

Victoria Square Public School (VSPS) - School Council Meeting #2

Date: December 5, 2022

Time: 19:30 – 20:30

Location: VSPS Library & Online

Attendees:

- Mr. Ko
- Ms. Brown
- David Wong
- Samson Liu

Minutes:

- 19:30
 - Recap of the French Immersion (FI) meeting prior (18:30 – 19:10) that was a joint meeting between VSPS and Sir Wilfred Laurier PS (SWLPS)
 - Answered outstanding questions from parents
 - VSPS will have an orientation for children and teachers
 - Children currently in grade 1 and 2 FI will be going to SWLPS for September 2023
 - Starting September 2023, VSPS will be FI grade 1 and SWLPS will be FI grade 2-8
 - Any teachers moving to another school will typically be notified by June prior to the new school year
- 19:40
 - How will the school council assist with building the community? What type of events can be hosted? (brainstorming exercise)
 - Lunch day (Mondays)
 - Movie night in the gym
 - Board game night in the gym
 - Craft event
 - Amazing Race / Scavenger Hunt / Obstacle course style event
 - Popcorn day
 - Fun fair / Food trucks
 - Culture / Diversity day
 - Career night
- 19:47
 - Arts Festival – February 1, 2023
 - An event in the evening to promote arts among the students: music performances; art on wall; dance performances; etc.
 - Free flowing format, everyone can move around from different locations to pop in and out of performances
 - Hot Chocolate for attendees – School Council to volunteer in shifts

- 19:56 (various topics were discussed in quick succession with some topics revisited, hence the time for the minutes would not make sense. The minutes have been combined by topics to make sense of the conversations)
 - Plans for the January 2023 – June 2023 timeframe
 - What is the purpose of the events?
 - Who are the events for?
 - Can we do a monthly event? Have something at the first week or second week of each month.
 - January 18th, 2023 – Board Game Night
 - Bring in board games to the gym
 - Will need sub-committee to plan
 - Gym available between 5pm – 10pm
 - Volunteers can work in shifts
 - February 1st, 2023 – Arts Festival
 - March 1st, 2023 – Pizza/Movie Night
 - David is looking into the movies subscription and availability
 - Previously charged \$2/individual or \$5/family to attend the movie night
 - David will send out details as he receives them
 - April 12th, 2023 – Amazing Race / Obstacle / Scavenger Hunt
 - Further details to be discussed later
 - Will need a sub-committee
 - Could be an event for May or June as well as outdoors would be warmer
 - June 2023
 - Year-end send off
 - Further discussions
 - What about Popcorn Mondays?
 - David will look into Kernal as they have a minimum buy in from the past
 - Are any of these events for fundraising?
 - All events can have a fundraising component to it, however, the intent of the events is to bring together the community
 - The fundraised amount is used to additional tools/equipment needed in the school (i.e. instruments)
 - Teachers can submit a wish list
 - Will there be field trips? Will parents be volunteering?
 - The school is currently looking into the field trips options
 - Learn to Skate (Grade 1)
 - Swim to Survive (Grade 3)
 - Electives Day
 - Zoo Trip
 - Reach for the Top type event
 - Band/Choir
 - Police Record Checks for volunteers

- Typically will be required for all volunteers that will work with children
 - It is possible to volunteer without the check, however the person cannot be left alone with a child at any given time
 - Email Mr. Ko or Ms. Brown for additional info on Police Record Checks
- 20:10
 - Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants
 - The PRO Grants is \$800 this year
 - The grant fund is used to enhance children's education
 - Previous year we attempted to do a Tri-School joint event between VSPS, SWLPS and Nokiidaa PS, it was not successful due to timing
 - Brainstorm
 - Is there someone that can come help talk to parents on how to help kids?
 - Someone to speak about children's mental health
 - Spread over a few speakers or events
- 20:16
 - Are there any programs during the day to help with children's mental health?
 - Could the school have yoga classes?
 - School has done the "pictures of me" with the students and hung the portraits on the walls within the school
 - VSPS has used the "More than Peach" story book
 - Continual learning for children on how to treat others
 - Talking about the different zones and how to self-moderate when you are in which zone (i.e. blue, orange, etc.)
 - Can an area be turned into a sensory calming space?
 - Teaching mindful breathing exercises
- 20:25 – Additional Questions/Comments
 - For the winter period, can the children come in earlier by 5 minutes? Many children seem to need more time to get snow gear on/off.
 - As that is when supervision changes occur, it will need some further discussions
 - Will there be a change in Principal or Vice-Principal in the coming year?
 - As there is typically a "5-year" change for Principals, it is a concern that Mr. Ko may leave VSPS
 - As far as Mr. Ko knows, there are no indications to suggest that he will be changing schools
- 20:32 – Meeting Adjourned

Next Council Meeting - TBD