



Lackner Woods Public School

Council Meeting

Thursday September 29 2022

7:00pm

Held in the Library & online

Attendees

Julie Jackson Sinclair- *Principal*

Gaby Gardiner- *community representative*

Mike Hope

Rob Pearlstone

Jil Mangel

Alison Freeman

Adam Verhoeve

Emily Bond

Caitlin Green

Jennifer Costello

Kayla Border

Peter Cheung

Janny Hong

Abinaya

Kiki Stefandis

Stephen Brickman

Brian Adeba

Riniksha Rishi

Krishna

Kayaan Talreja

Sadia Salahuddin

Rob called the meeting to order at 7:05pm

What is School Council?

School councils provide an opportunity and the means to advise the principal and the Board on any matter pertaining to improvement of student achievement and enhancing the accountability of the education system to parents/guardians

School council is an important venue for the various stakeholders in education to work in partnership. Its role, in collaboration with the principal, staff and the community, is to help set the priorities of the school, and to enhance learning opportunities, through various activities, for the benefit of our students

What School Council is Not?

A school council is not a place to pursue your own agenda or advocate for your own child. Individual issues should be pursued through the classroom teacher and/or principal or through your superintendent

Representation

- Parents/guardians of students enrolled in the school
- The school principal
- One teacher from the school, elected by the teaching staff
- One support staff member from the school, elected by the support staff

Role of all School Council Members

- Participate regularly in School Council meetings

- Provide input to the recommendations and advice made by the School Council to the Principal
- Encourage parents and community to become involved in School Council activities
- September Meeting: decide who wants and does not want to be a voting member. All members are allowed with the exception of school staff/faculty

Roles of the Principal

- Facilitate the establishment of School Council
- Consider the recommendations made by the School Council and respond to the School Council as to the outcomes of their recommendations
- Help publicize Council activities by means of a school newsletter or other means
- Non-voting member

Roles of the Chair & Co-Chair

- Must be a parent member
- Communicate with the school community on a regular basis and ensures that parents of all students are kept in the loop of Council's activities
- Lead council meetings
- Prepare the monthly agenda for Council meetings and distribute to Council members prior to monthly meetings
- Ensure the minutes from Council meetings are recorded and stored in an electronic format
- Meet regularly with the Principal to discuss agendas and Council activities

Other Roles

- **Secretary:**
 - The secretary's primary role is to ensure that they thoroughly and accurately record the meetings held by School Council
- **Treasurer:**
 - Ensure that funds raised by the Council are tracked separately and records are maintained. The treasurer will also provide a report to the School Council regularly (monthly). Karen & Julie will continue to take care of this role

- **Teacher**

- The role of the teacher is to provide perspective of a teacher in Council decision making and discussion
- Non-voting member
- *Tina Mitchell will be representing the staff on School Council when she returns in 6 weeks*

Council To-Do's for September

- **Discuss roles and assignments:**

Fundraising director, events director, secretary, co-chair, chair, etc.

- Krishna has volunteered to be the fundraising director for the 2022/2023 year, and will receive lots of support from other Council members
- Rob Pearlstone has volunteered to be the Chair for the 2022/2023 year
- Caitlin Green has volunteered to be the Secretary for the 2022/2023 year
- Pete & Mike & Adam have volunteered to be Co-Chairs for the 2022/2023 year
- Alison Freeman has volunteered to be the Communications Director for the 2022/2023 school year
 - This is a new role, that will be responsible for composing school day messages to be sent out to families, and other communications tasks
 - Alison will send out a summary from this meeting in terms of fundraising goals/objectives, as well as create a Google Form for people to be able to submit questions/topics for Council to discuss

****We will vote on all roles at our October meeting!! ANY parent/guardian can volunteer to help at events, not just council members. Any extra hands to help with fundraising or events is greatly appreciated!****

- Discuss fundraisers for the year

Factory Shoe

- Card distributed to families. With every purchase at Factory Shoe, our school gets \$5. For last year, we were issued \$430 in June, and we are already sitting at \$160 this year so far.
- Just tell them at checkout and they can scan a barcode at the cashpoint if you don't have your card. Alison will prepare info about this to go out on School Day

Mabel's Labels

- - \$99.91 cheque on Sept. 12th- Caitlin Green has volunteered to take this over. She will reach out to Erica to get the information she needs for this.

Back to School Open House Event

- \$3552.35 raised for the school
- Some ideas for "how to improve" were brainstormed- all of which centered around the need for more volunteers
- Timing of the event was excellent. A great way to start the school year, less overwhelming for teachers who haven't had a chance to get to know all the students. Keeping the "meet the teacher" night a casual introduction with a student "class tour" as opposed to formal interviews.
- A lot of positive feedback from families about all aspects of this event

Other Items

Spiritwear

- Wilson & Wilson had a lot of supply problems last year
- This year, they will be working with Ontario suppliers only
- prices may increase
- Big interest in spiritwear with new families to Lackner as well as new staff

Fundraising

- timing is important to not bombard people with so many fundraisers at the same time

- We need to decide if we are fundraising for a BIG TICKET item or covering the cost of various small items in the school
 - Sound System update: only 1 out of 3 speakers is currently working, two companies have come to the school to look at replacement costs. We should have an update about this for October
 - A new sound system would be helpful for events such as the Open House we recently hosted- to get people's attention and make announcements
 - New Play Structure?
 - Julie suggested a potential collaboration that has happened at another school between the school and the University of Waterloo.
 - Engineering students form teams, design a play structure, come in and present it to students and staff, voting happens, we select a play structure
 - Great way to connect with the community and engage the students
 - Document cameras and projectors
 - Our school's document cameras and projectors are 20 years old. Would be a good idea to have a couple back-ups available
- ESNS- lunch program has been a great money-maker for our school as well. In 2022, from March 31 to the end of June \$2600.
 - This money goes into another fund for various school items (document cameras, projectors, other unexpected expenses).
- Some items/activities Council cannot fundraise for, due to equity rules. Some examples of these items/activities are:
 - Chromebooks (each grade has a different ratio of students to technology. Grade % students have a 1:1 ratio.
 - iPads
 - Kindergarten to Grade 1 celebrations
 - Grade 6 to Chicopee celebrations
 - It was suggested that perhaps we could have a Photo Booth at a Year End event to allow some pictures of these milestones (graduation cap props, diplomas etc.)
- Grade 6 Camp is still a possibility for students
- Book Fairs have been great to earn money towards library materials

Move-a-Thon/ Dance-a-thon

- Possible winter event?
- Glow sticks, snacks, activities
- Possible food bank donation?
- Raffle/Bake sale?
- To be discussed at a future meeting

Other Ideas

- It was suggested that we work to get the school's website up to date with additional information that families would find beneficial
- It was suggested that we create a box of anonymous concerns/grievances.
 - Julie clarified that we have a very open communication process/ class meetings for these issues so this sort of box isn't necessary. Students and families with concerns should first bring their concern to their child's educator
 - principal's office is for discussing things and solving problems not just "getting in trouble".

For Next Meeting

- Get a "wish list" from staff and prepare to vote on them prior to our November meeting
- Sound System quote update
- Info on Playground collaboration with University of Waterloo

Principal's Update

- Start up to the school year was relatively smooth
- School day technological issues were a problem but it should be fixed now
- Daycare Construction to be finished December 5, no shut down day. Daycare needs to move to new building while remaining open to families
- 10th portable to arrive on October 24th or November 18 (PD Days)
 - no power until childcare moves because no more power on the grid.

- Portable needs to arrive, be skirted, paved, stairs, and then locked until we get the daycare finished
- 27 classes- 614 students, 5 full kindergartens, 1 half 15 student max
- 5-6 people acting as lunch monitors
- staffing is complete- some maternity leaves coming up and a few other leaves
- Class numbers are pretty high- grade 4's 27-28 per class, kindergartens 29 students per class, grade 2-3, 20-23,
- Staff mostly parking off site, some park at the church and carpool,
- Parking lot
 - Julie patrols daily, word of mouth isn't working, it is a NO STOPPING ZONE,
 - open to suggestions to solve this issue, bylaw has been contacted and nobody has followed up
 - safety patrollers help a little bit
 - There should be NO WALKING IN THE BUS LANE either
- Science of reading- looking at delving into this a little deeper, what resources can we supplement, literacy skills, sound walls- pictures of faces making the sounds, teaching phonics in a different way, hoping to give council an update on some of this of where some funds have went
- Apology for booking photo day on Truth and Reconciliation Day- we won't book on this day again but it was an oversight.

Next Meeting & Future Meeting Dates

October 13

November 10

December 8

January 12

February 9

March 9

April 13

May 11

June 8

Meeting adjourned at 8:48pm