

Michael Cranny School Council Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2022 @ 7pm

Attendees

1. Ameer E
2. Andre L (Co-Chair)
3. Anna B (Principal)
4. Celine S (Treasurer)
5. Despina
6. Ecaterina (Member at large)
7. Fanta L
8. Francisco L (Co-Chair)
9. Janis J (Vice Principal)

Absent

1. Marina S (Member at large)
2. Shachar S (Member at large)

Approval of Agenda

- Agenda approved with addition of conversation on regarding awards in class

Approval of previous minutes (November 2, 2021 and December 7, 2021)

- Minutes approved

Action Items Update

School Council Governance (Andre):

- New members welcome and Ms. Bruno has received no communication of interest to date
- It was agreed to circulate the Draft Agenda between all School Council Members for review and additions before the School Council Executive discusses it with the School Administration. The Final Agenda items will be decided during the meeting with the School Administration, as the School Administration has the last and final decision and approval for the priorities and most important items to be left on Agenda.

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant (Andre): Sub-committee of Andre L and Fanta L created, shared with members before submission which was submitted on time. Theme = Stronger Together, Focus = Mental Health assembly. Awaiting response for \$800.

Ambassador Program (Celine): We have volunteers but no families have signed up for support yet. It was decided to continue the program as it is potentially a great support for families who are new to the community or country, and it will be run next year when people are less stressed due to the pandemic

and potentially reading more of communications. Teachers will continue to share this support with families during interview times, and when communicating with families to make those who may benefit from this support aware of the program.

Communication Channel (Francisco): As a team, we considered multiple forms for communication from school to home and vice versa. Edsby is the YRDSB's platform and will continue to be the school's main source of communication from Staff to Families, and Families to Staff. This will support consistency in communication by using one main platform.

Upcoming events (Francisco):

- Important to have another event before year-end for well-being of students even if virtual
- Create sub-committee(s) to make recommendations (e.g., Kahoot Night, Bingo)
- Something in-person just for students like a graduation event for Grade 8 Students
 - o For the graduation there is a student committee that will create a plan for an event that must adhere to pandemic restrictions, working alongside Grade 8 Staff and Administration.

School Administration Report

- Video presented from students explaining key things that happened last month. Council suggested video link be posted in Cranny Chronicles if allowed by Board Guidelines.
- Theme of the Year = Kindness
- Covid Updates: all students must wear masks now from Kindergarten to Grade 12. Absenteeism numbers does not necessarily mean that many students have Covid. It could just be colds or appointments.
- In December the food drive surpassed the school goal!
- The Grade 8 students sold cookies to raise money for Grade 8 Graduation. It was a very successful event
- Ms. Osborne organized snowshoes for two weeks for all classes to use in January.
- Debate Club started in January.
- February is a focus on Black History Month (Black Excellence is celebrated throughout the year, with a school wide focus in February). There will be a school wide Museum with each class learning and teaching the school about a prominent Black figure, from either the past or present. There are also going to be a few virtual presentations at the school to celebrate Black History Month with community partners.
- The school celebrated Lunar New Year, and the students enjoyed the decorations around the school.
- In February, Ms. Fernandes and Ms. Russo are organizing a week long Carnival Event for the entire school.
- Graduation plans in motion and school "spirit wear" (in form of hoodies) back by popular demand. Families with financial concerns will be helped so no one is left out
- Yearbook to be reintroduced in 2022 after not doing it in 2021 due to height of COVID. Parent and kid voice informed this decision. Goal is to include as many kids as possible while keeping in mind the limitations of COVID. Will have a page(s) with class of individual photos sent into school. Feb 25 is deadline to send in photos.

Treasurer's Report

- See attached [Celine please update]
- +~\$500 in donations. Open all year and we will remind parents again as appropriate
- \$200 from school budget to partially cover cost of paint supplies (total = \$500) for Paint Night
- Initial ideas were (1) cost-sharing (YRDSB matches) computers and (2) two large chalk boards for kindergarten play-yard (~\$2,000)
- Goal is to leave \$2,000 at school year-end to go toward cost-sharing in November of next school year

Events Discussion

- Paint Night had 56 families with very positive feedback from the families. Great turn-out and artist was great.

Awards in Class Discussion

- Deferred conversation to next meeting
- In advance, pre-conversations will occur with and/ or pre-read materials will be provided to Ms. Bruno and Ms. Jones for context on this matter.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14pm