

BLACK WALNUT PUBLIC SCHOOL – Council Minutes

April 24/2023

Meeting Format: Virtual

In Attendance:

Parents: Jennifer Reitsma, Thanusha Jeganathan, Anna Leung, Stephanie Whittamore, Lang Vu, Arslan Ghani, Reshma Khan, Jodie T

Teachers: Radhika Batt, Aldo Barovier

Principal: Vivienne Baines

Vice Principal: Krystal Chung

Land Acknowledgment

- Jennifer Reitsma read the YRDSB Land Acknowledgement

Approval of today's agenda – Lang Vu and Arslan Ghani

Approval of November 2022 minutes – Thanusha Jeganathan and Arslan Ghani

School Report – Vivienne Baines/Krystal Chung/Radhika Bhatt

- Many extra curricular activities are taking place at this time including sports (basketball, badminton, track and field), robotics, chess, student council, Walking Wolverine and eco club.
- Vivienne thanked school council for supporting the Dr. ABC event.
- Radhika provided update on student facilitators who are working to collect data re: student voices. Based on data, facilitation will focus will be on the topics of mattering and belonging. They will continue to continue to collect data.
- Student numbers continue to grow; currently up to 750 students. Two additional portables will be added for the upcoming school year.
- Update provided re: 10th anniversary celebration. Volunteers to be recruited for this event. Families have expressed interest in having more events during celebration.
- Upcoming events at BWPS: 10th anniversary event, music concert, kindergarten curriculum event.
- School council will focus more on fundraising next year, post-pandemic.

School Report – Jennifer Reitsma

- Encouraged council to watch the Dr. ABC presentation – Equity Begins at Home. Link will be sent again to families.
- 10th anniversary – volunteers required on May 24th and 25th from 11am to 3:30 pm to assist with event.
- Michelle Hale will be supporting with organization of food trucks.
- Jennifer, Thanusha, Arslan and Vivienne attended the East School Council Forum. Topics presented included community engagement and de-streaming. This event provided good information, an opportunity to network and show appreciation.
- Student council is looking forward to focusing on the following for the 2023-2024 school year including planning movie night fundraising event and taking over hot lunches.
- Staff appreciation event is being planned for June 2023; looking at having a pot luck sign up like last years. Volunteers will be recruited to help.

Treasurer's Report – Arslan Ghani

Arslan provided treasurer's report:

Starting balance: \$1821.38

- funds released for Robotics program - \$1350.04
- + fundraising proceeds - \$172.52
- = total balance - \$643.86

Arslan also acknowledged gratitude for shifting meeting to accommodate Ramadan.

Yearbook – Reshma Khan

- Currently working on yearbook with anticipated September 2023 delivery so that 10th anniversary and other upcoming events can be included. The committee has chosen Edge Imaging to publish yearbook.

Next Meeting:

Next meeting – hybrid meeting on Monday June 5th, 2023 at 7pm.