

PDPS Community School Council Minutes

3rd Virtual Meeting of the 2021/2022 School Year

Monday December 6, 2021, at 7:00pm

Via Microsoft Teams

In Attendance: Samantha Burns, Henrik Ruhwedel, Jessica Wagler, Trish Elcombe, Valerie Stuart, Tina Young, Dawn Richmond, Ruth Werezak, Chrissy Schultz, Kim Maendel, Ann Ofori-Atta

Welcome to the Meeting: Henrik and Sam welcome the group.

Approval of Minutes from last meeting:

Motion to approve November minutes: Tina Young

Motion Seconded: Valerie Stuart

Principals Report (Trish)

Appreciations

Continued appreciation to all members of the PDPS Parent Council for your dedication and commitment to our students. We are thrilled that we can have fundraising and hot lunches starting up again and thank everyone on these two committees for all your work and effort to get them off the ground. I also want to acknowledge the staff of PDPS who have been so supportive, adaptable, and flexible over the past several weeks as we have often gone with unfilled jobs requiring changes to their daily schedules.

Covid-19 Updates

Ministry of Education mandatory daily screening for students and staff has been in place since September. As of January 3, 2021, families will be required to confirm the screening results daily to the school (staff have been completing this online since the beginning November again) for at least the first two weeks back to school. The new QR code system sent home last week is designed to help with this process, keeping it online versus parents having to email or send paper copies to the school each day. The only information the school sees is the 'final result' (Yes, my child can attend or Stay Home) – no other information is provided. The two-week pre-break trial began today to work out any 'kinks' (e.g., wrong passwords) ahead of the January requirements.

Currently there are no plans for after-hours/weekend vaccination clinics for students 5 - 11 at PDPS. We will continue to update information from Public Health and TVDSB through our usual messaging systems. We have been provided no information yet as to the testing kits for families to use over the break, although they have arrived in the school. As soon as we have direction from the Ministry and TVDSB, they will be distributed.

Meetings with Educators

In the past, formal interview/meeting days and times were set for parent-teacher interviews following the progress reports going home. There are no longer formal dates and times set. If you wish to speak with one of your child's educators, please arrange this individually at a mutually convenient time. These can take place by phone or virtually only at this time.

School Organization

Our student enrolment has increased by 1 to 241 in-person learners, 20 students in our virtual classroom, and 8 others registered in remote learning. Unfortunately, Mrs. Aguiar, who began as a Student Support Supervisor (formerly Noon Hour Supervisor) on November 8 has had to resign due to a full-time position she has acquired. We are looking for someone to fill the position from 10:35 – 11:35 on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Anyone from the community who is interested can contact Ms. Elcombe at the school.

We are pleased to welcome our new charge custodian, Ms. Tish Eggett, as of today. Mrs. Chatterson has taken a position at Southside school in Woodstock.

Student Photos

Individual student photos are scheduled for Wednesday, February 23, 2022. At this time, class photos will not be permitted. If this changes, they will likely be scheduled for the spring. Students in remote learning will be invited to their home schools to have their pictures taken. More information will follow closer to the date.

Winter Showcase

We will not be having a community concert or showcase this year. Over the past two weeks a number of staff have had to be off for a variety of reasons, and we are seeing an increase in student absences as well which makes planning and implementing a 'whole school' event very difficult. We are looking into putting together a 'Post Cards from PDPS' presentation to share with families and hope to do something 'live' later in the school year, similar to the artwalk last winter.

Upcoming Dates:

Dec. 6 – 17	Christmas/Winter trivia
Dec. 7	Hot Lunch program begins
Dec. 13	Christmas/Winter dress up Plattsville Lights Up for the Holidays voting begins
Dec. 14	Ugly Sweater Day Grade 8 Grad Photos
Dec. 15	Red, White, Green Day
Dec. 16	Christmas/Winter Hat or Sock Day
Dec. 17	PJ Day
Dec. 20 – Jan. 2	Winter Break
Jan. 3, 2022,	Back to School (Day 2)
Jan. 14	PA Day

Fundraising Opportunities and Goals Dawn Richmond, Samantha Burns, and Henrik Ruhwedel, Kim Maendel.

- We will focus on individual campaigns to address small areas of improvement at the school as the last couple of years we have solely focused on long term goal (3 years for the outdoor playground).

This way families can see direct results from our fundraising in action.

Next year we can relook at the large goal of an electronic school sign or adding more trees (part three of outdoor classroom)

- Current campaign towards library resources, next will be determined by council vote. Possibilities include (but are not limited to):

- Gym, physical equipment and resources
- Diverse needs, furniture and resources to support learning
- Targeted programs like music, math or French etc.
- Family engagement like a guest speaker
- Needs will come from input from the school, council and families

- Goal will be to have a calendar of events to share with the school body so they know our intentions and can plan to participate in fundraisers that align with their needs/interest. Hoping this will help avoid conflict with other fundraising in the community

- Next campaign (hopefully) will be Elmira chicken (Dawn will contact organization). Campaign for end of January/February with a delivery goal around Feb 26, 2022.

If COVID rules still impact delivery we can look at other pick-up options (using arena parking lot etc.)

- Spring campaign will look at engaging local restaurants to select a day where families can order (ie. \$5 will be donated from every order over \$25 on this day). Sam to follow up with local restaurants
- Colour Paradise (garden centre) gift cards around Mother's Day - inquiry at this point
- Note: snack program will run a fundraiser in December with Produce Express. Online grocery order % goes back to school
- Hot lunch program is up and running for December. More details coming at next meeting, volunteer notice will be sent out this week

Next fundraising meeting set for January 10, 2022 at 7:30pm

Mapping 2021/22 Council Budget (Sam & Henrik) Hoping to earn approx. \$500 to \$1000 per fundraiser campaign. Our goal is to earn \$1000 per campaign for Dieleman's and Elmira Poultry; and \$500 each for the Restaurant and Colour Paradise gift card fundraiser campaign.

Hot lunch program update (Sam) -Lunchbox is a program that takes over the administrative tasks of the hot lunch ordering process. Plattsville Pizza is being offered Tuesday and Thursday; Wednesday is Subway. We have 5 parent volunteers that are able to help out with hot lunch. Food will be delivered at first break for students. Sam proposes that parent council purchase a dedicated food serving cart to be used only for the hot lunch program. Trish will source a price for the cart. \$350 approved for purchase of a cart for hot lunch service, by voting members of parent council.

Treasury Report: Stacey Jorgensen, was not able to attend the meeting tonight
Previous Month account balance \$ 3,448.84 Funds raised via Mabel's Labels deposited: \$ 77.34
Current Account Balance \$ 3,526.18

Call for new business- Ruth Werezak – Speaking to parent council about some outdoor education options and needs. Kindergarten focused needs: “mud kitchen” outdoor sensory area, bin for water, sensory learning. Kindergarten sized seating, smaller picnic tables, not so high off the ground. “Weave panel” used to hang things on it to display while doing outdoor teaching as well as many other uses. Trish will help Ruth Werezak to come back with ballpark figures for this Wishlist. Also requested by parent council to better understand request for funds: a layout map of potential use of space and create a proposal for council to view. Hoping that the proposed garden beds will be installed in the Spring for school and community use, that project has been delayed (per Trish). Some teachers mentioned the need for a clothes dryer, to be installed in the school to help with drying some of the wet items for student needs. Next phase of outdoor project – “greening project”. Trish has been in contact with the GRCA; they will look after planting all the trees and additional expenses will be covered by the school board, to further enhance our outdoor learning areas.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:45pm – Thanks for Attending!

Next Meeting Date: Monday January 17 7:00pm