

**BLACK WALNUT PUBLIC SCHOOL – Council Minutes**

October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

**In Attendance:**

**Parents:** Jennifer Reitsma, Thanusha Jeganathan, Arooj Arslan, Janice Law, Daniel Martin-Weaver, Shaun Chong, Kirsty Lutley, Christine Malik, Nassim Ghods, Nasia Syed-Isaac, Lang Vu, Sadaf Brar, Reshma Khan, Arona Persaud, Anna Leung, Jamie

**Teachers:** Stephanie Neveu, Radhika Batt, Aldo Barovier

**Principal:** Vivienne Baines

**Vice Principal:** Krystal Chung

**Regrets:** N/A

**Land Acknowledgment**

- Jennifer Reitsma read the YRDSB Land Acknowledgement

**Approval of today's agenda** – Daniel Martin-Weaver and Reshma Khan

**Approval of May 2022 minutes** – Thanusha Jeganathan and Shaun Chong

**School Report** – Vivienne Baines/Krystal Chung

- Fairly large classroom reorganization took place in September with two additional teachers joining
- Many extra-curricular activities are back at BWPS including cross country and flag football. Terry Fox run this year was held at the new park.
- Upcoming curriculum night will be open for in-person classroom visits. Additionally, scholastics book fair will be held and an ice cream truck will be available at front of school.
- Parking situation, as well as pick up and drop offs are going well so far.

**School Council Report** – Jennifer Reitsma

- Jennifer provided a brief update on last year's activities by parent council. Despite limitations due to Covid-19, the Council was able to successfully host social events, including virtual

workshops as well as successfully engage school community and maintain open lines of communication.

- For this year's parent engagement event, a survey will go out to determine topics that will engage and interest payments.
- PRO-grant (Parents Reaching Out) - of approximately \$500 - will be tied to the parent engagement event to enhance engagement and resources.
- Buttons for parent council members are available for parent council members to wear. This will help parents recognize members and enhance parent engagement.
- There is a volunteer opportunity for parent council to greet and engage with parents at the doors on curriculum night.
- As per board of education requirement, principal profile generated by school must be updated. Current profile was last updated in January 2020. Volunteers would be appreciated to update profile.

#### **Treasurer's Report – Jennifer Reitsma**

- All council funds are handled by the office; the treasurer reports on current balance. The council reviews requests for support and determines how to utilize funds to support school initiatives.
- The council balance as of 13/SEPT/2022 is \$1821.38.
- Last year, the council supported the school by providing funds for new IT, instruments and support for materials for the GSA.

#### **Yearbook/10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

- As it is the BWPS's 10 anniversary, staff members as well as families are needed to support both initiatives.
- More parents and teachers are required to spread the workload of developing yearbook. Sadaf expressed interest in helping.
- Volunteers needed to plan 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary events (ongoing as well as main event) and can reach out to Krystal and Vivienne if they are interested in helping.

#### **Fundraising Update – Jennifer Reitsma**

- Plan to continue with 'Sow for Seeds' fundraiser, however start fundraiser earlier in the year.

- Vivienne advised that the school is developing a fundraising plan and will share details at next meeting.

**Other:**

- Contract for outdoor classroom has been awarded to one company; hoping to have it completed this fall.

**Appointment of Executive Committee:**

Chair - Jennifer Reitsma – all in favour  
Secretary – Thanusha Jeganathan – all in favour  
Treasurer – Arslan Ghani – all in favour

**Next Meeting:**

Next meeting – virtual meeting at November 7/2022 at 7pm