

## Viola Desmond P.S.-School Council Minutes

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

7:00 PM-8:00 PM

Attendees: Farah D., Andrew Pariser, Tamar Swerling (P) Jenn, Firuz Djamolov, Tanya, Priscilla Arias

Item	Agenda/Discussion/Action Required
1.	<b><u>Welcome</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meeting commenced at 7:05 p.m. (virtual)</li></ul>
2.	<b>Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes</b>
3.	<b><u>School Report (Ms. Swerling)</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- School improvement plan under wellbeing and mental health, equity and inclusive education and effective instruction.  <b>Wellbeing and mental health:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- We are doing children's mental awareness week the first week of May.</li><li>- J/I teachers will sign up for workshops and there will be a snack for every kid for every day that week.</li></ul></li><li>- <b>Equity:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Creating spaces in our school where our students see themselves represented. We have students working on a Ramadan and nowruz display. There have been announcements for sikh heritage month. We are also focusing on autism awareness.</li><li>- Guest speaker : Ally D ( parent) doing an assembly to talk about neurodiversity on April 9</li><li>- May : Jewish and Asian heritage month. We will be receiving a special exhibit, "Standing in the doorway". This interactive display recognizes the contributions of Chinese Canadians.</li></ul></li></ul>

4.	<p><b>Effective instruction:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We have release time for teachers in small groups to work on a specific area for learning.</li> <li>- Junior/ Intermediate Division : focusing on assessment and evaluation in mathematics</li> <li>- Soon the FI teachers will come out for PD on literacy by lead teacher</li> <li>- Our PD is done within by sending out our lead teachers to conferences and then they come back and share with the staff</li> <li>- Gr 2, 4 and 7 students went to BORC to engage in outdoor education.</li> <li>- <b>Discover Kindergarten</b> - opportunity for new Kindergarten students to visit a classroom and engage in playful learning in May.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Lunch programs: (Ms. Swerling and Tanya)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hot lunches : Ms. Costa has been looking into other options. Potential Italian restaurant or hero burger. Office will look into it.</li> </ul> <p><b>Lunch activities : (Tanya)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Thursdays: Cartooning Art program</li> <li>- Mondays: Lego Science program</li> <li>- Tuesdays: Create It - Robotics / video games</li> <li>- Friday : Act 1 , Beauty and the Beast is Sunday night (please send an email blast to parents and staff to come see the show)</li> <li>- Unless there is a strong desire to do a second play we are not going to continue for the remainder of the year.</li> <li>- Chess - Mad Science has a chess program. Tanya is going to try and line up chess with them.</li> </ul>
5.	<p><b><u>End of Year Barbeque</u></b></p> <p><b>Date: Wednesday June 12, 2024</b></p> <p><b>Time: 5 pm - 7:30 pm</b></p> <p><b>Budget: 3500</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- BBQ, Ice Cream Truck and Fire House to come to the school</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Specific Responsibilities</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Follow up with Tonya:</b> Confirm with Kidz Dance music for DJ. Or any other board approved DJ. Kidz Dance music is 400 deposit and 800 cost plus HST.</li> <li>- <b>Priscilla:</b> Will create a poster and connect with Admin at Alex Mac once areas of</li> </ul>

	<p>need are established</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Students do not need a VSC and cannot do anything with money</li> <li>- <b>Ms. Swerling / Ms. Stone:</b></li> <li>- Will provide a meeting date and time for all people interested in helping out with the BBQ. We can discuss more specifics regarding activities, stations, mapping out the area etc.</li> <li>- Organize deposits with office administrators.</li> <li>- Confirm with Ms. Grieves about the book fair coinciding with the BBQ.</li> </ul>
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6.	<p><b><u>Parking Lot Issues:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We will put signs out once or twice a week to remind parents for safe arrival.</li> <li>- There have been some issues with parents stopping in the middle of the path to let out their kids.</li> <li>- Look into vehicles entering the bus loop to ensure they are being safe with regards to pedestrians.</li> <li>-</li> </ul>
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5.	<b><u>Next meeting</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Dates to be provided by Ms. Stone and Ms. Wagner for our next meeting.</li></ul>
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6.	<b><u>Adjournment</u></b> <p>The meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.</p>
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