## **BOXWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL**

# SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING #3: MINUTES FOR 11/20/2018

 DATE
 Tuesday, November 20, 2018
 START TIME
 7:11 PM

 MEETING #
 3 (2018-2019 school year)
 END TIME
 8:34 PM

MEETING LOCATIONschool library# OF INDIVIDUALS PRESENT9 (incl. principal)NEXT MEETINGTuesday, December 18, 2018# VOTING8 (quorum = 7)

VOTING MEMBER	NAME	ATTENDANCE	POSITION	RETURNING MEMBER	NEW MEMBER
N/A	PRINCE, Dane	PRESENT	Principal	n/a	
1	AKALJAN, Kana	ABSENT	Member	X	
	AKALJAN, Kirushanthy	ABSENT	Member	X	
2	ASIMI, Adam	PRESENT	Treasurer	Х	
3	CHAN, Elsa	PRESENT	Chair	Х	
4	HO, Rita	PRESENT	Member	Х	
	HUANG, Andy	ABSENT	Member	Х	
5	KHERA, Manju	PRESENT	Member	Х	
6	KOMOLAFE, Bola	PRESENT	Member	Х	
	KOMOLAFE, Peter	ABSENT	Member	X	
7	MAHALINGAM, Sancha	PRESENT	Secretary	Х	
8	MIRZA, Bilal	ABSENT	Member		X
9	PATIL, Vishakha	PRESENT	Member	Х	
10	SATCHI, Luxman	ABSENT	Member		X
11	SHAIKH, Anushka	ABSENT	Member	X	
	SHAIKH, Saquib	ABSENT	Member	X	
12	SHANMUGATHAS, Abirami	PRESENT	Member		Х
13	THINAGARIPPILLAI, Nathan	ABSENT	Member	X	

## **WELCOME: CALL TO ORDER**

- sign-in sheet circulated by Secretary
- meeting called to order by Chair
- September and October Minutes adopted
- re: specific math item on today's Agenda (integrating math into a regular topic of discussion at PSC meetings)
  - will save this discussion for next meeting, when Member Mirza is present (as he requested this discussion)

## TREASURER'S REPORT

- current balance = \$10,341.55 (as per most recent statement rec'd from Ms. York)
- November #s:
  - November income = \$1,420.42
  - November expenses = \$1,014.92
  - NB: these numbers are up to date as of November 13; as with every report, Treasurer makes adjustments when he receives statements from Ms. York (for example, October #s on this report were updated since October Treasurer's Report; therefore, we can expect these November #s to be revised in the December report)
- profit so far: approximately 4k (we will have to pay for pizza lunches till end of December, one more set of Boston/Paramount lunches about roughly \$1,500.00 in expenses upcoming)
- statements have a lot of cash deposits (pizza slices or parents paying via cash as opposed to SCO)
- Treasurer's Report approved

## **SCHOOL UPDATES VIA PRINCIPAL PRINCE**

upcoming dates

o report cards go home November 21

o parent-teacher interviews November 22 (evening) and November 23 (daytime)

picture retakesWinter concertDecember 13

o Winter break December 24 – January 6

## X Fusion

- o we had some great class workshops with our X Fusion facilitators
- o students were taught strategies to regulate their emotions, behaviour, give them peace
- o we had stations around the gym (i.e. being mindful and relaxing)
- o parents were invited to attend in one evening
- o "very well done" was some of the feedback Principal rec'd (lots of positive feedback from parents/guardians who attended the event)
- School Council Forum: Monday, November 26 at Milliken Mills High School (from 5:30PM 8:30PM)
  - o greetings from senior staff
  - o multi-year strategic plan and Director's annual plan
  - o break-out sessions
  - o role of school council
  - Principal profile
  - o 2 people can attend with Principal (registration tomorrow)
    - volunteers: Secretary (tentative) and Treasurer

## **PRINCIPAL PROFILE**

- as Principals are reallocated to different schools after some time, it's important for PSC to voice what type of Principal we would like for our school community
- this profile will communicate the most important attributes that a Principal or Vice-Principal should have in order to meet the identified needs of the schools
- we will review the current profile at our next meeting (to be put on the December Agenda)

## **MILK PROGRAM**

- happens on Tuesdays and Thursdays
- options: white milk (2%) or chocolate milk
- Grade 7 students hand out milk in bins
- organized by school staff
- funds support various items such as
  - o school trip funding for students who can't pay
  - o buying resources and equipment (i.e. technology, instruments)
- as these funds are school-generated, they follow the same rules as funds generated by PSC
  - o for example, can't use for books this is the same for funds from pizza sale and funds raised by Student School Council
    - why? this is to keep things equal across the Board, across schools to prevent inequity among schools (to limit inequity, they give you specific areas where funds raised by the school can be used)
  - o for Cost Sharing, school-generated funds must be used (can't use Board funds)
- per Member Khera: can we generate more? how did program come about? how much do we generate?
  - Grade 7s have to leave their class, put out the milk, sort and bring it to classrooms

- 2 days is fine; adding more days, however, might be burdensome to students
- Monday isn't a good day and neither is Friday
- Principal will provide information on how much program generates
- there is an actual program that all schools have access to and we get delivery
- option proposed by Member Khera: perhaps parent volunteers can assist so we can have program each day of the week? and, therefore, generate more funds?
  - might be an issue as Principal has to step in when parent volunteers are sick, etc (even if it's on a day Principal is off site)

### **TECHNOLOGY COST SHARING PROGRAM**

- YRDSB offers a Cost Sharing Program: Board gives funds to school (on top of school's contribution) to purchase technology
- new vendor: contract for computer hardware equipment has been awarded to HP/Compugen
  - o as a result of the transition work underway: CSP this year delayed to January 2019
  - only one order window this year starting January 7 and extending to April 12
  - o money will be same, but all in one go
- for schools w/ a population b/w 300-499:
  - o Board matches our contribution according to a 1:1.5 ration
  - o = overall total of \$12, 500.00 worth of equipment
  - o therefore, if we max out our contribution, school would pay \$5,000.00 and Board would pay \$7,500.00
- "discount" is from the \$7,500.00 Board contribution (for equipment worth \$12,500.00, school pays \$5,000.00 and Board pays \$7,500.00)
- this year's technology CSP request
  - o we have some old Dell laptops we would like to begin replacing b/c they are starting to fail (e.g., Wi-Fi connectivity, hinges that need to be fixed)
  - o ideally, we'd like to purchase:
    - 5 regular laptops (for Primary class use): cost of approx. \$400/each
    - as many Chromebooks as possible
    - 2 new iPads (Primary class use): \$650
  - for next meeting Agenda: Principal to have pricing for technology school needs (so we can discuss funding specifics)
    - Principal will create spreadsheet (spreadsheet order form we can see how much items would cost; can play around with #s to see how much we can get with our contribution of \$5k)
    - can adjust #s based on the amount of funding we receive (and Principal can top up with schoolgenerated funds)
- cannot submit sooner than January 7
- Q from Treasurer: hypothetically, if PSC gave 4k, does school have 1k sitting elsewhere (that hasn't been earmarked)?
  - how much can school contribute if need be? funds will come from milk program generated funds (not from SSC-generated funds as they decide where their fundraising funds go)
- PSC want to be equitable in supporting the school and want all the facts so Principal will let PSC know how much school can contribute
- only downside: students won't get some of the items sooner vs. previous years (will get equipment in March)
  - o last year we had Fall and Spring CS (we got equipment before Winter break)
  - expect next year to go back to two part CSP (this year's one-time January CS is b/c of adjustment period from using new vendor)

 Principal will check if payment can be done in parts or if it's one-time payment (he believes it's a one time payment)

#### **FUNDING MATH MANIPULATIVES**

- funding wish list: math manipulatives
- to align and support our math focus, we would like funding to supply each classroom with math manipulatives (Principal has spoken w/ staff and math lead)
- examples
  - o pattern blocks
  - o base ten blocks represent hundreds, 10s, etc.
  - o fraction strips/circles to help kids see what a fraction represents
  - o counters
  - o geoboards for area
  - o tangrams
  - o money
  - o etc.
- currently, we have some in the math room; however, we want to make math manipulatives more accessible (when students need it, it should be available)
- to supply our whole school will cost approx. \$3500
  - Ms. Brown came up with this number
  - o can break this up according to division to reduce the cost at one time
  - o we could target, right now, a particular division (i.e. Primary division this would reduce cost); per Principal PSC shouldn't feel like everything has to be purchased in one go
- Principal will let us know if school can contribute funds towards this
- Ms. Brown has looked at what school has
- turn-around time for this will be much quicker (from ordering to receiving materials)
- Principal can get us information in advance, before next meeting of December 18, so we can do some pre-thinking before next meeting (i.e. materials required and their cost)
- funding purchase
  - o if we can, for example, bring in same amount of funds via fundraising since start of school year (if trend continues) we should be OK to fund CSP AND purchase of math manipulatives
  - o with the funds we have now, even if we spend half of it, we will be fine (even if we end up with a balance of 1k in June)
  - o if we take \$3,500.00 out, we will have \$6,841.55 remaining (from \$10,341.55); we will still be OK to fund 5k for CSP (even after upcoming expenses are paid for) we do want more information on technology required, but we hope to make the full 5k purchase (and perhaps school can cover part of cost of 5k in the interim if we are short come January)
- let's do the math manipulatives funding sooner/quicker so students can get materials faster; if we decide to fund full amount, we can use next meeting to see what school can contribute
- PSC has done a lot of funding for technology; math manipulatives takes us in a different direction (Principal suggests we make math manipulatives a priority since this is a focus of the school/Board)
- motion: vote for funding for math manipulatives \$3,500.00 so that all divisions can benefit from these tools
  - unanimous (8 votes)
  - Principal will advise Ms. York she can take funds from account (\$3,500.00)
- vendors are Board approved and usually cheaper than regular prices

#### **OTHER**

- Chair to speak with Rouge Fairways Residents' Association re: donation (Chair has been our lead on this and school has rec'd \$500.00 donations in previous years as a result)
- Chair will be putting out December Boston Pizza and Paramount lunch orders (3 weeks), pizza Term 2 will be sent in December (for January, February and March)
- If we have 7 members attend our next meeting on December 18, we can make some funding decisions
- update on field trips
  - o different divisions are taking advantage of field trips (not all across the grades) i.e. Grade 7s and 8s
  - Principal doesn't think funding of field trips is currently an issue (for example, the community class has been on 4 field trips already)
  - NB: there are some trips which are organized by the Board (i.e. Milne Grade 2, 4 and 7 go to Milne and YRDSB pays for the busing so, this isn't a school organized trip, it's a Board organized trip)

#### MATH UPDATE

- as PSC knows, school and Board are focusing on math
- our math lead and a curriculum consultant (via Board) analyzed our EQAO results for the last 5 years and found areas that require focus
  - patterning
  - o algebra
  - o number sense and numeration
  - o also confirmed that our area of growth is problem solving (thinking and application)
- presently, school is administering a whole school diagnostic assessment to SKs to Grade 8s students to get some local and timely data on these areas
  - o this week: Grades 3 to 8 (paper and pencil assessments based on their previous years' lessons)
  - SKs to Grade 2s: give them a performance task (i.e. for Grade 1: I give you four cubes and now you have 10 cubes in your pocket, how many cubes did you originally have in your pocket?)
- Secretary Qs: will you share results with parents? are the areas of focus same across province/Board?
  - o while individual results may not be shared with parents, general data will be shared
  - o generally speaking, Principal doesn't know if areas of focus identified are similar across the Board/province; however, problem solving is an area of focus all across the province
  - o instructional change happened b/c they were finding students were not doing well in problem solving for many years
    - looked across the world to see who did well in problem solving (PISA assessments school assessment to talk about science and math)
    - found Japanese students did really well in problem solving looked at what Japan is doing in terms
      of instruction that supports students in solving problems
    - students weren't just doing rote math; they were being taught math through problem solving (so they solved addition, for example, through a problem and were being taught specific skills)
    - our comprehensive math program is based on the Japanese program
    - issue is that we are still implementing it
- our next step is to share these results with staff; so take results and plan together
  - o this will indicate specific students that we need to target for intervention
    - first: planning; how are students doing? what are we going to do for students that are struggling? evaluation to see progress (goal is: this is how they started, this is how they progressed in the middle, this is how far they did in the end) this is the plan for this year start with the diagnostic assessment at the start

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- Principal will release teachers in January to plan together using a comprehensive math program framework and chart the students' progress
- o goal: for teachers (in grade teams) to have a planning session, a check-in session and a session to review the results of a final task
- same assessment will be given to the same grade and marking will be consistent final session is collaborative marking moderated marking
- other initiatives
  - o every month we add math content in our newsletters
  - o we are starting a math related problem of the month
  - our Student SC is planning a whole school math activity that we have done in the past (i.e. games based on probability almost like a fair in the gym) they spoke with Ms. Brown today about that
- examples of assessments shown to PSC (i.e. Grade 3: do they recognize halves, which diagram shows halves? problem solving questions)
- generally
  - o what are some real world examples we can use?
  - o we can see in math same concept but increases in complexity with the grades
  - o will be done by teacher interviews BUT teacher won't have results by then
  - SK to Grade 2 will be evaluated by Principal, Ms. Jokinen or Ms. Brown (Ms. Forth is going to evaluate her own students) – this group will be giving answers verbally (while G3 to 8 will be given paper with Qs and will be marked)

## **SUMMARY OF FUNDING PRIORITIES FOR YEAR**

- technology
- math manipulatives
- Grade 8 graduation (last year we settled on \$15/student) Principal will provide student count for # of Grade 8s graduating this year
- in the past, PSC has funded: guest speakers, healthy snacks for Day of Play or T&F
- field trips are NOT a priority this year
- Principal will find out if there are any other funding priorities
- NB: asphalt cracks to be filled and painted Principal is trying to get school Board to cover it (based on priority really bad areas of need in terms of conditions will get priority)
- NB: X Fusion school-funded event

#### **MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

meeting adjourned @ 8:34 PM