

Michaëlle Jean Public School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: October 5th 2021

Location: Virtually by Zoom

Time: 7: 00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

In attendance:

School Staff: Nora Mazloumian, Christine Chin

2020-2021 School Council Members: Ashley Bebbington, Corinne Francis, Deepshika Swaroop, Elnaz Golestani, Kim Sato, Sushma Kavikondala

Members-at-large: Sarah Talebizadeh, Melissa Wallace and other members

1. Welcome, Registration (for those who have not registered), Overview of the role of School Council and Attendance:

Nora and Kim welcomed all members to the meeting.

Nora started the meeting with land acknowledgement as specified by YRDSB. Nora explained the role of school council that the council helps arrange/fund parent/guardian seminars, extra-curricular activities such as Scientist at school etc. She explained that the school council is made up of parents, principle, teacher representative, community representative (if possible) and student representatives (in schools with grade 8 and above). Members are elected annually and school council has the following voting positions: Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Communications Officer, Volunteer coordinator (this post won't be filled this year no volunteers are allowed into the school due to health and safety concerns) and three sub-committee chairs for Student Success, Parental and Community Involvement and School Climate. Council members of school year 2020-2021, explained their role on the council. School council is required to have a minimum of 4 meetings in a year, all meetings are public and announced through email, and all minutes are recorded and posted on school website. Decisions on fund raising, funding activities etc. are mostly reached collaboratively by school council members, however in

case this is not possible then decisions are taken through voting (show of hands or google forms) and/or the Chair can differ it to the next meeting.

2. *Approve Minutes from May 4th 2021:*

Kim passed the motion to approve minutes, Deep seconded it and minutes approved.

3. *Elect School Council Positions:*

Nora checked with the members present online on their interest in council positions. The following members were elected:

- Co-Chairs: Kim Sato and Melissa Wallace
- Treasurer: Sushma Kavikondala
- Secretary: Rotating
- Communication Officer: Corinne Francis
- Student Success Chair: Deepshika (Deep) Swaroop
- Parental & Community Involvement Chair: Sarah Talebizadeh and Moiz Mohamedali
- School Climate: Elnaz Golestani
- Teacher Representative: Christine Chin

4. *Future Meeting Dates:*

The tentative school council meeting dates for 2021-2022 are

- Tuesday, October 5, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 2, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, February 8, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, April 26, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m.

5. *Principal's Report (on current school plan and fundraising):*

Nora reported that the school year has started off well. MJPS has about 1 to 2 online virtual students per class and most students were in face-to-face. Online classrooms are available if a class is in quarantine due to a COVID-19 positive case. Teachers have

cameras and headphones, and the hybrid teaching is going well. School has started the snack program, a bowl of apples, crackers and cheese strings are given to each class. There are 17 classes in total with six Grade 1, six Grade 2, one Grade 2/3 split, and four Grade 3 classes.

6. *Teacher's Report:*

Christine told us that the first month at school has been great and everyone is happy to be back. Teachers have emphasized the health and safety protocols, specifically COVID protocols, to students. September was the month of Truth and Reconciliation, Orange Shirt Day and students had the opportunity to create MJPS land acknowledgement. The library at MJPS is open, and Christine told us that she just opened the library to students and that library facilities are being used in a COVID friendly manner. The school is looking at various online resources and may purchase some digital resources to better enable teachers/students with reading activities. 'Maker Space Modern Learning', a digital modern learning space within MJPS is almost ready and will be open to all students to work through STEM challenges.

7. *New Business:*

Nora suggested the council look at different fund raising possibilities and that we can further talk about fund raising next meeting including pizza lunch etc.

Deep enquired about organising Diwali activities for kids at school this year, and she will coordinate further with Nora.

8. *Adjournment:*

Motion to adjourn was put forward by Kim and Ashley seconded. Meeting adjourned, and final good byes!