

School Council Meeting Minutes- Preston Public School

April 24, 2024

6:30 via Google Meet:

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/dqm-roas-jvw>

In attendance: Lindsay Warner, Sharon Roberts, Marc Lehmann, Lindsay Marynewich, Rebecca Fitt-Ajewole

Agenda:

Welcome and Introductions -Marc

Teacher/Principal Updates -Marc

- **Staffing**

- Our Family of Schools Superintendent, Mrs. Evelyn Giannopoulos, will be moving to the Upper Grand DSB as Associate Director. Effective April 29, 2024, Bobbie Chatha will become our new Family of Schools' Superintendent of Student Achievement and Well-Being.

- 2024-25 Tentative Assignments were distributed earlier this month and the first iteration of class-building will take place during our May team meeting. Although we cannot make decisions based on parent requests, we will consider them when planning for next year, with the ultimate goal of making the best placement possible for each of our students

- EA and CYW allocations will be out next week. A process of identifying our current school year's "intense needs" occurred earlier this spring and we are always hopeful for some additional human resources

- **Academics**

- Preparations are underway for our spring primary and junior assessments (EQAO). This is a three day process with an additional day to catch up in case of absences. Grade 6 students will participate from May 13-16; grade 3s will be the week after from May 21-24

- Gr. 6 transition meetings will be taking place with William G. Davis staff on May 17th where both school's staffs will meet with one another while our students take part in a presentation by WGD students. This will take place at Preston. On June 7th, there will be a tour of WGD for all of our grade 6 students

- Meeting will take place between Preston teachers and WG Davis teachers to make sure students individual needs are taken into account and they are placed well in their grade 7 classes

- **Facilities/Grounds**

- Facilities Services staff have come in to assess the amount of EWF (Engineered Wood Fibre) is required for our Gaga Ball pit. We are anticipating that delivery will occur in the next week or so

-Our new playground equipment is still on schedule to be installed by Blue Imp on April 26th. 3 small pieces going in the back field (junior soccer field). Chin up bars, set of parallel bars, set of bars that curve down to the ground (reverse push up bar).

-Our newly created tile mural has been installed on the hallway leading to the gymnasium while the old mural is being donated to the Ken Seiling Waterloo Region Museum. Many thanks to Lindsay and Dave Warner for putting the mural together

- **Health & Safety**

-Spring emergency drills are underway. Our tornado drill took place last Thursday and, with the exception of a few changes in refuge areas, things went very well. We will have three fire drills this Spring, including a combined fire/bomb drill. Marc put together a new emergency procedures handbook for the staff.

- **Miscellaneous**

-Talent show-Friday April 26th-Google form sent out for families to sign up to attend 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

-Registrations for Soccer-53 kids signed up for Preston Soccer League. Teams have been made and the schedule starts next week and runs until the end of year. Games will be played outdoors during break times on Junior Field.

-GMP Sportswear spiritwear

They will be setting up a webstore for us so that PPS clothing can be purchased

Budget/Fundraising -Marc

Bingo:	\$12,477.04
Pizza (821):	\$24,112.15
Fundraising General (840-Chocolate Bar):	\$ 8,160.51
	=====
Total:	\$44,749.70

Yearbook/Gr. 6 Composite Discussion -Marc

-School council has supported this in the past

-Gr 6 Composite: \$20 and 40 children-approx \$800

-Yearbook-waiting to hear back from Edge Photography

-Nicole Fitzpatrick (parent) will provide quote for printing the yearbooks and we will compare with Edge quote.

-School council has agreed to cover the cost of yearbooks and Grade 6 composite this year

-Possibly provide locks for all grade 6 students (determine cost)

Monarch Waystation update and request -Marc

-Area in front of school will be the location for a garden that attracts butterflies/bugs etc.

-On Earth Day, junior students were involved in planting seeds

-Meeting was held with Mr. Levi Moore, Outdoor and Environmental Education Specialist with the WRDSB.

-We obtained some seed: Swamp Milkweed, Lance leaf Coreopsis, Bergamot, Black-Eyed Susan, Culver's Root, Sky Blue Aster, Blazingstar, False Sunflower, Grey Coneflower, Big Bluestem

Home Reading Program update and request -Marc

-Different iterations about what the home reading program might look like
-School council previously donated \$1000 to support home reading program
-Group of teachers have come together to brainstorm ideas about how to set up the program for each classroom.

-Their request (please see Appendix A)

Option 1: K-2 will have their own set of books: \$4,000 (we have \$200 in Scholastic)

Option 2: \$2700

Option 3: \$2000-not for K. Just for grade 1-3

School council voted unanimously for Option 1-to provide the full amount to get the program up and running where K-2 will have their own set of books.

Principal Profile -Lindsay

Lindsay will send out questionnaire via email

Year-end Family Picnic Update -Lindsay

-Haven't found a dessert truck that's available

-Have confirmed a number of food trucks

-June 18th from 5-8pm

Spring Cleaning -Lindsay

-Stones/flagstone: create a pathway to Monarch Waystation?

-This would be an expense for the school?

-Sharon can look into options through company where her husband works

-Plan to get them put down on May 4th. Approx cost \$200-300

Pizza Days Discussion -Lindsay

-Keep going as is with ESNS and Pizzaville

Any other business?/Q & A

Question about Grade 6 celebration-there are plans for a full day field trip for the Grade 6s-details TDB

Upcoming dates:

-April 26: Talent show

-April 29: New playground equipment installation date

-May 2: Maycourt Puppeteers production

-May 20: Victoria Day (school closed)

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 22 at 6:30pm (last meeting of the year)

APPENDIX A

School Council

Wish List - Books to Support Home Reading Program

Due to an evidence-based change in reading instruction (from leveled readers to decodable readers), we are in great need of books to support a Home Reading program (students from K-2/3). As these are different books than we have used previously, we are not supplementing our collection, but instead starting from scratch. This will require a larger initial investment to get the program up and running.

Please see possible scenarios below:

Option 1 - approx. \$3909.70

(each class has own book sets to house in own classroom)

- **Each Kindie class (3 classes)**
 - 2 x Laugh-a-Lot Short Vowels (12 titles, 5 copies of each)
 - 3 x Non-Fiction Set 1 - Short Vowels, Blends & More (25 titles, 5 copies of each)

- **Each Gr. 1 & 1/2 Classes (3 classes)**
 - 2 x Laugh-a-Lot - Short Vowels Fiction (12 titles, 5 copies of each)
 - 3 x Laugh-a-Lot - Blends & Digraphs (12 titles, 5 copies of each)
 - 3 x Laugh-a-Lot - Long Vowels & Digraphs Fiction (12 titles, 5 copies of each)
 - 3 x Non-Fiction Set 1 - Short Vowels, Blends & More (25 titles, 5 copies of each)
 - 3 x Non-Fiction Set 2 - Long Vowels, Digraphs & More (25 titles, 5 copies of each)

- 3 x Non-Fiction Set 3 - R-Controlled Vowels, Variant Vowels & More (25 titles, 5 copies of each)
- **Grade 2 & 2/3 Classes (3 classes) - 2 sets shared between 3 classes as some students no longer need Home Reading**
 - 2 x Laugh-a-Lot - Blends & Digraphs (12 titles, 5 copies of each)
 - 2 x Laugh-a-Lot - Long Vowels & Digraphs Fiction (12 titles, 5 copies of each)
 - 2 x Non-Fiction Set 2 - Long Vowels, Digraphs & More (25 titles, 5 copies of each)
 - 2 x Non-Fiction Set 3 - R-Controlled Vowels, Variant Vowels & More (25 titles, 5 copies of each)

**30 sets x \$146.99 = \$4409.70 (-approx \$500 left from previous funds provided)
TOTAL - \$3909.70**

Option 2 - approx. \$2733.78

(Kindies get own sets, Gr. 1-2/3 classes share (1 set/2 classes))

- **Each Kindie class (3 classes)**
 - 2 x Laugh-a-Lot Short Vowels (12 titles, 5 copies of each)
 - 3 x Non-Fiction Set 1 - Short Vowels, Blends & More (25 titles, 5 copies of each)
- **Gr. 1 - 2/3 (6 classes total - 2 classes share each set)**
 - 2 x Laugh-a-Lot - Short Vowels Fiction (12 titles, 5 copies of each)
 - 3 x Laugh-a-Lot - Blends & Digraphs (12 titles, 5 copies of each)
 - 3 x Laugh-a-Lot - Long Vowels & Digraphs Fiction (12 titles, 5 copies of each)
 - 3 x Non-Fiction Set 1 - Short Vowels, Blends & More (25 titles, 5 copies of each)

- 3 x Non-Fiction Set 2 - Long Vowels, Digraphs & More (25 titles, 5 copies of each)
- 3 x Non-Fiction Set 3 - R-Controlled Vowels, Variant Vowels & More (25 titles, 5 copies of each)

22 sets x \$146.99 = \$3233.78 (-approx \$500 left from previous funds provided)
TOTAL - \$2733.78

Option 3 - approx. \$2000

(Kindies will not participate in Home Reading (will encourage read alouds at home and shared poems, etc., in classroom), Gr. 1-2/3 classes share (1 set/2 classes)

- **Gr. 1 - 2/3 (6 classes total - 2 classes share each set)**
 - 2 x Laugh-a-Lot - Short Vowels Fiction (12 titles, 5 copies of each)
 - 3 x Laugh-a-Lot - Blends & Digraphs (12 titles, 5 copies of each)
 - 3 x Laugh-a-Lot - Long Vowels & Digraphs Fiction (12 titles, 5 copies of each)
 - 3 x Non-Fiction Set 1 - Short Vowels, Blends & More (25 titles, 5 copies of each)
 - 3 x Non-Fiction Set 2 - Long Vowels, Digraphs & More (25 titles, 5 copies of each)
 - 3 x Non-Fiction Set 3 - R-Controlled Vowels, Variant Vowels & More (25 titles, 5 copies of each)

17 sets x \$146.99 = \$2498.83 (-approx \$500 left from previous funds provided)
TOTAL - \$1998.83

Thank you!