

**Elgin Street Public School**  
**School Council Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, February 10, 2021  
6:00 P.M. Google Meet

School Council Chair: Lorraine Isaac  
School Council Secretary: France Leclair-Kekes  
School Council Treasurer: Zaida Moss

Member Attendance:

- Allan Mackay, Principal
- Lorraine Isaac, School Council Chair
- France Leclair-Kekes, School Council Secretary
- Zaida Moss, School Council Treasurer
- Sabeen Khan, Parent
- Heather Fischer, Parent
- Emily Jaarsma, Executive Director for Greenway-Chaplin Community Centre
- Melissa Schrader, Teacher
- Rose Kowalczyk, Teacher'

**1. Principals' Report (Allan MacKay)**

- Distance Learning
  - Students are back at school! Seventeen students moved out of Distance Learning (DL), two moved in.
  - We have been communicating with the students coming out of Distance Learning.
- Health and Safety
  - Very similar process to how we operated before. Continuing to wear masks outside as per requirements. Cleaning processes the same.
  - The students have participated very well; not a big change except that students are expected to finish eating their snacks during the first 20 minutes of nutrition break.
  - Unless absolutely necessary (i.e., inclement weather), students will not enter the building until 9:20 a.m. due to safety concerns.
- Report Cards
  - Report cards will go home Feb 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- Mr. MacKay's Retirement
  - Staff are aware that school Principal, Allan Mackay, is retiring March 31st, 2021. This will be announced mid-March to the community. The new principal will be approved by the board.
- YMCA
  - Some flooring was replaced in the YMCA.

## **2. Greenway-Chaplin Community Centre (Emily Jaarsma)**

- Virtual Art Show
  - Tonight. Please check Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/events/250458973292794>
- Recruiting Board of Directors (Feb/March/April)
  - Two year turn
  - For more information, please visit <https://greenwaychaplin.com/services/>

## **3. Teacher Update (Rose Kowalczyk and Melissa Schrader)**

- Thank You Custodians!
  - Shout out to custodial staff!
- Dreambox
  - Started Dreambox. The students are very excited about using this tool! Students spend roughly 20 minutes each day on DreamBox.

## **4. Treasurer's Report (Zaida Moss)**

- No Change to Report
  - \$40771.98 balance.
  - \$1512.00 to be taken off for Dreambox Licences.
  - \$30,000.00 still earmarked for the Kindergarten Playground.

## **5. Discussion of PRO Grant Application**

- We should hear in six weeks if we can get a speaker to speak on Mental Health. Council is waiting for the approval from the government before booking the speaker. Principal, Mr. Mackay, to provide Lorraine with some names of folks to contact after we have received approval.

## **6. Discussion of New Chair**

- Current chair, Lorraine Isaac, to end her role at the end of February 2021. Principal, Mr. MacKay will send a message on School Day to indicate that there is an opening for the School Council Chair. At this point, Lorraine has agreed to stay on until the end of March 2021.

## **7. Open Forum:**

- Fundraising
  - With Covid19 happening – council members want to confirm that we are doing online fundraisers or we just wait to fundraise until next year?
    - Principal, Allan MacKay indicates that the board has said there is to be no exchange of monies, so this makes fundraising a bit tricky this year. A Pizza Night was recommended for a specific night.
      - Everyone agrees to the Pizza Night Fundraiser Idea. We are to email suggestions to Principal Allan MacKay.
- Elementary Nutrition Services
  - How do we get our money back?

- The program stopped because of the school closure. Principal Allan MacKay will look into this.
- Staggered Nutrition Break
  - Observation that students are limited to what they can do. It was suggested that school council brainstorm ideas for what the students can play with once the snow is gone.
  - Rose Kowalczyk referenced some money that has been set aside from Charity BINGO for this issue. Elementary staff are to ask the students what materials they might be interested in.
    - Sabeen Khan suggested soccer balls for each class. Lorraine Isaac suggested a net bag of jump ropes for only one cohort to use, which is to be sanitized after each use.
- Home Reading Program
  - When will this start back up again?
    - Suggestion made that we put out a School Day message to have books brought back. We can let materials sit in quarantine.
    - Ideas were put forth for incentives to have books returned. Principal Allan MacKay indicated that the top priority is to have electronic devices, such as chrome books returned. Mr. MacKay will post a message on School Day or Elgin School Website.
- Thank You
  - Sabeen Khan extends her thanks to all the teaching staff for all their efforts during lockdown. We are all very appreciative.
  - Mr. MacKay extends his gratitude and appreciation for the staff and the School Council members.
  - Go Elgin Eagles!!!

### **Adjournment**

- Meeting concluded.
- Next meetings scheduled for:
  - Wednesday, April 14th at 6:00 p.m.
  - Wednesday, May 12th at 6:00 p.m.
  - Wednesday, June 9th at 6:00 p.m.
- All meetings to occur virtually via Google Meets
- Continue to look for communication updates via Elgin School Council Google Group