

CORNELL VILLAGE PUBLIC SCHOOL

186 Country Glen Road TEL: 905.471.1694
Markham, Ontario L6B 1B5 FAX: 905.471.4212



SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday September 28th, 2022

7:00 pm – 8:30pm

School Staff Room

- 1) *Welcome & Acceptance of Current Agenda* 1 min Amanda
Motioned by Amanda; Seconded by Karen
- 2) *Introduction of School Admin and their Roles* 2 mins All
 - *Welcome Heather Purcell as our new principal: Previously from Greensborough but commutes from Davisville area in Toronto; loves to travel, is a dog lover and enjoys spending time at the cottage with the family.*
 - *And welcome back Ms. Myka Hang as our teacher representative*
- 3) *Introductions of Council Members and Attendees* 5 mins All
 - a. *Introduction of Council Members:*

Niro Arumugam	yes	Heidi McLeod	yes
Karen Bradley	yes	Sarah Murphy	yes
Amanda Cartan	yes	Haafid Rahman	yes
Liz Kennedy	yes	Marie Scott	yes
Sabina Khandaker	yes	Karen Kotevich	no
Wendy La	yes	Kelly Dunn	yes
		Sandra Aldcorn	no

- b. *Welcome new parents and Council Members:*
 - i. *Karen Kotevich (2021-2022 Parent Member, 2022-2023 Council Member)*
 - ii. *Vala (2022-2023 Council Member)*
- c. *Welcome new parents and thank you for attending our Parent Council Meeting:*
 - i. *Carol*
 - ii. *Sarah Yim*
 - iii. *Heidi will be removing herself from Council this year and become an active parent member instead*
- d. *Council currently has 13 voting members; quorum is set at 7 members*

- 7) *Description of Current Committees* 2 mins *Amanda*
- i. *Each member of Council should be part of at least one fundraiser and must be on at least one other committee. Other parents or community members can also join a committee or volunteer at any time.*
 - ii. *Sign up for committees will be by email shortly.*
 - iii. *Fundraising - all of Council should participate in fundraising in one way or another*
 - iv. *Teacher Appreciation - as a token of our appreciation, Council members will provide acts of kindness for School Admin by way of food/beverage/treats, gifts, gift cards, etc. - anything that seems suitable for teachers. This year we should look at reducing the frequency and setting up a budget for the year. Funds for teacher appreciation items are all donated by Council members, not from fundraising efforts.*
 - v. *Parent Engagement - to provide resources and activities that would be beneficial to our parent/guardian community. In the past, we have arranged mental health sessions, virtual cooking classes. This year, we should focus on the overall School Plan so that our initiatives are aligned with those plans.*
 - vi. *Sustainability - Develop initiatives that bring sustainability and earth-conscious decisions to the forefront*
 - vii. *Communications - Responsible for assisting with sharing Council and School news with parents/guardians, the community and partners. This can be through the School Newsletter, social media platforms, or word-of-mouth.*
- b. *Ideas for Fundraising this year* 10 mins *All*
- i. *Need to put a committee together as soon as possible to outline fundraising initiatives for this year.*
 - ii. *Bottle drive was successful last year - should be continued*
 - iii. *Sandra can assist with spirit wear*
 - iv. *What other ideas can we come up with?*
- c. *Ideas for new Committees this year* 5 mins *All*
- i. *Heidi - perhaps an extracurricular committee that will look into establishing school clubs: sports clubs, chess club, STEM club, etc. ensuring we are providing our students with an enriched opportunity to be active, both mentally and physically*

- ii. *We would like to have a yearbook this year, a group will meet soon including Myka and Marie.*
- iii. *We should plan to have a Silent Auction Committee to get started on donations early.*

8) *Update from School*

20 mins

Heather

- a. *Thrilled to be here - great school, community, students and parents/guardians; Personal goal is to know each and every single student's name within the coming weeks*
- b. *Already hosted two in-person presentations: Caring and Safe School Presentations; Looking forward to many more presentations for the community and assemblies for the students*
- c. *New Superintendent: Elizabeth Lau, whom Heather has met with already. She will be a great asset for the School*
- d. *The Terry Fox run was a huge success, with many parent volunteers.*
- e. *Looking forward to re-building our "Village" - strengthen relationship with the community and supporters*
- f. *Lunch monitors turnout was also huge - many eager to be back in the School and helping out where they can*
- g. *CVPS currently does not have a permanent VP, but is much needed based on our numbers; We have had a part-time VP since the start of school and a few more are expected to be in the rotation - optimistic we will receive a FT VP soon*
- h. *Staff are currently working on involving junior and intermediate grades to assist with primary grades - this will allow older kids to become more active, learn responsibility and accountability.*
- i. *Student Council will happen this year - focus on intermediate students for leadership positions but want representatives for all grade levels to ensure we are meeting all students' needs*
- j. *Cross-Country Meet tomorrow - 110 students will be competing*
- k. *Markham Fair field trip - Grades 1-4 will be attending*
- l. *It is Safety Week - fire drills and hold and secure procedures were practiced; Next week will focus on lockdown procedures*
- m. *School reorganization - inevitable and hard to predict numbers in June with accuracy in September; this has been completed and teachers have done a great job with helping students transition*

- n. *Construction at Cornell - community class was slightly delayed but is now all completed and students have moved into the new classroom now*

COMING UP:

- o. *Rebrand of "Meet The Teacher" night to "Meet The Family" night to allow families into the School, meet teachers, other parents and offer an exciting experience*
 - i. *Looking to getting food trucks*
 - ii. *Ice cream truck*
 - iii. *Gathering outside and inside*
 - iv. *Scavenger hunt style experience for families to discover the school*
 - v. *Parent Council should set up a table to welcome and greet families*
 - vi. *More to come*
- p. *There will be discussions regarding bringing back choir, band and musical/talent show*
- q. *Book club and sewing group starting up again*
- r. *Orange Shirt Day this Friday*
- s. *Nutrition/Snack Program coming back - will be managed by Grade 7s (grant from PC Children Charities)*

QUESTIONS

- t. *Haafid - will we bring back focus on mental health? YES, will continue with "Be Kind" campaign*
- u. *Sabina - is there mental health support for Grade 7s and 8s as they transition into high school? YES - Ms. Melnichuk (Grade 8) acts as a guidance counsellor to assist with transitioning*
- v. *Wendy - will Council be involved with Grad Committee? NO, only as needed. Teachers will lead and we will assist as required.*
- w. *Liz - Council typically does not meet in March, but it feels like it's crunch time by the time we meet in April with Fun Fair and everything else - Council decided to add back meeting end of March to keep the momentum going*
- x. *Liz - For Meet The Family Night*
 - i. *Can we do a bottle drive? HEATHER WILL CHECK - we are all unsure*
 - ii. *Let's set up a board game drop off station, and other items that may be of need to teachers (play sets, books, etc.) Will need someone to help lead this from Admin side*
- y. *What are our current fundraising needs? TECHNOLOGY*

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| 9) <i>New Business</i> | <i>10 mins</i> | <i>All</i> |
| a. <i>Vote on Meeting Dates</i> | <i>2 mins</i> | <i>All</i> |
| i. <i>Voted in favour of keeping Council meetings on Mondays. Here are the proposed new dates:</i> | | |
| <i>November 7, 2022, December 5, 2022, January 30, 2023, February 27, 2023, March 27, 2023, April 24, 2023, May 29, 2023, June Social</i> | | |
| b. <i>Other items</i> | | |
| i. <i>Kelly Dunn: “Active School Travel Program” - Sidewalk safety awareness- neat games along the way to school such as hop scotch, signage that says “100 metres from CVPS”, chalk art, etc. This was a City of Markham initiative and program is no longer running but we can reach out to see if this is something we could do for our school. Heather is working on getting a Health and Safety rep for our school</i> | | |
| ii. <i>Fresh From Farm fundraising idea - Families can buy fresh food, \$\$ go to local farmers; Haafid to provide more info next meeting</i> | | |
| iii. <i>Council does not need to support healthy snacks initiative as the school has grants; but parents can donate (for families in need) and families in need can also ask for help if they need it (school admin will handle in discreet manner)</i> | | |
| iv. <i>Issue with pizza lunches and skipped days; going to avoid this in the future and not have skipped days; will work it out</i> | | |
| v. <i>Public Service announcement - PEAC meeting Oct 13 virtual; Haafid will circulate meeting details and Heather will include in weekly newsletter</i> | | |

10) <i>Motion to end Meeting</i>	<i>1 min</i>	<i>Amanda</i>
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Motioned by Haafid; Seconded by Karen

Upcoming Events: *Open House is Wednesday Oct 12th*

Future Meetings - All on Monday’s, in-person at CVPS, Staff Room

November 7, December 5, January 30, February 27, March 27, April 24, May 29