

Suddaby Public School
School Council Minutes

Monday, October 4 · 7:00 – 8:20pm

Welcome and Introductions:

Attendance:

Karin Korth, Angela U, Nada Mohamed, Katha Broschek, Kate Leslie, Andrea Maxwell, Wendy Saulesleja, Sue Campbell, Rita Givlin, Stephanie Meyer, Nadia Ursacki, Tara Bedard, Anjali Misra, Sarah Taylor

What is School Council:

School Councils are an important part of our school communities. The focus of a School Council is to improve student learning, achievement, and well-being and enhance the accountability of the education system to parents.

School Council is:

- An advisory role committee only; the ultimate responsibility for the administration and day-to-day school operations rests with the Principal
- A means to advise the Principal on any matter pertaining to pupil achievement
- A voice to provide input to the school Board when asked for input on policies, plans etc.
- A channel to address issues affecting all, or a significant portion of the school population
- Unique for each school and its community
- A group with a shared interest, working together with parents, students, community members, staff and administration to build a strong school community.

School Council is not:

- A forum to address individual issues pertaining to one student or class.

Roles within Council:

School Council Chair/ Co-Chair is to:

- Communicate with the school community on a regular basis and ensures that parents of all students are consulted on matters under consideration
- Lead School Council meetings
- Provide leadership to the School Council and its members
- Monitor the implementation of School Council decisions
- Prepare a written agenda, in cooperation and consultation with the Principal
- Distribute meeting agenda to School Council

Treasurer:

- The main responsibilities of the Treasurer are to 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.

Secretary:

- The secretary's primary role is to ensure that they thoroughly and accurately record the meetings held by School Councils.

All members are:

- Advocates of a strong School Council
- Supportive of the actions and decisions of the School Council
- Encourage parents and community to become involved in School Council activities
- Serve to represent their respective groups by providing assistance and ideas to and from School Council

All members should:

- Participate regularly in School Council meetings
- Participate in information and training programs related to School Councils
- Act as a link between the School Council, the community, and their respective group
- Provide input to the recommendations and advice made by the School Council to the Principal

More information can be found in the WRDSB Parent Council Handbook

Council Opportunities:

-In need of a school council chair, secretary, treasurer, WRAPSC rep.

-Also sub committees - fundraising, schoolyard revitalization, equity

Financial Report:

WEFI	17020.70
School Council Funds	21628.12
Total	38648.82

NB There is a payment for a virtual symphony presentation still to come out and also proceeds from the Rainbarrel Fundraiser to be deposited.

Principal's Report:

Registration

Suddaby currently has 446 in-person learners and 26 students attending Remote Learning. We have 96 kindergarten friends, 164 English panel students, and 186 French Immersion students. Our in-person Stars are in 20 different classrooms.

COVID-19

All of our Stars continue to do a fantastic job of following COVID protocols. We are grateful to all of our families for making decisions to keep everyone safe. Our students are able to be outside each break and stay in their cohorts with their masks on. Our next step is to allow students to take out recess equipment to be shared within their cohort.

Learning Tools

Suddaby has been given 60 **Lexia** licenses by the WRDSB to support our students. Our classroom teachers do an amazing job of getting students to use the program successfully. When students generate a lesson, those are typically delivered by our SERTs (Special Education Resource Teachers). The data shows that the hard work our Suddaby Stars do on Lexia translates to improvements in reading and confidence. We also note improvements in writing.

Suddaby has 211 **DreamBox** accounts and almost all have been assigned to students in grades 1-4.

Facility

Staff and students are making excellent use of the outdoor classroom installed through the work of the School Council. Thanks to the amazing Suddaby School Council.

Classes are enjoying time on the new playground installed through the work of the School Council with their classes during quality daily physical education time.

A broken toilet caused a flood down in the Moppet preschool and damaged the flooring. Temporarily, the preschool will be using room 38 instead of their usual classroom.

Suddaby's facility projects were unable to be completed over the break because there were no bids. Going forward, we are still looking at completing projects in the future - i.e. windows and third floor bathrooms.

Equity and Inclusion

Send Em' Off Smiling

This year, instead of staff nominating children, we asked families to let us know if they had a need for a new backpack and clothing for their children. We reached out on School Day, in person, over the announcements, via phone calls and emails to previous recipients, and through interpreters as needed to get the message out to our families. We had 59 requests. We are grateful to Send Em Off Smiling for increasing their support to cover 57 of those requests. We are also grateful to our generous community who donated directly to the charity but also provided cash and shopping for the final 2 students. SOS is one of the programs run by Mrs. Smith, our Child and Youth Worker.

Nutrition 4 Learning

Our Suddaby Stars have daily access to healthy snacks including applesauce, apples, clementines, Multi-Grain Cheerios, granola bars, melba toast, yogurt, and popcorn as needed. All students are welcome and encouraged to access food from the N4L bins in each classroom. The snacks are stored in bins in each classroom and are handed out by staff who have sanitized before handling any of the items. Thanks to **President's Choice Charities** for their very generous support of this program. Again, this program is run by Mrs. Smith, Ms Stathouplus, Mrs. Lynch, Mrs. Quint, Ms. Bender, Mrs. Humphries and Miss Mohammed, our CYW co-op student. .

Food 4 Kids

Suddaby also has 27 students (plus 7 siblings) who benefit from weekly deliveries of much needed healthy food to enjoy with their families at home. Thanks again to Mrs. Smith, Mr. D 'Amico, Mrs. Skornyak, Mrs. Lynch, Mrs. Johnston, and Mrs Kurevija!

Truth and Reconciliation

On September 30, many of our students wore orange to participate in Orange Shirt Day but all of our students participated in learning about the impact of residential schools. On very short notice, many of our classes were able to get outside to witness the march which started at The Healing of The Seven Generations and ended at Victoria Park. Some of our families chose to participate in the March. Staff and students found this to be very impactful. The march organizers gifter Suddaby with an EveryChild Matters t-shirt which is now hanging in the Lancaster St. entrance. Continuing to learn hard truths and centering Indigenous voices will continue to be a learning focus for all of us.

Teacher Report:

-So excited to be back.

WRAPSC Report:**Fundraising Report:**

- Dominos Pizza fundraiser - 5.00 from every pizza they sold at that time at the Victoria street location. There is one starting on October 12th. There would be 4 weeks. Could use this fundraiser for the school pizza lunch program.
- Factory Shoe fundraiser is very successful.
- Flippgive fundraiser - will look at publicizing more in the future.
- Rita will send out a list of fundraisers.
- Suggestion made for having a goal for fundraising going forward. These goals should be documented going forward. Schoolyard revitalization projects are one of these goals.
- Playground group will meet again before the next meeting.
- Suggestion made to consider all areas - schoolyard revitalization, equity, etc.
- Suggestion made to reach out to the community to see their goals.

Playground/Outdoor Classroom:

- Being used and enjoyed.
- Still schoolyard revitalization to be completed.

Equity:

- Suggestion is the committee should continue - feedback is this committee is quite valuable.
- Board is developing equity resources - in video format. Anjali will be able to provide updates.
- Suggestion is partnering with community groups, such as The Healing of the Seven Generations.

Other Business:

- We belong together tiles - teachers will be able to use them.
- They have the art supplies to complete them.
- Discussion surrounding the advisory role of the School Council - request made to be informed of school and Board developments in advance so that the School Council is able to provide input before decisions are made. Also, there was a request to learn more about how School Council input is channeled into decision making.

Council Elections:

- Suggestion to wait until the next meeting for council elections.

Scheduling of Meetings

- 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 pm
- Next meeting October 18th at 7:00
- Suggestion made - to send an email out to Schoolday and see whether timing is an issue. Could we use a Google Form? Sue and Anjali will work on this form.

Approving Minutes

- Sent for approval