

School Council Meeting Minutes- Preston Public School

Sept. 27, 2023

6:30 via Google Meet:

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: meet.google.com/acm-wmqk-noq

Attendees: Sarah Ajumaili, Lindsay Marynewich, Lindsay Warner, Sharon Roberts, Marc Lehmann, Janet Lam

Agenda:

Welcome and Introductions - Marc

Principal Updates - Marc

- Student Learning: first weeks of acclimating to new routines, expectations and learning spaces for the year, structured literacy approach in motion -Board's response to the OHR Right to Read Inquiry Report
- Staffing: two new supervision monitors have been hired for our three Kindergarten classes and to fill in some supervision timetable gaps; grade 1/2 position being temporarily filled by two occasional teachers
- Potential teacher job action/strike may be forthcoming
- Health & Safety: three fire drills have taken place with a lockdown drill planned for Friday. The students have been great with a record 3.5 minutes exit time and accounted for during our last drill. Workplace Inspection Team continues to do monthly inspections. The WIT is composed of Marc, the head custodian and two teachers
- Facility/Grounds: playground conversations are still in the works with Marc awaiting a response from Facilites to potentially alleviate some of the costs. The parking lot and tarmac were not paved this summer with budgetary constraints being cited as the reason. Marc is also still awaiting a response from Facilities for a basketball post quote.. The Gaga Ball pit has been very popular and is very much appreciated by our students.
- New break schedule: we have switched to eating first followed by outdoor play. This schedule has been working well and assists our head custodian with cleaning
- *Strong Start-Letters Sounds and Words* program. Seeking interested parties and possible coordinator
- Mad Science after school program will take place beginning Oct. 25 for 8 weeks. Kick-off assembly will be Oct. 4
- Spiritwear and logo design: Marc has a company working on an online webstore for our staff and students. The WRDSB Comms department is also assisting with designing a fresh logo for our Panda that can hopefully be used in future stationery, clothing and other graphics

Budget/Fundraising - Marc

- Bingo: \$19,162.35
- Fundraising General: \$7,307.10
- Lunch #1: \$20,639.92

- **Total School Council:** \$47,109.37

Classroom Allocation (field trips, classroom supplies, etc.) -Lindsay

- Last year, \$19,000 was raised by School Council. Bingo brings in most of this money (approx. \$12,000)
- Looking at giving each teacher \$100 for classroom supplies and \$250 to subsidize a field trip. All in agreement and Marc to pass the message along to head secretary and teachers on Friday

Chocolate Bar Fundraiser -Sharon provided an update

- Chocolate bars arrived yesterday
- Order forms due back tomorrow
- Sharon to collect forms
- Looking for volunteers to get everything together so that chocolate bars can go out on Wednesday

Bingo Volunteers -Lindsay

Looking for additional volunteers. Usually on Tuesday night from 8-10 pm. Even one night per year is helpful

Science Night Discussion -Lindsay

Email sent at the end of last school year. Looking to have a Science night, similar to last year's STEM night. Fortunately, the program was free last year. Mad Science has an option that would cost \$1,700 for the night and would provide something new to the community. Lindsay to email further details to those in attendance

WRAPSC Representative -Lindsay

Lindsay Warner explained what WRAPSC is and is looking for a representative on School Council to attend. None expressed an interest so Lindsay will continue attending whenever possible.

Future Meeting Format Discussion

All were in favour of continuing with the virtual format for its flexibility.

Outdoor Education Field Trips -Lindsay

- Looking at RARE in-school field trips at \$12 per person.
- Estimates of \$1,500 for in-school program and \$1,700 with bussing to RARE.
- Proposal put forward to have one primary and one junior grade attending each year in order to maintain outdoor education trips.
- All were in favour of this proposal.

2023-24 School Council Elections

Lindsay Warner was acclaimed as School Council Chair. The secretary role is yet to be filled but a request will be put out to other regular members who were unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Any other business?/Q & A

Upcoming dates:

- Oct. 4: Chocolate bar fundraiser begins/Mad Science kick-off assembly
- Oct. 5: World Teacher Day
- Oct. 6: PD Day

- Oct. 9: Thanksgiving Holiday
- Oct. 17: Student photo day (Edge Imaging)

Next meeting - Wednesday, October 25, 6:30-8:00 PM