# BLUE WILLOW P.S School Council Minutes – MAY 9<sup>th</sup> 2024

School Council Meeting Minutes	Location: BLUE WILLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL –
	Library
May 9 2024	Time: 6:08p.m.
	In Person

# In Attendance

parent/guardian/family Members:	Administration/StaffMembers	Student Member(s)	Regrets	Other Attendees
<ul> <li>Regina Teper (Chair)</li> <li>Amanda Galati Hunte (Treasurer)</li> <li>Tammesha Cox (Secretary)</li> <li>Jag Nebula</li> <li>Tania Allen</li> <li>Andrea Trifunovic</li> <li>Lisa Lai</li> <li>Ali Rezaei</li> <li>Robert Brown II</li> <li>Essi Strazimiri</li> <li>Elisha Bessette (Pisano)</li> <li>Elif Topyurek</li> <li>Maryam Mojlaj</li> <li>Megan Kenaraki</li> <li>Aparna Narayan</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Mr. Terry McElrea (Principal on Assignment)</li> <li>Ms. Deborah Abel (Vice Principal)</li> <li>Mr. Alphanso Barton (teacher)</li> </ul>			Name (if applicable)

	Agenda Items	Discussion and Action Items		
1.	Call to Order & Welcome	The meeting was called to order at 6.08 pm by co-chair Regina Teper		
2.	Land Acknowledgement	Ms. Deboral Abel delivered the Land Acknowledgement		
		Two books entitled Wayi Wah and Braiding Sweetgrass were introduced to the students to expose indigenous learning within the school.		
3.	Approval of Agenda	The agenda was approved as written.		
4.	Approval of Meeting Minutes	There were no changes or objections to the March 7 <sup>th</sup> minutes. The minutes were approved, as written. Approved by Regina Teper and seconded by Maryam Mojlaj.		
5.	PRINCIPAL AND VICE PRINCIPAL REPORT	<ul> <li>ONGOING AND HAPPENING AT BWPS</li> <li>Good news assembly currently focuses on kindness. The last good news assembly took place at the end of April and was put on by the junior team. It also focused on showcasing achievement and a sense of belonging and showing kindness to others. It is a good way to celebrate all learners.</li> <li>The week of May 13<sup>th</sup>, transition learner profile meetings take place to support transitions for Grade 8 students who are at risk academically, socially,</li> </ul>		

- emotionally or due to language barriers.
- Also at the school assembly, Autism Acceptance month was celebrated in April. With the transition from awareness to acceptance on the forefront. The school currently has three (3) community classes with students on the spectrum and they are also integration of students in the regular classrooms.
- SEVA (Sihk Educators Voice Alliance) Chai and Chat took place on May 8<sup>th</sup>,
   2024, from 9am to 10am. Members of the Sihk community were present to connect with the school community.
- During this school year, the six (6) mandated fire drills were completed. During
  the fire drill, all students exited the school in an orderly fashion in a timely
  manner. The exit times were good and have been improving over time. Staff
  ensured that all students were accounted for, and they recorded the time that
  it took to exit safely.
- Lockdown drills were also completed this school year. Lockdown drills are taken very seriously as they come to life when a school is in imminent danger. During the drill, staff walked around to check the doors and the classrooms and ensured all students and teachers were out of sight. Students were also told not to draw attention to themselves to ensure safety. For students with sensory challenges, it was suggested that sensory bins and blinds can be used for students in future drills. Ms. Abel will reach out to the school's Occupational Therapist for more information on this option if it is deemed necessary by community class teachers and will get feedback on what can be implemented for students who have sensory needs. The Community Outreach group suggested that they can use this as an opportunity to educate parents and the community and to acquire relevant tools. It was suggested that the council can reach out to York Region Mental Health, and York Region Fire Department to visit the school to have a chat with students and staff

### **Upcoming School Events**

- MPP Trustee and Superintendent visit is scheduled for May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Since
  they already visited BWPS this year, they may visit another school instead but
  to be confirmed prior to May 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Grade 8 Graduation- The graduation team is ready to execute, and all big
  pieces are in place for the upcoming graduation. The venue will be the same as
  last year and the ceremony followed by the dance will finish at 9:30pm.

Class Placements - Class placements and report cards are upcoming for next year. The BWPS staff will reach out to the community shortly for insight. The Principal and Vice Principal explained to the council a straight vs. a split classroom and outlined both are implemented at BWPS. The split class saw great learning experiences for some students.

• School Expansion Project – A school expansion project will be starting in summer 2024. There will be two (2) additional classrooms (kindergarten) and portables.

# Additional Upcoming School Events

- Council coffee and chat
- Discover kindergarten.
- Author visit Tammesha Cox
- Soccer team
- Bike to school week (May 27-31)
- EQAO (May 23-30)
- Field trips Grade 1 Reptilia Zoo May 30 visit and Bruce's mill visit for grade 8
   BORC.
- Swim to Survive
- Track and field.

Elissa suggested that the community go into class and assist teachers where necessary. A vulnerable sector screening would therefore be required for parents to assist. The teacher will decide on if they need help and what exactly they need help with. It will be done in an organized way. In the next June staff meeting, Mr. Barton will liaise with staff by sharing with them the opportunity for this in the future. At the next meeting the council will be informed of what these needs are, and plans will be made from then.

# Math night feedback

Math Night took place on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, for kindergarten to Grade 3 students. One factor it focused on was adult learning – different opportunities to engage kids at home with math.

Following the event, families were asked to complete a post evening survey via Google forms.

The survey sought to gather:

- Area of math the parents / guardians wanted to learn more about
- Area the school can focus on to enhance child learning and give great understanding on curriculum.
- How the school can better support student's leaning experience as an important member of the community

The event was truly a success where there were twenty-two (22) staff members on board and took 4 months of planning.

# School Pizza Fundraising Funding Allocation includes but not limited to:

 Ace Taxi and Limo (cover costs for taxi transportation for extracurricular activities) - \$20

- Youth Speak Performance \$850
- Snow Valley Resort (Community Classes) \$460
- Toronto Blue Jays \$530 (offset costs of Graduation Celebration)
- Scientists in the School \$1,494
- Olympic Trophies \$141.25
- Basketball Tournament Fee \$120
- Freeze DNA (Author Visit) \$412.45
- Tenneil Levene (Author Visit) \$250
- Badminton Tournament Fee \$50
- Cosmo Music \$77.26 (Music instrument repairs)
- Graduation DJ Fee \$500 (Deposit)
- Woodbridge Gymnastics (Community Classes) \$1,380
- Baldwin Sales Ribbons \$381.82 (Track and Field)

### **CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Voting Member Attendance:

- Difficulty in getting voting members to participate due to family engagements and other issues
- Policy: After two consecutive missed meetings, a voting member will be removed following discussion with administration and council
- Constitutional Feedback: If 2 consecutive meetings are missed, the voting member's seat will be lost.

#### **New Members:**

 Always welcome, especially as volunteers, and not necessarily in a voting capacity

### Voting Outside Meetings:

 Voting members can vote on motions outside of the four mandated full school council meetings

### **COMMITTEES PRESENTATIONS**

• Requirement: Voting members should be onsite to vote 4 times a year.

## Online Representation:

- Technology should be available for online representation of council meetings to ensure parental involvement even if they're not physically present
- Hybrid meeting options should be offered if possible
- Hybrid meetings would be the responsibility of Council

### Student Representation:

 Council would like to add a student representative at the next school council meeting

# September Council Meeting:

• The first council meeting in September will include a summarized report and a review of the constitution

#### Order of Business:

 First meet with Principal, then bring the matter to council for a two-thirds vote to pass the notion

### TREASURER'S REPORT

- Make the agenda more detailed so that the council also have an idea in advance on the action items.
- Going forward, council to receive data for teachers' presentations beforehand, when possible, so that well-informed decisions can be made on funding needs.
- Council to get teachers Wishlist in advance, when possible.

The Administration will have a large overview in advance of what is needed for the fundraising plan and present it to the council beforehand.

### Current account balance - 16,377.68

• Hot lunch invoice was paid.

- Does not include cost sharing.
- Robotics have not been purchased yet.
- After all deductions, the balance will have a shortfall of approximately \$1,700.
- We will get HST credit to be received.
- \$3,800 tax rebate.
- Kernels fundraiser collected \$395 in March.
- Casa Nostra Frozen pizza was sold to 50 families and raised \$497.94.

#### **FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE REPORT**

- 2 extra fundraising ventures before year end requested as Council is currently working in a deficit.
- The maximum cheat days have been reached by the school.
- The council voted for 2 popcorn days before the end of this school term. 1
  date was approved by admin. Specific date to be confirmed but it will be
  the end of May and before the end of June.
- The council voted for Krispy Kreme. More information will follow.

### Fresh from the Farm

Fresh from the Farm is a fundraiser for all schools. Funds are raised by selling bundles of fresh Ontario root vegetables, which include potatoes, carrots, and onions, and bags of fresh Ontario apples.

- Delivery dates from November 6<sup>th</sup> to December 7<sup>th</sup>
- School cash online will be used for payment.
- The bundle options are vegetable bundle and the apple bundle.
- 40% of the sales price goes back to the school.
- Volunteers will be required for distribution. For 100 bundles, 5-7 volunteers will be required.
- Volunteers will be solicited via the start-up forms.

Prospective start date September 2024

### HOT LUNCHES SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

• We are no longer moving forward with Ital pizza.

#### LunchBox

- For next year we want to push LunchBox by School Cash Online
- Created by School Cash Online where up to 3 vendors are selected.
- Some of the vendors include Subway, Tubbies, Pizza hut, Lunch lady, Dominoes,
- No commitment for full 8 weeks
- Pizza day will remain, but LunchBox will replace the other current lunch options.
- Set-up will be done in the following weeks, for a start date after compliance
- Template for all vendor requests to be completed so that Principal and Vice Principal can approve.
- If lunch orders are cancelled, parents get a credit to their account.
- On inclement weather days, the committee needs to liaise with LunchBox.

# **School Milk Program**

- They deliver directly to the school.
- The current cost is \$1 a day.
- Distribution is easy as it comes labelled.
- Need to commit for a minimum of 3 days a week.
- Community class can assist by tallying the number of milks to be delivered to the classes.

- Community class will need to be asked if this is something they would like to participate in
- Logistical pieces would need to be worked through in a plan including storage and alternatives to milk

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

#### **WE CONNECT Series Event**

- Date: Wednesday, May 15, 2024
- Minimum two teachers present, including:
  - o Ms. Hallick (MLL Teacher)
  - o Representative from sports or other activities
- Promotional efforts:
  - Flyers
  - o Information on school marquee
  - Emails to parents
- Event time: 2 PM to 3 PM
- Refreshments provided
- Call for volunteers
- Agenda:
  - o Speech from administration
  - o Speech from the community engagement committee
  - o Parental voting on activities for the new year

# **Special Interest Service Providers**

- Potential for activities to be offered on Mondays and Wednesdays after school; requires the approval of admin in order to move forward
- Time: 2:45 PM to 4 PM
- Duration: 10 to 12 weeks, starting in November
- Fee per class (announced later)
- Fall list of providers to be released
- Potential activities:

		<ul> <li>Sports (e.g., karate)</li> <li>Arts and crafts</li> <li>Requirement for younger grade activities:</li> <li>Parental volunteers to usher children from class to the gym</li> </ul>
		STAFF APPRECIATION POTLUCK LUNCH
		<ul> <li>Regina Proposed a Potluck style lunch for staff and administration and support Staff to say Thank You for all they do</li> <li>Proposed Date: Wednesday May 15th, 2024</li> <li>Start time: 11:45am - 1pm</li> <li>Parent Volunteers are needed for set up, Food Distribution and clean up</li> <li>Parent Council members and all other parents will be asked to drop off Food by 11:30am (Regina will be there to accept)</li> <li>Homemade, store bought and even food delivery will all be welcomed</li> <li>Further Discussion was needed and continued via parent council email</li> </ul>
6.	Decision Items (as required)	
7.	Other Business (as required)	
8.	Meeting Adjournment	Regina Teper noted there was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:18pm.

# **Future Meeting Date:**