

GPS School Council Minutes: April 24th, 2023

Meeting Commenced: 6:30

Attendees: VP: Bonny Skinner, Queenie, Phillip, Jaime, Joyce, AK, Sophia, Beverly, Tami, Joanna, Mark Heather, Coretta, Mahlena-Rae, John-Paul, Kevin, Aminah.

1) Indigenous Land Acknowledgement (6:30-6:32)

- *"We affirm that we are all treaty people and acknowledge that the York Region District School Board is located on the lands of two treaties. These treaties are signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the First Nations of the Williams Treaties who are: the Mississaugas of Alderville, Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Scugog Island; and the Chippewas of Beausoleil, Rama, and Georgina Island our closest neighbour and partner in education. To honour this agreement, we will take up our responsibility to be respectful of their traditions, knowledge and inherent rights as sovereign nations. We will respect their relationship with these lands and recognize that our connection to this land is through the continued relationship with these First Nations, and we acknowledge our shared responsibility to respect and care for the land and waters for future generations."*

2) Approved meeting minutes (6:32-6:34): Queenie and Jaime second

3) Principals report (6:35-6:58)

- May 4th planning a scavenger hunt (teachers are planting clues, every classroom has something)
- Have invited all staff, those that can attend will
- Appreciation wall, with leaves that families can write on
- Presidents choice student eating grant (\$10 000), snack program will continue (fruits and vegetables/crackers)
- Permission to use fundraising funds to buy Chromebook \$13000 to use towards Chromebook, and waiting for \$7000 to top up but waiting for approval.
- EQAO trying to stagger and finish earlier primary may 10-19th junior may 18th-26th not all day, 4 sections of language and 4 of math. All done on technology. Doesn't have to be completed till 1st week of June
- Every student matter surveys, should receive a letter with a code. The k-3 will be done at home and the older grades will be done in class. Will receive a lot of data with different information. Will help gage future decisions
- Transition to kindergarten, doing a virtual session may 18th, the following week on the Wednesday (May 24th) 9:30-10:30am they will have discover kindergarten. The SK will do transition activities with the grade ones and the JKs will be the ambassadors, show them around the class. The DCEs will stay with the SKs
- The field and the balls saga, should have access to the field in May. Lots of kids having concussions. No equipment allowed outside.
- If parents of SK info about EDI, early development index. Expectation for all school boards, done every 5 years. SK student teachers, it takes 20mins per kid looking at developmental well being and how our youngest learning is happening.
- How is destreaming affecting elementary schools. Trying to keep the students that are identified in class and just help them if they need it. Community classes are protected. Have already started the process of integrating students if the parents opt for it. Broadens who can receive the support and destigmatizes the help we will get.

4) Student Council Report (7:00-7:02)

- Fake photo day on April 18th, and now distributing
- Gave student council time to work with younger students
- Snack shack is going well, everything is now profit

- Having a primary movie night at lunch, have kids together and get them to socialize
- Renamed spirit days to GPS days, trying to be inclusive

5) Treasurers Report (7:03)

- \$820.95

6) GPS Door Open (7:03-7:11)

- 5:30pm-7:00pm
- Doors open event to let the community in, no formal interview or presentation.
- Working with previous graduates and grade 8 students
- Need to get information out, possibly email
- People not looking at EDSBY as much
- Looking for volunteers, have volunteers but would like to have more.
- Could have a school council sign up sheet, ask if parents speak anything other than English
- Advertise for funfair that night
- Do we want to encourage a food drive that night on doors open
- Ask parents what is the best way to communicate to them. Make a survey to see the best way to communicate.

7) Funfair (7:12-7:30)

- Want to start earlier (1 to 2 hours for set up) 5-7:30
- Had 9 booths in the past, should we charge \$250 per booth
- Food trucks, have secured an ice cream truck and now looking for food truck
- 3 food trucks are good, possibly serve pizza
- Possibly preorder food, and then pay on cash online. Would be much faster when getting the food.
- Discounted rate for presold tickets/could have wrist bands
- Have henna, face paints, raffle tickets. If anyone wants anyone to purchase a booth ask them. Or anything for donation or small prize for the raffle. Can ask businesses if they want to donate anything to the raffle
- Trying to send out message in EDSBY to let people know about donating raffle prizes
- Get grade 9 or grade 8 volunteers.
- Meeting again in mid-may to prepare for early June.

8) Other Items (7:31- 7:55)

- Want more notification about pronoun day
- Edbsy not a surefire way to send out information
- Students plan and led event
- Weren't able to link the parents and communities as much as they wanted to
- Acknowledge that should have given more notice
- Need to have the day and important conversation to have.
- Maybe discuss with parent council first, to get an idea of how parents will respond.
- Pride month will be coming up and will be celebrating in the month of June

Adjournment: 8:02PM

Upcoming Meeting Date: Mid-June social @ 6:30pm