

Michaëlle Jean Public School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: November 2nd 2021

Location: Virtually by Zoom

Time: 7: 00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

In attendance:

School Staff: Nora Mazlounian, Christine Chin

2020-2021 School Council Members: Kim Sato, Melissa Wallace, Corinne Francis, Deepshika (Deep) Swaroop, Sushma Kavikondala, Sarah Talebizadeh, Moiz Mohamedali, Elnaz Golestani, Ashley Bebbington

Members-at-large: Shally Saggarr-Dhingra, Carmen Lam, Hongyan Huang, Kathy Shojaei, Lili Gou

1. Welcome/Introductions

Kim welcomes all members to the meeting. Personal introduction for all in attendance. The role of secretary will be rotating for the year.

2. Approval of October 5th Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes made by Kim, Corrine seconds the minutes. Minutes from October meeting approved.

3. Principals Report and School Improvement Plan

Nora: Not too much happening since the last meeting. Preparations going on for Diwali: Deep brought activities and Sushma provided decorations. Nora shared proposed budget for the year, which was revamped to show the budget without pizza revenue. At this time pizza lunch is not a possibility so the new budget does not include this revenue. Typically, pizza sales from the two terms totalled about \$23 000/. Potential revenue from alternate sources included in the budget: greeting cards set at \$2000 and \$1000 for donation drive, otherwise revenue and expenses stayed the same. Total spending for the school year is \$12 367 with a remainder of over \$2000 to carry over for next school year. Technology line \$4867.78, but no cost share to be matched from the board. Board said that school funds could be used to make technology purchase. All funds will be used to purchase 55 chrome books.

Christine speaks to chrome books funds: when chrome books went home in the pandemic many of the chrome books were not recovered in the same condition they were lent. (Board-wide only collected 70% of loaned technology back: some expired and some were not returned). Technology needs to be constantly renewed. Tech carts were dismantled and all computers went to grade 2 & 3 classes (minimum of 10 per class), all iPads went to grade 1 (minimum of 5 per class). Board is pushing for all chrome books, and are not replacing desktop computers once they are no longer working.

Families in the board can apply for a technology grant and have the board subsidize the family to help them with the cost.

Elnaz, Moiz, and Sushma ask about other fundraising options in regards to increasing funds for the school. Sarah asks if there is a target amount that the school hopes to raise per student. Kim shares that in the past school council has spent \$70 per student (agenda, scientist in the school, performances, lice check, etc). Idea of fundraiser drive where families can donate through school cash online. Greeting card or online auction as other possible ideas.

School Budget can be changed if additional funds are received. Funds would be allocated and raised for specific purposes, such as technology, and be collected with that in mind.

Kim proposed to approve the budget, Moiz seconds

Moiz speaks about a charity drive for 360 kids, other charities are suggested for the holiday drive.

4. Treasurers Report

Sushma: year end budget from 2020-2021 school year. No change in funds for September and October. Board has asked that fewer categories were used in the budget, thus some of the separate accounts were combined to have fewer accounts.

5. Committee Chair Reports

Communications Officer

Corrine: Next newsletter to go out at the end of November and another before the Winter Break if enough content is present.

Parent and Community Involvement

Moiz/Sarah: Donation drive needs to be decided soon to allow enough time to collect before the holidays. Other options for charities: Yellowbrick House, Holiday Heroes, 360 kids. Need to decide on type of drive: food or toy. Moiz will research Holiday Heroes and 360 while Sarah contacts Yellowbrick House. Consensus that more families would be able to participate in a food drive (lower price point entry, more accessible for all, funds go further in supporting families).

Tree planting: organize private or public tree planting in spring (April-May), likely on the weekend for families, as field trips may not be possible.

School Climate

Elnaz had ideas on how to run pizza lunch without volunteers, but the board recently sent letters that pizza lunch will not be allowed at this time.

Student Success

Deep: Diwali activity is planned for the students: worksheet for grade 1-2 and diyia painting for the grade 3 students. Display case in the front of the school. Hoping to plan a lunar New Year event next.

Teachers Report

Christine:

Makerspace is launching and soon all of the classes will be able to visit the space. Many teachers are still doing STEAM activities within the classroom. 4C's of 21st century learning is the focus in the space. So far has mostly been grade 2s using the space to learn about simple machines, grade 3s will start to use the space for coding activities.

Diwali activity set up in the library and books available on google slides for all of the teachers. Table in the library to create rangoli art.

Remembrance Day showcase to show all of the different people who fought in the war and places they came from. Takeaway message: lots of different people fought to afford us the freedom we have. Remembrance Day assembly will be done virtually through a livestream.

January 5th: Photo Day

November 18th evening and November 19th morning will be virtual parent teacher interviews. Zoom link will be sent out by the classroom teacher.

Fundraising: Charity donation drive, Greeting Card fundraiser, Virtual Scholastic Book Fair will be happening in early December.

Greeting Card fundraiser could be done in the spring, rather than before the Winter Break, with cards being left blank. Food Drive and Online Fund-raising will both happen before the Winter Break.

Adjournment

Melissa motions to adjourn the meeting. Elnaz seconds the motion
Meeting adjourned @ 8:37pm

Next meeting February 8th 7-8:30pm