

## PDPS Community School Council Minutes

### **2nd Virtual Meeting of the 2021/2022 School Year**

Monday November 1, 2021 at 7:00pm

Via Microsoft Teams

**In Attendance:** Samantha Burns, Henrik Ruhwedel, Jessica Wagler, Stacey Jorgensen, Trish Elcombe, Chrissy Schultz, Valerie Stuart, Kim Maendel, Lindsay Kurt, Dawn Richmond, Tina Young.

Ann Ofori-Atta – sends her regrets, could not attend. Would like to self-nominate for a Parent Rep role.

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

#### **Approval of Minutes from last meeting:**

Motion to approve September minutes: Valerie Stuart Motion Seconded: Kim Maendal

**Addendum:** Following the meeting, an error in the budget line from Sept. 27 Meeting Minutes was noticed.

It was corrected and approved by Parent Council Executive. Correct Opening Balance \$3,045.59

**Treasury Report:** Stacey Jorgensen: Previous Month account balance \$3,045.59

Rain barrel fundraiser \$345.00 funds came in. Mabel's labels \$58.25 funds came in.

New Balance as of November 01, 2021 : \$ 3,448.84

#### **Fundraising Opportunities and Goals**

Request for funds/identified needs was put out to the Staff by Trish: Currently replacing gym equipment (paid for by board), some unique special items we might be looking to purchase. At this time there really isn't anything pressing. Technology needs are being looked after by the board. They are seeing this as a priority; replacing and becoming more equitable with devices. Teaching staff have all been provided with a laptop. A shipment of devices came in from the board, and we expect a second shipment as well. Trish has notified staff to let them know that perhaps if something comes up, they could submit a formal request to Parent Council for their needs.

**Forest of Reading Program** - cost approx. \$700 to \$800 annually. Would pay for approx. 50 new books coming into our school library. Unanimous support voted on by council members to donate \$800 (+/- 10% flex margin).

#### **Future Large Target Goals/Ideas to consider:**

-Fix up the ball diamond on school grounds - one of the ball diamonds is being removed by the township. Will be a big project. Trish will look into this further.

-Updating our school library catalogue to add content and resources to reflect and support indigenous groups. Someone could work with Miss Finnie on some needs for the library. Trish says that the ministry curriculum is coming for Indigenous studies, so we could wait and see what comes from there and then see what additional resources are suggested.

-Could Books, or games be donated by the community? Chrissy says that we are always looking for used games. Chrissy would gladly take those for the awesome room. Sam suggests a "book or game drive" – a good time to do it before Christmas as families might be looking to clear out their home collections. Trish has to look further into if the school is allowed to accept used books, due to Covid regulations. Games are allowed to be donated.

-More specialty seating in classrooms - such as standing desks, or other specialized seating. Chrissy suggests that the Hokki stool ("wobbly stool") are a big hit with students and could be a possible future purchase.

-Phase 3 of outdoor learning space- Phase 3 installation of trees and greenery as well as possibility of another slide on the other hill. Also the stage portion at the bottom of the hill has not yet been budgeted for, it is quite an expensive piece which was previously taken out of phase 2 to be able to afford the rest of the project.

-Electronic sign for the school – that could also be used to post community events as well. Trish will look into the price range for something like this. Most schools have a sign out front, ours does not. (The existing sign belongs to the library)

### **Current Fundraising Opportunity:**

Holiday online event - Nov 19 is the deadline to submit this online Dieleman's Christmas fundraiser. This is a good fundraiser; generally raises \$1000-\$1500. We could aim these funds at forest of reading donation. Dawn will aim to have Dieleman's fundraising info ready to distribute to families by the end of this week.

Mabel's Labels – ongoing fundraiser. 20% of all sales come back to our school. Click on the “support a fundraiser” tab and select Plattsville Public School to have the funds come to our school group.

Other ideas and opportunities - Local restaurants partner with our school to promote gift cards/dining in. Seed fundraiser; Purdy's chocolates would be a good fundraiser around Easter time (Sam will look into). Mint smoothies – local to Stratford and an easy fundraiser to run. Elmira Chicken is another fantastic earner for a fundraiser, as long as we could distribute outside as we have done in the past, it worked out really well 2 years ago when we ran it. Spirit Wear/Logo items, t shirts, mugs etc. could pick a couple items to choose from. These will be ideas for a sub committee to look into deeper to bring back more information to the next meeting.

**Board Fundraising Criteria** – fundraisers must follow Covid regulations and there can be no direct contact for parents coming to the school to pick up orders. Best to have delivered direct to home, or items small enough to send home with students. Rules are changing every day; Trish will find out more about what is allowed. Each fundraiser we do we must have a main goal and a secondary goal for the specific funds raised. We cannot just raise funds without a specific direction.

### **Mapping 2021/22 Council Budget**

Sam recommends that we park this task for now and come back to this once we have clearly defined costs for some of the items we are going to fundraise for.

**Hot Lunch Program (Sam)**- We are now allowed to run this program. Pita Pit and Plattsville pizza are interested in working with us again. Plattsville Pizza is having an issue with obtaining a vendor for whole wheat pizza dough/crust. Sam has to dig deeper into the ingredients for the regular crust offered, it might not be allowed per board regulations. Cost for pizza has remained the same at \$2.00 /slice.

Pita pit have changed lunch strategies. They have upped their prices to \$6.00 which now includes a cookie and a juice box with each meal. Can no longer get the smoothies. Our selling cost would be \$7.00 (might not be allowed to include the chocolate chip cookie or juice box) sugar content in those items has to also be confirmed that it meets the board guidelines. There is also a new system called “Lunch Box” they have existing vendors ( Subway and Pizza Pizza, to name a few) there is a cost involved in participating with this program. Parents would do all their own ordering online, allows families time to cancel or change orders 2 days in advance. Some flexibility there as well, and less stress on our volunteers to do all the order submitting and managing. Parent Council would have to pay the upfront cost to participate in this program. Lunch Box would look for vendors that could supply our school and would also reach out to our own community restaurants. Sam will look into this further, could see if a Lunch Box rep could attend one of our meetings to answer any questions we may have.

Trish is also hoping that the milk program will be coming back. Nothing confirmed with that yet.

### **Principal's Report – Trish Elcombe**

**(notes provided by T. Elcombe)**

#### **Appreciations**

Thanks to all School Community Members for their continued support, patience, and positivity towards the school year so far at Plattsville. Thank you also to those who are volunteering their time to serve as School Council executive members, and those who are attending and supporting tonight.

#### **School Organization**

Our student enrolment remains the same at 240 in-person learners, 20 students in our virtual classroom, and 8 others registered in remote learning.

Mrs. Livingston has taken a leave for family reasons. We have hired and welcome back Mrs. Lowrick as the Long Term Occasional Teacher for the Grade 1/2 class until her return. We also have been assigned a temporary Educational Assistant to support some of our new Kindergarten students' needs until December 17. We have welcomed Ms. O'Reilly to this position. We will be welcoming Mrs. Aguiar as an additional Student Support Supervisor (formerly Noon Hour Supervisor) on November 8.

### Approved Volunteers in Schools

Subject to the approval of the School Principal, fully vaccinated volunteers for essential supports (e.g., field trips, preparation/clean-up of nutrition program, distribution of individualized lunches) may access the school with the following requirements:

- Visual confirmation of full vaccination prior to entry (record keeping of visual confirmation is encouraged)
- Sign In/Sign out and Attestation procedures followed, as per the Approved Frequent Visitors & Essential/ Other Service Providers process.
- Contact tracing procedures in place (what classes/ students did the approved volunteer have close contact with? how long? when?)
- Must have a valid Police Record Check (PRC) on file and complete an Offence Declaration for the current school year.

Mrs. Harvey has sent out Offence Declaration forms to previous volunteers for whom we have a Police Record Check on file and we are just waiting for those to come back. New volunteers must provide a specific school volunteer Police Record Check. This will require a letter from the Principal to accompany the application when submitted to Police Services (Ingersoll).

### Hot Lunches & Nutrition Program

Pre-packaged lunches and snacks are permitted, and fully vaccinated volunteers may now assist with lunch distribution following tracing, sign in/sign out, and hand hygiene procedures, and with limited opportunities for congregation in the hallways or kitchen. If items are not able to be pre-packaged (e.g., pizza), we must ensure that the safe food handling practices are in place, and that the fully vaccinated volunteer has practiced hand hygiene and is masked properly. We also want to ensure that there are no opportunities for congregation of students, and food is distributed to students directly in their normal lunch location. Individually wrapped snacks may also be sent in for classes following protocols regarding ingredients/food allergies, etc. (e.g., peanut free, ingredients listed/attached if homemade, etc.).

### Student Photos

We are waiting to hear back from our Edge Imaging rep to book our Grade 8 Grad photos only. Once these are booked for all 130 schools, we will move to scheduling all remaining student photos.

### Fundraising

At this time, TVDSB is permitting fundraisers for Terry Fox and United Way, other fundraisers that do not require visitors and limit volunteers in schools, are mainly online only and are contactless as much as possible.

### Proposed PDPS Code of Conduct, Policy on Personal Electronic Devices and Dress Code

The final draft proposal was sent to the School Council Executive on October 25, 2021 for final editing. It will be voted on by Council this evening and if approved will be sent out in this coming Friday PDPS Update to families, posted on the School's website and to the private Facebook group page. A copy of the final edited draft is attached.

### Upcoming Dates:

Nov. 1 – 7	Treaties Recognition Week
Nov. 5	Reports Home, Bedhead/Fancy Hair Day
Nov. 8	International Inuit Day
Nov. 9	Indigenous Veterans Day
Nov. 11	Remembrance Day (in-school virtual)
Nov. 12	Professional Activity Day
Nov. 16	Louis Riel Day
Nov. 26	Anything but a Backpack Day
Nov. 29	Hanukkah

**Code of Conduct/Dress Code/Use of Tech Code for review**

Motion to approve with the changes we have revised tonight put forward by : Lindsay Kurt

Motion to second : Henrik Ruhwedel

Unanimously approved by voting members of council.

**Vacant Council Positions for the 2021/22 school year**

2 Parent Rep positions remain open: Ann Ofori- Atta self-nominated for parent rep. Tina Young self-nominated for parent rep. Motion to approve Ann and Tina as Parent Reps and voting members - approved unanimously by council.

**Council selection of sub-committees and work assignments:**

Safe Schools – Valerie Stuart, Tina Young have volunteered to be on this committee.

Fundraising committee- Dawn Richmond, Samantha Burns, and Henrik Ruhwedel have volunteered to be on this committee.

Parent Engagement funds committee- \$500 annually given to Parent Council by the Board (has been used in the past for JK welcome bags, and Grade 8 heading to Grade 9 Mental Health “treat bag”) other ideas Family Fun Night, Guest Speakers, Fun Fair, Movie and Pizza nights, Valentine’s movie night, etc.  
Tina Young and Henrik Ruhwedel have volunteered for this committee.

**Call for new business**

Trish will post some more information about “Treaties Recognition Week” on our Council Facebook page.

To share what is being talked about at school and on the announcements, so that we can continue this conversation at home with our children. Trish will ask Staff to share some of the activities that they are doing in class as well.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:30pm – Thanks for Attending!**

**Next Meeting Date: Monday December 06 at 7:00pm**