

GPS School Council Minutes: February 2nd, 2021

Meeting Commenced: 7:05

Attendees: Heather Purcell, Sheryl Gray, Shanaaz Hasanali, Queenie Shang, Sophia Ali-Yusuf, Beverly Maybury, Mahlena-Rae Johnson, Loretta Lee, Jaina Negandhi, Latoya McKenzie, JP Wu Joyce Wong, Barbara Peters, Mark Quan, Carla Leo, Kevin White, Aminah Baig.

1) Indigenous Land Acknowledgement (7:05-7:08)

- *"Let us begin our meeting by acknowledging that the land on which we are gathered is the traditional territory of the Anishinabek, Haudenosaunee and Huron-Wendat Peoples. We also pause to take a moment to acknowledge the historic treaty claim settlement that was signed last September between our federal and provincial governments, in agreement with the seven First Nations affected by the treaty which includes: Alderville First Nation, Beausoleil First Nation, Chippewas of Georgina Island, Chippewas of Rama, Curve Lake First Nation, Hiawatha First Nation and Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation. In the spirit of meaningful reconciliation, the settlement was a major step towards helping to rectify some of the historic injustices found within the original Williams Treaty of 1923."*

2) Introduction to Shery Gray (7:08-7:10)

- Welcome and brief introduction to the new VP

3) Minutes from last meeting (7:11-7:12)

- Approved by Barbra and Queenie

3) Principals Reports (7:13-7:40)

- Thank you to support of food and toys from the holiday drive School was very successful, one of the most successful schools
- Thank you from staff for outpouring of support for Mr. Boyle. His wife has come twice to visit the school to get an idea of what he did and to have a connection with the school. As a staff thinking of something to do as a tribute to him. Protocols in place for a memorial
- Covid protocols, more protocols in place. Giving out rapid tests and masks to students. More students have opted to be online, but more and more students are trickling back. Thank you for support and flexibility.
- Teachers are working very hard and appreciate the support
- Trying to do our best to support mental health and well being for students. Especially now with report cards coming and dealing with student well being
- Tamil heritage month and holocaust heritage month, also celebrating lunar new year and the kick off to black history. Focusing on black excellence throughout the entire year.
- Student council has been doing an amazing job with the announcements and the front hall display for whatever is being celebrated. Starting back with providing articles for the newsletter
- Feb 11th anti-bullying assembly workshop for the kids K-3 and 4-8
- March 3rd will be the parent presentation, wellness and well being presentation. Was included in the newsletter. With Rouge Park and Wismer public school
- Feeling that the bullying presentation is necessary because of discord and lots of cyber bullying occurring
- Lots of snow, make sure kids are dressed for the weather
- Working on report cards, sent home the week of the 20th

- Did get approval for traffic light to be installed at bur oak and Alfred Paterson. Will be installed in the summer. Will still have a crossing guard
- Cornerstone is doing something special for the staff next week. A great resource and partner for the school
- Resources for cyberbullying: <https://www.getcybersafe.gc.ca/en>

4) Student council (7:15-7:20)

- Proposal for asking for money, possibly for a surprise for staff
- Want to restart winter walk day on Wednesdays
- Letters to long term care workers for valentine's day
- Right now, still virtual meeting but hoping to meet in person

5) Treasurers Report (7:41)

- \$1820.95

6) School Council (7:42-7:50)

- Discuss want to use for the program, possibly something with the turner consultation
- Kindergarten classes asking for outdoor toys, have come up with a proposal and are asking for \$200 a class
- Sharing some information on PEAC (Parent engagement advisory committee)
- PEAC getting together information on cyberbullying
- Any presentations that they do the more parent feedback the better
- Not too much going on, but any info that we get or Tina gets she will share
- Parent voices are important, so important to get parents voices out there
- Parent engagement night, speaker is Jocelyn Pepe.
- Want to increase parent engagement, possible raffle or someway to increase the numbers of people coming up

8) Fundraising (7:51-7:56)

- Mabels labels fundraiser is set to run for the entire year.
- Advertise for Mabels labels at welcome to kindergarten night. Include in any new welcome packages for new students.
- School gets 20%

9) Additional Items (7:56- 8:15)

- No parking in staff parking lot and dropping off/picking up in from the fire route
- Before December 80 students online, close to 300 in January and now at the 200 mark. Everyday parents are requesting that students come back.
- Google classroom helped parents become more engaged with the students learning, would something like that be continued to be used once everyone is in person.
- Appreciation for the teachers from the parents and thank you for everything.
- Some boards in Toronto have decided to give information to parents about cases. YRDSB has decided against this. If there is a positive case the teachers will know discreetly but the students will not know. Trying their best to be updated on the newest procedures and how long people have quarantined. Based off of what public health is advising.

Upcoming Meeting Date: March 30th

Adjournment: 8:16PM

