

## Suddaby School Council Minutes, Monday, May 16, 2022

Present: Steph Meyer, Katherine Akins, Rita Givlin, Sarah Taylor, Andrea Maxwell, Wendy Saleslauja, Sue Campbell, Nada, Angela Uttley, Karin Korth,

Regrets: Tara Bedard, Nadia Ursacki, Kate Leslie, Anjali Misra (will phone in)

### **Administrators' Report:**

**Welcome to Kindergarten:** This event is planned for June 2nd, from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. It will be in person. The event will start in the gym with introductions and an opening slide show and then move into several of the kindergarten classrooms. We will possibly have representatives from Council attend to meet parents and hopefully increase engagement.

NOTE: Scheduling may need to change due to the timing of the provincial election. TBD

**Pizza Days:** Suddaby had our first pizza day last Thursday (May 12th).

Celebrations - more slices of pizza were ordered than the last pizza day - 435 slices vs. 353 slices (February 2020). Stars ordered all of the options we had available, including Halal pepperoni, a gluten-free crust, and dairy-free cheese. We had Stars donate additional money to cover the cost, and we had Stars receive pizza at no cost. Overall, the feedback on the taste of the pizza was positive.

Challenges - The wide variety of options made distribution more difficult. We did have some Stars who were disappointed because they thought that they were going to receive pizza. This could have been due to confusion with Schoolday, forms, etc. There were 4 extra pizzas delivered because of a first-day glitch.

Next Steps - Sarah will talk to the restaurateur about meeting the drop-off time. Further discussion with staff and school council - how can we be more inclusive without taking away parent choice? For the 2022-2023 school year, simplifying the menu choices will be looked into. We will also include a paper order form for parents who do not wish to order using Schoolday.

**EQAO:** Grade 6 EQAO will be written from June 6th to 9th, with June 10th as a catch-up day. Grade 3 EQAO will be written from June 13th to June 16th with June 17th as a catch-up day.

**Scott Norton - Healing of the Seven Generations:** Sarah sent out a save the date and then a flier with more details for our guest speaking opportunity on May 31st - from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Nicole Robinson, our Board's Equity and Inclusion Officer - Indigenous Focus will also be in attendance.

**1:1 Chromebooks For Grade 6:** We received a shipment of Chromebooks for our Grade 6 students. We are working on distributing these after students return the signed Chromebook agreement form. They can go back and forth from home and school, but our Stars will return them at the end of the year.

**Kodaly Choir:** In a whirlwind, Mrs. Shantz was able to take our Kodaly choir and interested grade 6 students to sing O Canada at the Ranger's game on Thursday, May 12. Our Stars were recorded here at school and then also sang live at the game. Thanks to Mrs. Maxwell who helped supervise. Our Stars represented us well. Many thanks to all the families who were able to support this trip. The Kodaly Choir also performed with 4 other school choirs at the Bell Tower at Victoria Park on May 17th at 6:30 pm.

**Junior ( grades 4-6)Track and Field:** An update from our junior teachers:

Junior track meet @Suddaby grades 4-6

- \* The gym will be closed for most of the day as the high jump needs to be inside
- \* It will take place on June 21nd with a rain date of June 24th. Start time 9:10 am
- \* We have decided that we will separate children by age/colour (RED GREEN PURPLE) or some other way to separate students instead of by gender
- \* There will also be no ribbons given out, as we wish to promote a willingness to try ALL events without the pressure of "placing". We also want to promote sportsmanship and give our students exposure to activities that they may never have participated in or tried before
- \*We are NOT going to regionals, as it is booked really late in the year and volunteers could be a problem

There are 7 events:

- 60M
- 200M
- Running Long Jump
- Standing Long Jump
- High Jump
- Softball throw
- 1500M (long pace run)

\*Each teacher will run a station. The 1500 M is the last event at the end of the day and is voluntary.

We will also have oranges or watermelon for hydration and freezies at the end of the day. We will also have a shade tent/medical kit. With this low-key approach focused on fun and participation, volunteers are not needed. However, caregivers are welcome to watch and cheer!

**Grade 6 Celebration:** Thursday, June 23, 2022

Location: Bethany (still to be confirmed)

1:45 p.m. arrival

2:00 p.m. Celebrating our Stars with speeches, a slide show, and a performance by our grade 6 students themselves

2:45 p.m. Refreshments and photo opportunities

3:15 p.m. Dismissal

Comfortable school attire is encouraged. With more than 70 grade 6 students and the capacity of the venue, each family is limited to 2-3 guests for this celebration.

**Staffing:** Suddaby has been given an additional kindergarten class which means we are no longer in an ET (enrolment transfer) situation. The additional class is our 5th kindie class and right now is a teacher-only class with 15 students. Mrs. Blundon commented today that we keep getting more kindie registrations so this may change.

There are 2 sections of extended day next year. Caregivers wishing to access extended day childcare in the fall are encouraged to register as soon as possible.

Mrs. Schaan, currently a DECE in the extended day in room 9, will be moving to Preuter in the fall. Stacey Andrews, currently a DECE at Preuter, will be coming to Suddaby in Ms. Schaan's place.

**COVID Updates:** Fans are allowed again! They are directed up and away from our Stars but we are thrilled to have them in our classrooms for the warmer weather. Thanks to our families who let us know when one of our Stars has tested positive for COVID

**Construction Update:** Other than the classroom that has moved to room 38 and that staff are eating lunch in the library, overall the impact of the construction on the school has been minimal. The next meeting is on May 17.

**Summer Learning:** Classroom teachers are currently reaching out to families of the students they feel would best be served by summer learning. We have had more nominations than we have spaces (20 primary and 20 junior) so may need to prioritize depending on the greatest needs. Families do need to commit to all 3 weeks.

### **A request from our grade 6 students**

*Hello, this is Daisy, Amanda, Mischa, and the representatives from the other grade 6 classes. We are hoping to plant a tree in the back schoolyard to celebrate the Grade 6 classes. We were wondering if you would contribute some money to the project. We will also have a fundraiser of some sort. Just so you know, a 4 to 6-foot sapling would cost about 300\$ to 500\$. We will sort out other details later but we were hoping you could support us and our plan and we will send more details when we have them.*

*Thank you*

*- The tree planting committee*

In communication with Nathan Drumm from WRDSB about our students' request, I noted that the trees are to be watered for 2 years. Are there volunteers who would water the outdoor classroom trees again this summer? Once a plan to fundraise some of the cost and to water is produced, the Council will provide the rest of the necessary money.

***A motion was put forward to agree to partially fund this project to approximately 66% of the total cost (estimated at \$750). Motion PASSED***

### **Financial Report:**

Total Budget:	39,147.67
Reserve Fund (ie keep ion account)	10,000.00
Outdoor Equipment Expense	2,000.00
Thank-you Bench Expense	1,000.00
Equity Initiatives Fund	5,000.00
Schoolyard Revitalization	8559,59
Total to spend:	12,588.08
Factory shoes amount to collect	1,310.00

### **Communications Report:**

Anjali would like to have an official Suddaby School Council Facebook page, run by 3-4 people, preferably those with communications/marketing experience. Involvement on the part of people outside Council would also be beneficial.

The WRDSB's communications policy (written in 2016) is currently changing, official guidelines will be available by next year.

The current goal is to have a conversation to “get the ball rolling” before the end of the school year, with the aim of starting in earnest by September 2023.

People are asked to email the Council if interested in participating.

#### **Teachers’ Report:**

The groundwater festival virtual presentation and Grade 2 field trip to the Huron Nature Area were both well received.

#### **Fundraising/Playground Report:**

2 Benches and the Gaga pit have been ordered! Installation date TBD

#### **Equity Report:**

Nothing to report at this time, WRAPC was unable to provide any answers as to what would be permissible for the school to do. The Equity Committee will regroup next year with, hopefully, more information to work with.

#### **School Nutrition Report:**

Sue will be leaving the School Council. Angela has agreed to join the committee. Anyone else interested in participating is asked to email the Council.

#### **Other Issues:**

- 1) **Planter Boxes:** There have been complaints that the planter boxes at the Lancaster side of the School have been empty. Ms Snyder’s Eco Club will be taking over looking after them. The school community is invited to donate native pollinator plants.
- 2) **Recycling “blue bins”:** Parents, teachers, and students have all expressed disappointment at their removal, and requested that we get them back. Unfortunately this is not a school, or even board decision. The Region of Waterloo will no longer pick up more than 1 large bin of recycling. Going forward, we are encouraged to “reduce” more than we “recycle”.
- 3) **End of year BBQ:** scheduled for June 22, Council will use the PIC grant to purchase hot dogs/veggie dogs, condiments and buns for students and staff. Parents will be given the option to select a beef or veggie dog, or to opt out .
- 4) **HAPP** (the Hohner Avenue Porch Party) has invited us to have a booth as we have done in the past; we have declined because we have nothing to sell this year.

- 5) **Strongstart:** With a late start to the program this year and fewer available volunteers, Strongstart is running on a more open, reduced schedule and are doing their best. Anyone interested in volunteering with Strong Start next year is asked to email Katherine Akins or the Council.
- 6) **Communication of Council Roles to Parents:** Many of our Members have been on the Council for several years now, and it was suggested that we clarify for new members and parents who may wish to join us what the Council does, what subcommittees and roles exist within the Council, and what options exist for people who may wish to help out in some capacity but don't know if there is a way to do so. We agreed this was a good idea, and have begun putting together a synopsis.