

Cedarbrae School Council Agenda & Meeting Minutes

Tuesday November 2, 2021

6:30 pm – 7:00 pm



Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Election of Chair and other roles
- 2021 School Opening - COVID protocol changes, community programs
- Staffing
- Cedarbrae Construction
- Any other business

Welcome and Introduction

In attendance - Birgit Sievert, Erin Agnello, Carole Ann Flemin, Melinda Metzger, Jessica Lewis, Katrina Smallacombe, Matt Morgan

Erin Agnello will be the new school principal starting next week. Carole Ann's last day is tomorrow.

Elections

- On hold until there are more parents present. Will continue to advertise meetings to encourage participation.

2021 School Opening

- Met with parents in the park to discuss student classes and the start of the school year prior to Labour Day
- Still working with Jeremy from Better Beginnings/Adventure for Change
- Opening the school went relatively smoothly despite the changes, COVID protocols and construction. Shout out to Crystal!

COVID Protocol

- Students enter through separate entrances. Parents seem comfortable with where their kids need to go. Parents need to stay off school grounds (exception is JK/SK).
- Students are good at sanitizing and wearing PPE.
- Halls are divided into traffic lanes in order to maintain social distancing as much as possible.
- Students must use cups or water bottles - drinking fountains are not available
- Supervised for nutrition breaks and then outside - there are primary and junior areas but all students are out at one time. Previously had primary and junior outdoor time segregated.
- Approach focuses on methodical and safe.

- Outdoor field trips like walking in the community can happen - provided there is permission and supervision available.
- Gym can be used!!
- Staff are appreciative of the parents respecting and supporting the new protocols.
- Nutrition for Learning is going on, there is a bin that teachers can use to provide snacks to kids. Breakfast program is not available due to the number of volunteers and contact tracing that would be needed. There is no clear direction on this yet. Teachers will check students' lunches and will supplement. The school has a major order that comes in on Thursday and this ensures all classrooms are well stocked. Additional sources are being provided through volunteers.
- Many students need winter wear and shoes. Teachers are keeping an eye on this and helping where possible.
- Fire Drills - these are performed by cohort, not as a whole school. One lockdown drill was practiced
- Home reading has started.
- Singing can happen!!

Community Programs

- Staff has been connecting with parents/community through the Neighbourhood Hub.
- Had to move the Adventure for Change equipment out to make room for the renovations
- Jessica was asking about the violin program. Melinda will send an email and follow up, she wants to connect with the KW Symphony anyways.

Staffing

- New CYW Lauren Morton - she is active with the kids and is looking to start up some small groups
- New EA,
- Julie Weber's medical leave has been extended so staff did a send off and welcomed Erin Agnello as the principal
- 2 Kindergarten and a $\frac{3}{4}$ teacher are new
- Carla Deering is off on a medical leave
- 217 students currently enrolled in the school

Construction

- Rotating classrooms in order to get windows in and mechanical systems installed (estimated completion at the end of November).
- New office area is great but won't be ready until mid-December.
- Flexibility has been important and it is working.
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Music Grant

- Melinda is planning to apply for another grant for musical instruments.
- Jessica will work with Melinda to provide a letter of support. Katrina will also provide a letter of support.

- Big Bass Xylophone is the number one priority.
- They have a digital piano that was provided as a donation.
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Other Business

- Can parents volunteer in the classroom?
 - Double vaccine requirement and a place to receive it within the board.
 - This is still tbd - as the board was planning to create a portal to upload the proof of vaccination.
- Are there other field trips planned?
 - Gradual approach dictated by the board. This is being explored carefully as the logistics are complicated.
- McMillan's is contacting us about fundraising
 - Ideas for fundraising - gaga ball, painting lines on tarmac, time capsule
 - Reach out if there are suggestions for new lines
 - We should put up a signup list in the staff room for things teacher's might want/need
- Katrina to talk to Crystal about getting an update on the School Council Fund
- There may be funds earmarked for gym equipment (Katrina thinks it was a \$300 donation in early 2020). Carole Ann will look into this.

Next Meeting December 7 at 6:30 pm.