

HENDERSON AVENUE PUBLIC SCHOOL
School Council Meeting Minutes
April 17, 2024
6:30-8:00 PM

In attendance: Heather Zeitlin (Principal), Catharine Green (teacher), Roxana Balescu, Lydia Schroeder, Solmaz Shakourzadeh, Behdad Bahrami, Sara Alford Khajeh-Hesamedin, Cedar Zhang, Fred Pan, Farzaneh Jovanrooh, Parisa Rahmani, John Baumann, Stacey Whiler, Dorna Kiani, Angela Buk.

Agenda items:

1) Approval of minutes from January 24, 2024 - Fred approved, and Farzaneh seconded

2) Principal Report - Heather

- Legacy Project - presentation delivered by Zoe, Anna, Megan / grade 8 students + Mr. Baumann / Supply Teacher, who introduced them + Mrs Green / Teacher; the idea is to set up a vegetable garden on school property, in 8 wooden boxes, with the support of Grandview Area Residents Association (John, Peter); this initiative will also tie into various subjects from the school curriculum

- Heather indicated that literacy resources were obtained through Scholastics

- Sarah suggested that her husband could lead a soccer club

- Graduation update: the venue, DJ, table decorations, little gifts for graduates are already arranged; still to be executed: the creation of invitations; Heather indicated that prices for the graduation would be more than double than last year, but every child will be able to attend the ceremony, and the school can support the ticket

- Hoodies on sale with grade 8 students' signatures printed on the back

- Staffing updates: there are 11 regular stream classes this school year, and 12 regular steam classes next year; Heather explained that they have contract (permanent) teachers in school, and also Long Term Occasional teachers, and daily Occasional teachers; between April and June each school year the staffing process occurs, when the school is told by the Board how many teachers and classes will be next year, and then teachers are assigned to a certain grade, based on discussions with the Principal; there are also contract teachers as surplus, so they may get a job in a different school; the surplus teachers with the School Board must have a job before a job is offered to a LTO teacher, based on seniority.

- Playground update: Primary playground is repaired and functional (Sara indicated that the repairs were lacking quality); Junior/Intermediate playground already had some parts replaced, and a new portion will be added; Heather showed pictures of potential structures to be added to this playground; the School Council made a decision on a structure (VP21902) out of 3 options, and approved the purchase in the amount of \$6688 + HST (total \$7557.44); Heather has already reached out to GARA as they would want to contribute, and she is waiting for a response.

- End-of-year BBQ - Heather asked the School Council if there are plans to organise it

- Staff Appreciation lunch - Monday June 17

3) Communication update - Farzaneh - no updates, but she will assist with the Graduation

4) Principal Profile - Heather enquired about a template of a Principal Profile with the Board/CC West Area, and presented her suggestion so the School Council can decide upon. Heather read the information out loud, so comments can be made. Roxana mentioned that an updated Administrator Profile has already been approved by the previous School Council and it can be shared.

5) Fundraising update:

- Sara has pamphlets from Mabel's Labels, and they can be distributed to the students in the school, so the fundraiser can start; Sara also shared information related to Make it Sow fundraiser, selling seeds, and she can set it up ; another option is TRU Earth, but the School Council decided to focus only on the first two; Sarah can also request free tickets from Canada Wonderland for the students in the School Band
- Lydia can set up a fundraiser from Big Box of Cards - the idea is that the parents to purchase a box of approx. 40 cards, for \$35, out of which \$11 are coming back to school, no minimum purchase required
- School Council approved unanimously for the school to action the 3 fundraisers

6) Budget Update - Cedar

- The school's Administrative assistant prepared an improved version of the Budget report; the current Funds available after all expenses have been counted for are \$18476.47

- No financial support request for Grade 8 trip to Ottawa this year, due to the credit with Brightspark company

7) Budget requests - Heather

- Playground replacement and improvement - the School Council approved an expense of \$7557.44 for the addition to the Playground

- STEM items - already ordered: \$3966.16 (pre-discounted price)

- Technology Cost share: \$3000 requested for 23 Chrombooks - the Board is contributing \$5900

- Graduation: \$1000 requested to be used towards plaques for awarded students and venue, to lower the cost - the School Council has decided to postpone the vote until Heather is able to share a better estimate of the expenses and the funds raised already available to lower the final cost of each student's ticket; venue/dinner costs are double than last year's costs; the students have been running fundraiser throughout the school year, and they still continue.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:30pm