

# SANDHILLS P.S. SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

## MINUTES

March 3, 2021 7:00 PM Google Meet

<b>MEETING CALLED BY:</b>	Ibilola O – Co-Chair
<b>TYPE OF MEETING</b>	Regular School Council
<b>SECRETARY:</b>	Karen P
<b>STAFF ATTENDANCE:</b>	Nancy Murovec, Principal, Scott Dickie, Vice Principal
<b>PARENT ATTENDANCE:</b>	Karen P, Beth R, Heather M, Ibilola O, Tanya F, Nicholas S, Cheryl R, Kim V, Kanika (Need last initial), Katie S

### CHAIRS UPDATE

Lola

#### DISCUSSION

- o Welcome and called the meeting to order
- o Asked Nancy to read the land acknowledgment
- o Reviewed previous minutes and accepted, minutes were motioned and passed.
- o Introduced Meeting Norms, were motioned and passed

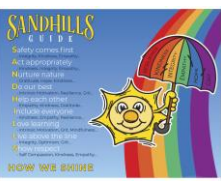
1. Everyone will be muted, if you would like to speak, raise your hand and the chairs will call your name.
2. Please limit your questions and discussions in recognition that there is not a lot of time to get through the council agenda.
3. Once you are done speaking, please mute yourself and that will be indicative that you are done speaking.
4. Respectful language, no discriminatory language and interruptions.
5. Let's stick to the topic of discussion and agenda items -if you have anything you would like added to the agenda, please send an email to both chairs.

### SCHOOL UPDATE

Nancy/Scott

#### DISCUSSION

- o Staff updates –
  - o Erin R has returned to K1
  - o Maddison D is covering for Mrs. Fisher
  - o Emily H is covering for Karen B's leave
  - o J. Scott is going on parental leave in April
- o Black Brilliance Month – celebrated in February. WRDSB is continuing working on equity with staff
- o Equity work and anti-oppression – book display case that one of the teachers created
- o Winter Olympics celebrated today – the first time in two years the entire school was outside together. Still in cohorts. Kids enjoyed the event
- o Winter Olympics had a theme of equity.
  - o Used wooden people to decorate and put them together in any way they wanted. Teachers put them in frames, and they are posted around the school
- o Pink Shirt Day was celebrated recently
- o Show shoe event – junior grades participated on the baseball field, and some went into the forest-students that participated, truly enjoyed it



# SANDHILLS P.S. SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

## MINUTES

- Ukraine – teachers are speaking in child-friendly language about what is happening. Grade 2 and 3's talked about the national flower of Ukraine and created flowers by hand
- Extracurricular activities may begin again. We're taking a slow and cautious approach because they become their own cohort. Kodaly Choir is starting up soon. Teachers are hesitant to go too quickly too fast. Grade 6's is doing recycling.
- Rocks n Rings – week of April 4<sup>th</sup>. All classes will learn about curling and have a chance to play
- Picture retake day – April 20
- Parent Involvement Grant – can we use for SCIS speaker? Discussed, motioned and motion was passed.
- In-person/remote school – surveying parents. Ministry has mandated that remote schools be available next year. Hope that many will be in person. Parents that want their kids to switch back to the in-person need to contact the office
- Only essential workers and some volunteers are permitted in the building
- Reconciliation actions – we are looking at tree planting in the yard with students, still working on best course of action
- Mural Update – rotary club grant to do a mural project with an indigenous focus. Working with local artists. Moving away from the mural due to the cost. Looking at other options.
- SCIS – council approved funds for the first speaker on how to talk to kids about social media and technology use. Sent out a survey asking for questions for the session. The event is on March 10<sup>th</sup>. After 2 weeks she will come back to ask further questions after using techniques. The next talks are about being an upstander, as it relates to bullying and assisting those that are marginalized. Working toward finding a speaker on supporting conversations around tough subjects like discriminatory language and its impact.
  - Council member asked some questions regarding if metrics or how success will be measured for these events?  
Some of the questions and responses were:
    - Are we gathering metrics on engagement and usefulness of the subject matter?
      - The school will be noting attendance during the live stream
      - The school will create YouTube link so we can monitor the number of streams
      - Already have 12 questions from families
    - The most important metric is if one family found it helpful then it is worthwhile.
- Nancy asked if perhaps we could use the PIC grant monies for the SCIS sessions? Motioned and the motion passed.
- Will lunch programs be allowed to start up again – as some of the restrictions are being lifted, permission has been granted for pizza day to start up again. Will start on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and end on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Grade 5 and 6's will assist in handing out the pizza to the classroom.
  - Nancy indicated that for some families, the cost of pizza is not feasible, and she will look at ways to cover the cost.
  - Beth asked if we could as parents or council members help cover the cost.
  - Nicholas put forth a motion for the council to cover \$500.00 of the cost to cover the pizza, Beth amended it to allow a plus or minus of \$200, and the motion was passed

### FINANCIAL UPDATE

Nicholas

### DISCUSSION

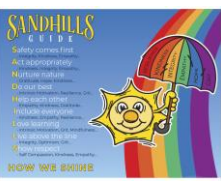
- At the time of the meeting, Nicholas indicated that the
  - Bingo fund - \$3,815.18,
  - General Account \$3,010.59 in,
  - Greening \$1059

### GREENING INITIATIVE

Beth/Scott/Nancy

### DISCUSSION

- Discussed the tree-planting ceremony-Nancy/Scott to confirm with School Board,
- Discussed Earth Day and how will Sandhills celebrate/contribute -April 22-Nancy indicated that the school will put mulch in the front area, clean up the flower beds, butterfly garden and would further check if parents can do a clean-up day again-ie rake the yard, plant bulbs etc.
- The school is looking for parents to maintain the yard-with covid a lot of masks, garbage etc is left on school property
- If tree planting for grade 6's will occur-volunteers will be needed to water the tree during the summer.



# SANDHILLS P.S. SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

## MINUTES

SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

Beth

### DISCUSSION

- With restrictions being lifted-can we resume EQAO nights (math, English) etc, walk in the woods, and identity-based nights? Scott and Nancy to look into this for the next school year and will bring it to the next council meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Beth

### DISCUSSION

- Parking/Safety – we’re noticing vehicles trying to get into the lot. Struggle with staffing so cannot always be standing out by the pylons in the morning. Same people try day after day. It is still better than it was, but we worry about the safety of kids in the lot. Have had a parking lot monitor in the past. Messages are sent on the school day and encourage students to communicate with their parents. Have engaged bylaw but as soon as bylaw leaves cars come in. Not sure how else to get the messaging out there. If anyone is willing to do the monitor role, let Scott know.
  - Council members asked some questions regarding the ongoing parking lot safety:
    - Is it possible to track license plates for these repeat offenders? Students tend to speed away when we approach the cars which can be dangerous. Some have received tickets and still do it again. We could track plates, but we tend to already know the kids and do connect with parents to have discussions.
    - Hopefully, once the speed camera is operational people will at least slow down
    - Maybe advertise the role of the monitor on school day
    - Could we connect with St. Dominic to see if we can work together? Nancy has discussed this with their school principal, and they are impressed with what we have done. It is an ongoing issue. But 95% of the community is following the rules. Scott and Nancy will continue to try to be out there as much as possible.
    - We do make accommodations for disabilities
- Tuck shop - Tuesdays and Thursdays for popcorn and frozen yogurt. Tracy is looking at whether we can start up after March Break
- Other fundraising initiatives tend not to be equitable and put pressure on families. Nancy and others feel that we are doing enough fundraising through Bingo and pizza to sustain the school community
- Other school committee work:
  - WRAPC – reps from each school council come together to discuss community issues. Connect with Beth if interested
  - PIC – parent involvement committee. Board level. Get behind-the-scenes knowledge. Need to apply-go to the WRDSB website to see registration info.
  - School Board meetings are open to the public and are open to everyone. Currently, they are virtual and go to the WRDSB website for the link. They occur on the last working Monday of the month, and the subcommittee (COW) Committee of the Whole occurs second and third working Mondays of each month.  
<https://www.wrdsb.ca/trustees/meetings/>

<b>MEETING</b>	8:16 PM
<b>ADJOURNMENT:</b>	
<b>NEXT MEETING:</b>	Thursday, May 5, 2022 @ 7:00pm