

**Thursday February 1, 2024**  
**6:00 – 7:30 p.m.**

## **School Council Meeting Norms**

- \*Begin and end meetings on time
- \*Speak and listen to one another respectfully
- \*Recognize and value the diversity of opinions



## **Donald Cousens Public School** **School Council Meeting Minutes**

### **Attendees**

**DCPS Staff:** Sean Yao (Principal), Paula Campbell (Vice-Principal), Sheila Ducheck (Teacher), Adam Varma (Teacher)

**Parents:** Brenda Adebajo, Akalya Balasubramaniam, Charmaine Chung, Cassidy Wong and Lu Chen

### **Welcome/Sign in**

Welcome and Attendance  
Approval of the Agenda

### **Financial Report – (Mr. Yao):**

- Opening balance from last meeting: \$2268.19
- \$2000 transferred out for Grade 8 Grad
- Current balance: \$295.63 + stock

Remaining goals for this year:

1. DCPS-branded pop up tent (\$1500)
2. Indigenous Artist Learning and Mural Subsidy (\$2000)
3. Technology: 1 wall-mounted LCD projector package with AirTame (\$3500) - already bought

### **Miscellaneous:**

- Display case for February has been setup (Lunar New Year + Black History Month) - will consider adding a glass shelf (from upstairs storage room) to display more items above
  - Upcoming: March (Ramadan, Irish Heritage Day, Greek Heritage Month)
- School Council Bulletin Board - has been set up. Will add important dates such as upcoming meetings, events, as well as contact info for the council

### **Admin and Staff Report – Ms. Campbell, Ms. Ducheck, Mr. Varma**

- Winter Wishes concert was successful
- Came in second place for Reach for the Top trivia competition - qualified for Regionals

- Jr. boys volleyball, basketball, etc. are going to tournaments
- Robotics competition - we did well and was a good experience
- Gr. 3/4/5 have an Arts club and Readers Theatre
- Chess club will be starting - one for Gr. 7/8 and one for Gr. 5/6
- Upcoming Unity Day on Feb 9 - Mental Health club is coming up with activities
- York Public Health nurse came in today (Feb 1) to talk about safety. We got a \$500 grant for bike racks. Thinking of a Family Night with York Public Health in May to talk about bike and road safety.
- Gr. 8's went to a play at Bur Oak Secondary, was very good.
- Walking Wednesdays - first one is Feb 7. Any available council members to help with traffic control. Meet at the school at 7:45AM. Head to the office to get a safety vest. Eco Club will create some posters. Ms. Duchek will start letting parents know on Monday/Tuesday that Wednesday is Walking Wednesday, and not to drive to school.

### **Family Night - Mindful Mingle (Feb 22, 2024)**

- Could not secure a speaker so we will split the 4 activities as follows:
  - Gentle movement (gym)
  - Meditation/breathing (library)
  - Campfire (outdoor)
  - Mindful colouring/drawing with music (2 classrooms)
- Email and flyer ready to be sent out by Feb 7 or 8
- Register on SCO by Feb 19
- Event will be 6:30-8pm
- Each activity will be 20 minutes long, and then rotate to next activity
- Maximum cap of attendees will be 240
- First 60 attendees through the door will go to first activity (gym) - next group goes to next activity, and so on. At the 20 minute mark, announcements come on to say "those in the gym, please move to the library; those in the library, please move to outside; those outside, please move to Room XXX; those in Room XXX, please head to the gym" (as an example)
- Mental Health Club might not be available - Brenda to look into breathing/meditation activities. We will need someone to lead this.
- Charmaine to lead/supervise colouring/drawing.
- Charmaine's mom in the gym for Gentle Movement (Tai Chi) - tech needed: headset (she might be able to bring her own), and a speaker for playing music from her phone.
- Carefirst (community resource) will have a resource table at the front
- Will sell refreshments (juice + popcorn + cookies left over from Winter Wishes)

### **Upcoming Fundraising Initiatives**

- Direct Donation - March 4-29. Ms. Duchek to send some photos of students (playing with board games, using outdoor sports rack, using chromebooks) to council so they can incorporate into flyers/emails.

### **PEAC Regional Symposium (April 18, 2024)**

- The whole York Region comes together for dinner and workshops for council members
- There will be 2 spaces and need to register

**Math Night (tentatively May 16, 2024)**

- Led by Ms. Tzogas, aimed towards primary (Gr. 1-3) and their families
- An idea may be to have passports and go around playing math games, with a grab bag at the end. Brenda to look into whether we can get any sponsors.

**Fun Fair BBQ (confirmed for June 13, 2024)**

- Vendor will be M&M

**Next Movie Night**

- March 21. Trolls (Band together) tentative.

**Next School Council Meeting:**

- April 4, 2024

Compiled and Prepared by : Charmaine Chung