

AGENDA with MINUTES

Ballantrae P.S. Council Hybrid Meeting

October 19, 2023 — 7:00pm

Council Executives: Indu Bains and Kristy Karkanas, Co-Chairs | Maria Philp and Lesley Carino, Secretaries | Robyn Hadder, Treasurer | Indu Bains and Maria Philp, Social Media Officers

Voting Members (11): Lesley | Anne | Eila | Jessica | Robyn | Kristy | Maggie | Nadia | Maria | Marny | Amanda

Attendees: Robyn | Indu | Maria | Maggie | Marny | Jessica | Nadia | Amanda | Cindy | Lesley | Jonathan

Staff Attendees: Craig Barton, Principal

Item	Owner	Action
<p>Welcome!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hybrid meeting • Approval of minutes from September 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Marny, Robyn • Open Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Melissa has resigned her position as a voting member, but she will stay on as a volunteer. ○ Police Vulnerable Sector Check Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any volunteers who interact with students will need to have a check done (ie. pizza volunteers, etc.). ▪ A check needs to be completed every 5 years. ▪ Once a check is done, then the following year (until 5 years is up), the school will provide a form that the volunteer must sign. ▪ Current volunteers can advise Craig that they are going to get the check done and then they can continue to volunteer. ▪ A vulnerable sector check normally costs \$68, but with a letter provided by the school, the cost comes down to \$32. Council can provide financial assistance to those who may require it to cover this cost. ▪ A check takes up to 15 days to process. ▪ Do council members who are teachers require this check to be done as well? Yes, any council member who interacts with students must get a check completed. 	Indu/Kristy	Any council member who will be volunteering and interacting with students must get a vulnerable sector check completed.
<p>Principal's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School & Board Status <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No updates • IT Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Some parents have not been receiving e-mail communications from the school. ○ The board recently changed the software that it uses and there were glitches which caused the e-mail problems. 	Craig	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The e-mailing glitch seems to be resolved now. ○ Reminder: parents must subscribe in order to receive e-mails from the school that deal with money (ie. pizza orders, athletic wear, etc.). ● Teacher Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Our music teacher, Eugene Wong, has left to take a full-time teaching position. We are once again looking for a part-time music teacher. ○ In the meantime, homeroom teachers will be teaching music until a replacement is found. ● Lunch Assistants Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 additional people have been hired. ○ 1 person will be starting in January due to their current work schedule. ● Curriculum Night <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lots of positive feedback from parents and students – having a great year so far. ○ Because of the e-mail glitch, some families did not know that we were selling pizza and drinks before the teacher presentations, so there was some disappointment from families who would have ordered pizza had they known. ● Movie Licence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A movie licence for this school year has not yet been purchased. ○ A licence spans 1 calendar year. ○ If we purchase the licence in November, then we will still have a valid licence at the beginning of next school year, which means that we will be able to arrange a movie night in October of next year (under the same licence). 		<p>Craig will purchase the movie licence in November.</p>
<p>Fundraising Plan Status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School Improvement Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staff is currently finalizing this year’s goals and how to measure them. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Primary Literacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Moving away from a focus on reading “levels” and moving towards a focus on reading “skills”. ▪ Staff will use diagnostic screening tools to identify which skills students need to work on, and which teaching methods would be best. ● Equity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Focus will be on anti-black racism. ▪ Ensure that students feel safe. ● Behaviour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why is a student behaving in a certain way? (ie. throwing, screaming, spitting, etc.) ▪ Focus will be on finding and addressing the root cause(s) of the behaviour(s). 	<p>Craig</p>	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Parent Question: Who is caring for student mental health at the school? ➤ Answer: There is no one person who solely addresses mental health in the school. The board's EAs de-escalate disruptive situations and help students access the curriculum. The board also employs social workers. In addition, inter-disciplinary teams work with teachers to find strategies rather than work directly with the students. • School Requests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Forest of Reading - \$800 ○ New Projector - \$2000 ○ Bluetooth Speakers (for gym) - \$200 ○ Light Table (for kindergarten) - \$500 ○ Dance Workshop - \$225 for 2 classes (we have 10 classes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2-hour workshop ▪ If we set it up before the dance-a-thon, then the whole school could learn the same dance and then at the dance-a-thon, everyone could do the dance together. • School Innovation Grant (SIG) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Formerly named <i>PRO Grant</i> ○ \$800 max. ○ We could use our SIG on a mental health dance (see above point). ○ Students would participate during the school day and parents could participate in the evening. ○ We could pool our grant with other schools again like we did last year. • YRDSB Cost-Sharing for Tech Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Craig has inquired and we are now waiting for a response. 		<p>Craig will find out if the board's cost-sharing program will be offered again this year.</p>
<p>Financials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Current Financials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$670 was collected on curriculum night, but expenses haven't gone through yet (approx. \$427 in expenses). ○ \$55 came in from Mabel's Labels. ○ Financial reporting procedures have been established. 	Robyn	
<p>Teacher Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terry Fox Run/Walk was a great day! Everyone had a great afternoon, and the weather was fantastic. • Boys and girls volleyball teams are practising a couple of times a week at lunch. Both teams had a game this week. Areas are coming up Nov. 7 for girls and Nov. 9 for boys. • Cross country regional is coming up and we have four runners who advanced. • Flag football is almost over. It has been a great season. • Roots of Empathy program is still looking for a volunteer family (baby 2-4 months). • Leadership team is working on the spirit days for the school year. 	Sue M.	<p>A willing parent/baby is required to run the Roots of Empathy program.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announcement team, lunch monitors, and play leaders continue. • Knights of Columbus free-throw competition for grades 4-8 will be in November for those who are interested. Students don't have to make a team to participate. It's a solo activity for students who enjoy shooting hoops. The top girl and boy from each grade will advance from the school to the first round of the competition. • We are likely going to have Lego robotics for juniors/intermediates (gr. 6-8). • A teacher volunteer is needed to lead a Yearbook committee. 		<p>A teacher is needed to lead a Yearbook committee.</p>
<p>Council Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal Profile <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Must be reviewed every year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Motion: Keep the Principal Profile as it stands. ▪ VOTE: YES • School Demographics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Craig will supply a report to council so that we can better organize events for our community. • School Council Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No additional surveys have been completed. ○ We could scale it down to 2 pages in length so that the school can print double-sided paper copies to be sent home with students. ○ Indu will work on reducing the size of the survey. • School Council Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Will be held on Oct. 23, 5:30-8:00pm at Dr. Denison Secondary School. ○ Kristy, Indu, and Craig will be attending from our school. ○ Cindy is attending for SDSS; others are welcome. • Fill-a-Purse-for-a-Sister Campaign <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The school will send out a flyer to families. ○ A blurb will go into the newsletter. ○ Will run Oct. 30 – Nov. 9 ○ Families are welcome to donate supplies only (a purse does not need to be part of the donation). ○ Monetary donations are also welcome! 	<p>Indu/Kristy</p>	<p>Craig to supply a report on our school's demographic information.</p> <p>Indu will reduce the size of the survey and supply the new file to the school for distribution.</p> <p>A flyer will go out to families via e-mail and a blurb will go in the school newsletter.</p>
<p>'FUN-Raising' Planning/Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pizza Lunch Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nonno Crupi's does not offer a lactose-free option. ○ Nonno's does offer a gluten-free option. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We could put a blurb in the newsletter asking families if they would be interested in a gluten-free pizza option before we offer it in the winter session. ▪ If Kristy is OK to have her personal e-mail address out in the community, then she can be made the point of contact for replies. If not, replies can go to Indu. ○ Kristy is working to find out if Nonno's pepperoni pizza meets the Healthy Schools requirements. 	<p>Indu/Kristy</p>	<p>Blurb to go out in newsletter to gauge interest in gluten-free pizza option.</p> <p>Kristy to find out if Nonno's pepperoni pizza complies with Healthy Schools requirements.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning for the School Year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kernel's Popcorn <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Must order a min. of 100 bags and keep for 3 months in the bags. ▪ We are allowed 3 days/year when we can sell food that does not comply with the Healthy Schools guidelines. ▪ The community BBQ takes up 1 of those days. ▪ Kernel's contact says that all of their flavours comply with the Healthy Schools requirements. ▪ Robyn/Cindy are willing to pick up the orders from Upper Canada Mall before the school distribution dates. ▪ Bags can be divided up by classroom at home (can use reusable shopping bags like we do for the pizza program). ▪ Jessica will send out an e-mail with the details. ▪ Team: Jessica, Robyn, Cindy ○ Family Movie Nights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Thursday, Nov. 23 – primary movie night. Movie will be appropriate for JK – Gr. 3 students. Older students are welcome to attend as well. ▪ Thursday, Feb. 29 – movie will be appropriate for Gr. 4-8 students. ▪ We could sell Kernel's popcorn (we could order more than we need for the in-school popcorn distribution and then use the excess for the movie nights) and provide drinks. ▪ Jonathan generously offered to donate bottled water to the movie nights. We could give away a free bottle of water with every bag of popcorn that is sold. ▪ Team: Jonathan, Lesley, Maggie ○ Little Caesar's <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SCO would open for orders on Nov. 20. ▪ Orders would be due on Dec. 1. ▪ Delivery to the school would be Dec. 13/14 (those who forget to come and pick up their orders could pick up on the Friday and we would not have to worry about storing forgotten orders like last year). ▪ Blurb will go out in the Nov. 13th newsletter. ▪ Reminder blurb to go out in the Nov. 27th newsletter. ▪ Team: Jessica (lead), Amanda, Maggie, Robyn ○ Prof Jamz <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hold it the week of Feb. 5-9. ▪ Collection of pledges will begin on Jan. 22. ▪ Blurb will go out in the Jan. 22nd newsletter. ○ BBQ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tentative date would be Thursday, June 13. ▪ We will use M&M this year. ▪ Last year's ice cream truck was a big hit, so hopefully we can arrange for it again this year. 		<p>Jessica to send out Kernel's details via e-mail.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SIG <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mental health dance as possible event. ▪ Tentative date: Thursday, March 28 ○ Fundraisers that we will <u>not</u> bring back this year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Poinsettias ▪ Amazing Box of Cards ▪ FundScrip (was difficult to make orders; for the money that families spent, a very low percentage came to the school) ▪ Cookie Dough (included in the Little Caesar's fundraiser) ➤ Parent Question: Can parents make a monetary donation to the school? ➤ Answer: Yes. Parents can make out a cheque to the school and then the school will issue a tax receipt. Diana will have the details. 		
<p>Meeting Adjourned</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting adjourned at 8:54pm <p><u>Upcoming Meeting Dates:</u> Nov. 9, Jan. 11, Feb. 22, April 18, May 16, June 6</p>		