

GPS School council minutes: March 30, 2022

Meeting Commenced: 7:10pm

Attendees: Heather Purcell, Shanaaz Hasanali, Sophia, Queenie, Maira Karim (student rep), Mark Quan, M-R Johnson, Loretta Lee, JP Wu, Jaina Negandhi, Peter Wong, Kevin White (community rep), Jaime Lee

Minute Taker: Jaime Lee

1) Indigenous Land acknowledgment

“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) Minutes approved by Queenie and Sophia

3) Maira – student council rep: one of the prime ministers, is in grade 7.

Talked about current initiatives:

- a. initiatives: walking Wednesdays. Students walk during snack recess
- b. snack shack– Tuesday and Fridays, money goes towards grade 8 grad and other stuff
- c. spirit days – cultural day, pj day, beach day, tropical day etc
- d. morning announcements: added important events that are celebrated
- e. workshops: created workshops on special topics, and includes activities in relationship to those topics for the classrooms.

4) Principal’s report:

- a. Lunch programs: hot lunch programs have started up again. Kids Kitchen on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Subs on Wednesdays, Pizza day on Fridays. Note: administrators are aware to ensure that no student feels left out, and so will assist to provide lunches to students who may need them. There has also been a request made that if families can donate hot lunches to other families that they can do so.
- b. March 3, we had a presentation from TruLiving with Jocelyn Pepe: she was given feedback and it was suggested that more time for Q & A be given and it may be better to make it a series of workshops.
- c. Health and safety visit: caretaking team doing well with cleaning
- d. Ms. Carvery: organized intermural badminton for the school. Looking to organize more activities for students as restrictions have been lifted.
- e. Updates on learning model: under 30 students learning virtually
- f. Had pink shirt day: went well
- g. Parking lot safely: runs smoothly in the mornings, still challenging with after school with parking in areas cars shouldn’t be

- h. Student council will be doing a blitz on walking more to school whenever possible which can help with safety
  - i. April autism awareness month
  - j. EQAO happening this year in June, for grade 3 and 6
  - k. Track and field will be happening this year
  - l. Survey coming out: to parents to choose online or in-person school (will be an EVS model and will need to commit for a full year).
  - m. Will be able to go back to live assemblies soon
  - n. June 21 graduation date is set for grade 8s
  - o. About 95% of staff and students are still wearing masks. Expected that that may reduce as weather warms up. Everyone's decision is honored.
  - p. Ramadan approaching: there is a prayer space upstairs in the school. Ms. Paterson's room can be used during recess for students who are fasting and don't want to be among their peers who are eating. Reach out if need accommodations. Fill out religious accommodation form.
- 5) Kevin shared they will be offering a sports program for grade 6-8 students. Multi- sport program \$45 for 9 weeks. To help kids move. Capped at 20 students.  
<https://cornerstonechurch.ca/recreation/>  
*Details: MULTI-SPORT (Co-Ed)*  
*At this program, our dedicated coaches teach various skills and talk about the importance of developing character both on and off the court.*  
*We use the 10 traits from York Region's Character Matters Program. Players divide into teams and play!*  
*We'll be playing basketball, volleyball, badminton, soccer and more!*  
*Ages: 11 – 14 (Co-ed), Grades 6-8*  
*Date: Wednesdays, April 6 – May 25*  
*Time: 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm*  
*Fee: \$45 (one time fee/per semester)*
- 6) Treasurers report: No change \$1820.95
  - 7) Queenie Fundraising update with Mabel's Labels, they are at \$47.76 – when reach \$50 will get a cheque. Ongoing fundraiser. We have flyers we can send home. To keep reminding parents of this fundraising event.
  - 8) Activities are starting up again: Cautiously can plan field trips. Permits are happening in school again, starting with weekends. Will consider a fun fair.
  - 9) Year books: may have a small version as there may be a low number of photos this year
  - 10) Ideas around safety with parking lot: will be working on coming up with ideas to increase safety with parking around the school area, such as having certain days where kiss and ride is closed.
  - 11) Continue to encourage parents not to stop along Alfred Patterson – blocks the bus from seeing. Kiss and ride is meant for youngest students. To continue to work on education around dangers of J-walking across Buroak.
  - 12) Will be expanding staff parking lot in the summer

Meeting adjourned: 8:07pm

Next meeting: May 4<sup>th</sup> or May 11<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm-8:30pm

