

School Council Meeting Minutes- Preston Public School

Feb. 28, 2024

6:30 via Google Meet:

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/fge-pxeq-nev>

Agenda:

Welcome and Introductions -Marc

Present: Marc Lehmann, Lindsay Warner, Liz Hambleton, Lindsay Marynewich, Janet Lam

Teacher/Principal Updates -Marc

- Staffing:

Amanda Cross will be returning after March Break. We are grateful to have had Rebecca Haddaway in the interim occasional position.

Leah Klassen will be off on maternity leave after March Break. We are currently in the process of hiring for that vacancy.

From the latest conversation with our superintendent, it is looking likely that Marc will finish the year as interim principal.

We are lucky to have some elementary supervision monitors to help out during nutrition breaks to supervise in kindergarten and other areas of the school.

The board and school have a need for emergency staff. These are people who do not have qualifications as an educator but the school can still use them to help in limited ways around the school. We are able to put our 4 supervision monitors on this emergency list for when we are short on staff.

- Academics:

We are now into our second academic term.

Everyone is encouraged to visit the WRDSB [Structured Literacy Multi-Year Plan](#) link on the public site. Structured Literacy aligns with the Board Improvement and Equity Plan. As a result of the [Ontario Human Rights Commission's Right To Read Report](#), literacy was deemed a fundamental human right. The Board's Structured Literacy is a response to the findings in the report and outlines a very clear programming structure and supports to meet the needs of all students. The multi-year scaffolding of language of literacy skills moves from *word recognition* to *fluency and language comprehension* and concludes with *skilled reading*.

The WRDSB has also released its [Math Achievement Action Plan](#) this week which you are encouraged to get familiar with.

- Facilities:

As a result of regular use of the Gaga Ball pit, a work order has been submitted to bring in some wood chips or EWF (Engineered Wood Fibre) to resurface the play area. We

are also looking into topping up the enclosed Kindergarten play area. Lindsay W. suggested to include the circumference of the outside of the Gaga Ball pit as well.

- GMP Sportswear web store is being created for our school spirit wear, with our new logos. Marc will share electronically with the council once he gets a link.
- PHL and STEM clubs are still running. Leadership Club with Grade 6s is a great opportunity for students to help out around the school. Students are currently auditioning for the school talent show, spearheaded by Mr. Peats-Bond and assisted by a group of other staff members. More information will follow once we have some dates and times for the show.

Budget/Fundraising -Marc

Bingo:	\$14,943.08
Pizza (821):	\$22,808.65
Fundraising General (840-Chocolate Bar):	\$ 8,855.64
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Total:	\$46,607.37

*Books for the home reading program were just purchased and total amount does not reflect the approximate \$1,000 that were spent

Family Art Night Briefing/Discussion -Lindsay

- Crock-a-Doodle will bring 120 tiles and an assortment of another 120 items. Lindsay W has organized 4 high school volunteers, plus 2 Crock-a-Doodle employees. Lindsay W and Liz will be there as well. Marc will have 5-6 classrooms available for us to use.
- We reached out to Costco for a snack donation and are waiting to hear back. Marc reached out for a buddy about chips and may have a donation there as well. If we need to purchase snacks, we will use money from our budget.

Year-end Family Picnic Discussion -Lindsay

- Tentative Date: Tuesday, June 18th, 5-7:00pm
- How many food trucks should we have? Lindsay will send an email to generate a discussion.
- We will give out free popsicles again. This is appreciated by all and ensures all families can enjoy something without having to make a purchase.

Request to change the March School Council date/format -Marc

- Wednesday March 27th was supposed to be our next meeting date, but Marc has a conflict.
- We will create an electronic option instead of a March meeting, so that we can address any necessary agenda points without having to reschedule a meeting during such a short month.

Any other business?/Q & A

- Will the chain link fence by walking path between school and parking lot be replaced at any time soon? Marc explained that there is a new facilities manager that is looking at adding a bathroom for staff/kindergarten. The paving of the staff parking lot may or may not be done this year as hoped because of budgetary and environmental restraints.

Marc will put in a work order for the fence anyways because of the need for it to be replaced.

Upcoming dates:

- March 6: Family Art Night (Crock-A-Doodle)
- March 10: Daylight Savings Time starts
- March 11-15: March Break
- March 23: Crossing Guard Appreciation Day
- March 27: ISPA Suspension Date

Next meeting: March's meeting will be an electronic alternative (such as an email to council members)

April Meeting date: Wednesday, April 24th at 6:30pm