



School Council Meeting

February 21, 2023 – 6:30 PM, RPPS Library

Meeting Minutes

- Co-Chair ~ Kate Raspopow
- Co-Chair ~ Ewa Pyman
- Past Chair ~ Sarah Jane Estabrooks
- Members at Large ~ Thomas Geraghty, Annemarie Fraser
- 100th Chair ~ Arian Ahmadi
- 6th Grade representative ~ Khalil Shariff
- Book Fair Chair ~ Laura McCurdy
- Principal, RPPS ~ Brian Chiasson
- Vice Principal, RPPS ~ Christopher Wereley
- Teacher representatives ~ Christina Hawley, Lindsay Craig

Regrets:

- Mehdi Gorban - treasurer
- Hart Shouldice - OCASC representative
- Rachel Seeney - member at large
- Jane Baron - teacher representative

1) Land Acknowledgement - read by Carmen

2) Review of Agenda

Motion to approve: Khalil, Seconded: Kate. Motion approved - agenda passed.

3) Review of January 2023 minutes

Change Kristin Healey (from Michelle Sinclair); add school council minutes into the website (Brian).

Motion to approve: Kate, Seconded: Sarah Jane. Motion approved - minutes passed.

4) Business Arising from Minutes / Review of Action Items

a) Council Constitution - for approval

- Changes and clarifications made to Book Fair
- Timing of the meetings to be taken out of the constitution
- Question about Book Fair standing committee - all crossed out? There is a separate Book Fair Committee Terms of Reference that is being revamped by Laura and will come to Council for review in future. Council contribution will refer to this document instead of duplicating in its Constitution
- Student rep - remove?
- Had to wait for Laura to approve (she wasn't present during discussion)

b) Principal Profile - for approval

- Reviewed by Council

*Motion to approve: Sarah Jane (Constitution) / Annemarie (Principal Profile),
Seconded: Khalil (Constitution) / Thomas (Principal Profile). First motion approved;
second motion approved - motion passed.*

c) Jerseys

- Jessica Currie and Brian in touch with Houle Sports and exploring options and prices
- Sarah Jane mentioned a designer that has worked with the school and may know of historical colours to use in the jerseys
- **ACTION:** Sarah Jane to connect Brian to this designer

5) Chair update - Ewa and Kate

- Kate will keep Council posted on the OCDSB working group putting together a tips document for Councils.

- Council members requested to have outlines for appropriate use of finances in the future
- Annemarie will take over spring pizza session
- Mehdi is getting up to speed on treasurer role
- \$38k has been deposited in the Council bank account from Book Fair
- Council didn't apply for the School Council Parents Reaching Out (PRO) grant; the application period was January 30th to February 20th¹

6) Principal Report provided by Brian Chiasson

STAFFING UPDATE

-Jennifer Glassman is our new Psychologist paraprofessional
 -new Educational Assistant behind Jasmine Bourguignon is Sheena Warner; she will also be covering Andrea Facer's .5 term position until her full-time return.

SCHOOL COUNCIL EXPENDITURES

-tech order
 -outdoor equipment/skates
 -jerseys

ANNUAL SCHOOL BUDGET

-approximately 70% spent
 -separate grant funds will allow us to purchase basic school and art supplies
 - **ACTION**: Get a quote for a portable stereo system

BLACK HISTORY MONTH PRESENTATION

-MASC (Multicultural Arts for Schools and Communities) singer songwriter Kellylee Evans and her team, Steve and her daughter Nura, visited on Thursday of last week
 -they entertained us for an hour filled with jazz and swing music inspired by well-known influential Black artists
 - **ACTION**: attach report from teacher reps to these minutes

¹ School Councils can apply to receive PRO Grant funding of up to \$750 per council, provided by the Ministry of Education. The grant supports innovative projects/activities that engage parents/caregivers and build their capability in anti-racism, equity/anti-oppression, and food sovereignty. [Learn more.](#)



RENOVATION UPDATE

- scheduled to start anytime
- end of August end date
- 2 new classrooms, office space, gender neutral washrooms for both staff and students
- parking alongside the police station will be fenced off for the duration of the project; the public library will graciously be providing seven alternative parking spots for us
- EDP pick-up and drop-off will be affected in the afternoon; junior-aged students will be picked up via the main doors so as to keep traffic flowing freely
- Sarah Jane asked about the girl's locker/shower room - will this area be returned to Book Fair?
- discussion ensued about the way the books were packed in the room; they didn't meet occupational health and safety code; Laura to send Brian the dimensions of the banana boxes that have the books in them so that they fit the shelves (53.5 x 40 x 24.5cm)

CENTENNIAL UPDATE

- scavenger hunt across the decades during Education Week; parents will be invited in to experience the journey as well
- bulletin boards showcasing each decade, maybe combined with the scavenger hunt?
- "Rockin' Through the Ages" talent show in June - two separate performances across the decades and a possible educator number as well
- centennial coffee mugs for sale
- students will decorate and proudly wear their own centennial button during the special festivities
- possible field trip to the Cumberland Museum for the whole school **dependant on bussing availability and transportation costs. shared that there is a field trip and transportation budget line item available to the school.*

- Grade 6 time capsule project
- **ACTION**: Need a DJ for the talent show, which takes place at the end of June
- **ACTION**: Check on bussing cost for trip to Cumberland Museum

LEVELED READERS UPDATE

*feedback from staff meeting Google Doc

- Discussed at staff meeting; consensus was that more readers at the primary level would be a benefit; especially ones that could go home so that families could use them
- For French language readers and Grades 4 to 6 readers, teachers don't feel they have what they need
- Found that there are many readers available in the library that could be re-distributed. How to make better use of what we already have?
- Might need to take an inventory of what we have and then share and see what the gaps are and whether additional readers are needed.
- There were readers and other books left after Book Fair that could be used at RPPS
- Parents should contact teachers if they want to discuss books available for taking home
- **ACTION**: Empower program readers - could we get a second set?; we could get the teachers to photocopy 10% of a book to send home; Brian could look into getting a second set
- **ACTION**: Laura to check on children's books that could be useful for the school, when possible

TERM 2 IEPS

-go home on Friday, February 24

EQAO DATES

- Grade 3s, week of May 23rd (Tuesday after the long weekend)
- Grade 6s, week of May 29th

WINTER FUN DAY

Wednesday, March 8th

RAIN DATE: Thursday, March 9th

2023-27 DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN

- Intro video shown
- Any input can be sent to Brian or via the OCDSB link

Other items discussed:

- Pride flag: stolen last year; could we get a new one?
- Yearbooks: Christina will send a note to the Grade 6 teachers
- Pizza: will generate \$5k to 7k; Council to determine what it will be used for (ideas: stereo system/tech, end of year school trip/activities, readers/literacy support)
- Kinder yard: we CAN get quotes from non-tendered companies if Council was to put this forward; Ariane will put forward a proposal for landscaping following consultation with educators
- Website: Centennial stories submission listed on our website - who does it go to? How is it publicized?
- **ACTION:** Council to look into purchasing gift cards for teachers to purchase supplies (Dollarama, Walmart. etc.) to ensure easier purchasing and best value for money
- Action: Teachers to be asked where they would buy supplies
- **ACTION:** Look into finding someone who can update our website

7) Teacher Representative Report

ACTION: Receive report and attach to these minutes

8) Committee Updates

- a) Treasurer: no report as Mehdi not present.
- b) OCASC: no report as Hart not present.
- c) Book Fair: need to approve the Book Fair grant allocation
 - o *Queen Elizabeth Public School: \$1500*
 - o *York Street Public School: \$1500*
 - o *R.E. Wilson Public School: \$3000*
 - o *Gloucester High School: \$1000*
 - o *Clifford Bowey Public School: \$3000*
 - o *OCDSB Education Foundation: The balance (~\$3,308)*
 - o *Motion to approve: Kate, Seconded: Annemarie. Motion approved.*
 - o **ACTION:** To send a short description to Brian about the schools we are providing grants to.
- d) 100th Anniversary:

- Ariane met with many and put together the info and will have a meeting by Zoom; needs more info from teachers; Ariane will send info on meeting to Council
 - Possible events to include: BBQ; a tea - May 18th; a nicer event
 - We could have kids to write letters of invitation to VIPs
- e) Grade 6:
- **ACTION:** Khalil will send update

9) Forward Looking Priorities and Fundraising

- a) 100th Anniversary including potential increase in budget
- b) Spring Pizza proceeds allocation
- c) Indigenous Learning/Diversity and Inclusion - no update
- d) RPPS Swag - deferred to next meeting. Not really a fundraiser, but Council facilitating the sale for building school spirit/community
- e) Longer-term/multi-year projects

10) Other Business

- a) RPPS Council website - no discussion

Adjournment at 8:45pm

Next Council meeting: March 21, 2023