Mrs. Ashley Elliott as our new permanent secretary. In addition, we have been able to fill our temporary Educational Assistant position for as long as we continue to receive an extension to our allocation. Mrs. Kelly Woolcott has returned to Plattsville in this important role.

We currently have 2 Early Childhood Education students completing their placements in each of our Kindergarten classes on Mondays and Tuesdays until December 5. We have already completed a placement for a student teacher with Mrs. McIntyre, and a new student teacher placement began today with Mrs. Harkness. We look forward to continuing to support our 'next generation' of educators here at PDPS – it's a great place to learn!

Supply Shortages

Board-wide, we are once again experiencing supply shortages for all roles when staff is absent. While we do share an itinerant Long-Term Occasional Teacher (ILTO) with 3 other schools, they are deployed to the school with the greatest need each day and so are not always available to come to Plattsville to cover a vacant position when needed. At PDPS have been able to call upon our Student Support Supervisors over the past month to assist with some short-term additional supervision, but they are unable to fulfil the duties for the role of the EA, ECE or secretary they are covering.

However, when a teacher is away, we must, by law, have students supervised by another qualified teacher. While we do our best to cover classes internally to maintain the routines and learning of the affected classrooms, this is not always feasible. Staff maintain Google Classrooms where work can be quickly posted by the teacher, and accessed by the students, so for our Grade 4 – 8 students, it often means that they are sent with work out to other classrooms. For our K-3 students, we attempt to provide to provide the internal coverage as it is more difficult for them to work independently in another classroom, but at times do need to distribute students to other primary classes where they integrate into their programs for the day. Internal staff coverage takes a great toll on a few staff members who have more 'flexible' timetables as they often are not able to provide their learning and support programs during these times, or prep time is taken away from classroom teachers and needs to be 'paid back' within 30 days. Unfortunately, our ILTO cannot be 'pre-booked' for prep payback days.

Noon Hour Supervisors

We have said 'goodbye' to one of our newer Student Support Supervisors, Mrs. Daniela Dicu, as she has obtained a full-time job. We will miss her but wish her the best in her new position. We have been able to cover the duties with our current roster of Noon Hour Supervisors.

Nutrition Program

We are happy that Kim Maendel has agreed to begin shadowing our current Nutrition Program coordinators to learn the role, and eventually take over for Jaime Braunig for 2024-2025. We really appreciate this support.

Upcoming Dates

Nov. 14	Author Visit – Emil Sher
Nov. 15	Bus Safety Presentations
Nov. 17	PA Day for students/Parent-Teacher Interviews, Gr. 4-8 Anthem Choir at Kitchener Rangers' Game
Nov. 20 – 24	Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week
Nov. 24	Waterloo-Oxford Feeder School Music Presentation
Nov. 27	Scholastic Book Fair begins

Tentative Dates (to be confirmed at December Staff meeting)

Dec. 6 – 7	Book/Toy Swap
Dec. 20	Winter Concert