

School Council Meeting Minutes

February 9th, 2021



A.	Call to Order	Time:	5:31 pm
B.	Roll Call and Regrets:	Attendees: Carolyn Brndiar Pouneh Baizarikari Jen Chan Sandeep Dhillon Simone Francis Jason Ho Karima Jiwani Winnie Ng Katie Sears Mina Wong Lisa Zhou Lisa Zografos	
C.	Approval of minutes from last meeting	Motion to approve by: Winnie Ng Seconded: Lisa Zografos	
D.	Principal's Report	Update from Principal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grades 1-3 have to wear masks upon return to school on February 16, 2021, including at recess time. They may remove their masks while they are eating at their desks only. • Report cards have been delayed by a week and will now be available February 18-23. • School model change request deadline was February 8, 2021. There are 12 students who switched from in class to virtual and 5 students from virtual to in class, the difference being 7 students. Due to low number, no reorganization of classrooms is necessary. • An email reminder was to be sent on Friday, February 12 by Ms. Brndiar to parents and students. • Kids should not bring their own hand sanitizer as it will be abundantly available for use in school. • February is Black History Month and as such the focus will be on Black Excellence this month. 	
E.	Administrative Profile Review	Review profile, revise and approve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every few years, there is an administrator review profile created/ revised by the school council. In other words, what is the school council looking for in an administrator in the event that a new principal is 	

		<p>required i.e. attributes/ characteristics that we would ideally like to see in a principal at SJAM?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An administrator profile is available from previous years which Ms. Brndiar will forward to Lisa by email and she will email the rest of the school council. Lisa worked on the original with Greg Black. • The prepared document is sent by the current principal to the school superintendent to be kept on file in the event that the principal position becomes available. • Although the school council has no direct say in the hiring of a principal, the attributes will be taken into consideration by the superintendent should the school be looking for a new principal. • Some suggestions included the following attributes, which brought about the idea of a sub-committee which includes Jen, Lisa, Winnie and Pouneh, to put some thoughts together. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It would be a good idea to consider community specific culture related attributes. 2. Diversity & Inclusivity with the focus being on inclusivity. Community events play a big role and the ability to adapt to crisis type scenarios such as Covid is important criteria. 3. Less of a focus on individualism and more on sense of community is a good idea, perhaps incorporating a section for SJAM Community Values within the school newsletter may be something to consider. 4. Creating a sense of community within the school i.e. what parents would like vs. what the school wants and perhaps taking both into consideration would be a wise decision. It is the opinion of some that educators in elementary vs. educators in secondary schools are very different in that the former are more supportive in terms of guidance whereas the latter's focus is more on independence and how to teach students to adapt to university. 5. Mental health support must be taken into consideration although the level may vary. For example, the level of support that may have been required a year ago is different from what may be required now which is more, due to the current situation i.e. pandemic. 	
F	Pro Grant	<p>Application submitted: by Sandeep Dhillon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The application for the Mindfulness workshop organized by the Quiet Company was originally made and approved for March 2020, however due to Covid, it did not materialize. The focus now is on a virtual workshop for families i.e. parents and kids. The parents may also include any other adults within the 	

		<p>household who would like to join. The company has been around for approximately 1.5 years and the workshop was offered through the TDSB library in the past. The cost is \$500 and will be available through Zoom. The mindfulness approach is based on meditation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The original application was made in December 2019, approved in January 2020 and scheduled for March 2020. • March 2021 (week of March 1 or post March break) is the approximate timeline. • Some options are on a Tuesday for parents and a Thursday for families i.e. parents and kids, either twice per week or once per week for 30 minutes per session. • The grant still has to be approved and then a decision can be made regarding the session details. 	
G.	Movie License	<p>License purchased in January 2020 and used once:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katie is dealing with the movie license and will look into options available. • It is a 2 year license which expired in January 2021. • A question was asked regarding if we can request a refund at this time. Katie advised that it is likely not right now but we can try at the time of renewal. • We are not ready to renew at the current time until we have a better idea of what the situation is in terms of having a large gathering in an indoor space such as a school gym where the movie is typically shown. • Another question asked was whether a virtual movie night is an option. Katie advised that it is unlikely as a digital license may have different requirements and cost associated with it. 	
H.	Grade 8 Graduation	<p>Ideas to celebrate the Grade 8 Graduation (subcommittee):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Composite-photos-yearbook as has been done in the past is an idea • A grade 8 grad sub-committee has been formed by Jen, Katie, Lisa, Mina, Pouneh and Winnie to gather ideas for the upcoming grade 8 graduating class of 2021. • We have to take into consideration the virtual grade 8 students as well as the face-face students when planning. It is best to plan early. • We are not yet sure of what a possible ceremony may look like in terms of awards this year. • In the past, sweatshirt pieces were put together for the graduating students as well as graduation bags, which were delivered to the students by the teachers. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One idea may be to take an individual picture of each grade 8 students outdoors with real caps and gowns and perhaps even photo shop the class together. We can leave the dress code up to each student or even ask the grade 8 students what they would like to do. • The grade 7's and 8's usually put a yearbook together themselves which include taking pictures throughout the year. Last year they were printed by Staples. It is best to go through a rep rather than just walking into a store as it is a much better in terms of price. Katie has a contact from previous years. A colour yearbook cost approximately \$5 per child. Google slides can be used to create the yearbook. • It may be a good idea to put feelers out so that any other parents who have graduating students and may want to join the sub-committee and participate in the planning can do so. • Winnie will reach out to a whatsapp group that she has, to see if there is any interest. • Parents may also want to assist with funding the yearbook in order to make it special. • Some asked if a drive through graduation is an option. This will have to be further discussed. • 	
I.	Other Topics	None.	
J.	Adjournment	Motion to Adjourn by: Lisa Zografos Seconded: Katie Sears Time:	6:30pm