

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

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

7:00 PM-8:00 PM

Attendees: Farah D., Tamar Swerling (P) Jacqueline Stone (P), Jodie B.,

Item	Agenda/Discussion/Action Required
1.	<b><u>Welcome</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meeting commenced at 7:10 p.m. (virtual)</li></ul>
2.	<b>Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes</b>
3.	<b><u>School Report (Ms. Swerling)</u></b> <b>What's Happening in May and June</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Discover Kindergarten</li><li>- <u>Standing in the Doorway: Lived Histories &amp; Experiences of the Chinese Community   York Region District School Board</u> Exhibit for 2 weeks; It is a joint project between Markham Museum and YRDSB which includes several interactive activities for our students.</li><li>- May 22 is Track and Field day for Gr.4-8</li><li>- Yearbook is almost done and will be going to print soon. We have sold 165 copies already.</li><li>- May 24 Gr. 7 &amp; 8 Immunizations</li><li>- May 27-31 EQAO for Gr. 3 and 6 and the following week is catch up for student who might miss a day</li><li>- June - Pride month</li><li>- June 5 Jr Badminton Areas</li><li>- June 7 PA Day</li><li>- June 10 Area Track and Field</li></ul>

- June 12 Students of Differentiated Access (SODA) Athletics and Activities Festival
- June 12 BBQ
- June 14 Gr. 8 trip to Niagara Falls
- June 20th Gr. 8 Graduation
- June 24th Primary Play Day
- June 26th Volunteer Appreciation Event
- June 27th Last day of school. Early release for students, PA Day in the afternoon for staff.
- June 28th PA Day

#### **School Improvement Plan Work – Mental Health and Well-Being**

- We have continued to focus on building environments that reflect multiple identities for example for Jewish Heritage Month and Asian and East Asian Heritage Month classes selected a person of excellence to highlight.
- Front hall display also showcasing people of excellence
- Participation in SODA: June 12 - Students of Differentiated Access (SODA) Athletics and Activities Festival
- During Children's mental health week; we had additional daily announcements, healthy snacks were provided, and activities were done in the classrooms from resources shared by the Board

#### **School Improvement Plan Work – Equity and Inclusivity**

- We continue to work on building school community and creating identity affirming spaces
- Over the course of the year we have had many opportunities for our students to gather and build community including:
  - o Fall Fun Day
  - o "Carnaval"
  - o X-Movement
  - o School wide assemblies
  - o Buddy activity days where students in older grades are partnered with younger grades to collaborate. This is an opportunity for students in our French Immersion and English programs to work together and to know each other

- o Primary Play Day (scheduled for June)

#### **School Improvement Plan Work – Effective Instruction**

- Professional learning has continued, embedded with in the day to support our students in all areas of the curriculum to support new curriculum and implementation of new resources and tools
- Teachers have participated in additional learning in the areas of:
  - o Culturally Responsive Pedagogy
  - o Literacy training for Primary, Junior and French Immersion teachers
  - o DABRS Racial Literacy Workshops
  - o Math network meetings
  - o Mental health lead meetings
- They attend workshops, and then bring new learning back to share with staff at staff meetings and professional meetings to be imbedded into teaching and learning at our school

#### **Planning for 2024-2025**

- French Immersion program is growing
- English enrolment is steady
- We are currently planning for
  - o 10 French Immersion classes
  - o 11 regular program classes
  - o 2 Community Classes

4.

### **End of Year Barbeque**

**Date: Wednesday June 12, 2024**

**Time: 5 pm - 7:30 pm**

#### **BBQ VENDOR:**

- "Fire it up" to come to set up at 4:30 for service commencing at 5:30.
- They will stop service at 7pm, clean up and aim to leave at 7:30pm
- Food is served on disposable plates with a bag of chips
- Beverages provided : Coke, Diet Coke, Ginger Ale, Nestea, Water, Fruit Punch, Apple and Orange Juice.
- Final quantities to be sent 1 week prior to the event date and no on site sales available.

#### **TATOOS:**

- Have been purchased for a total of \$24.31. There are 3 styles: unicorn, gamer and dinosaur.

#### **Next Steps:**

- **Farah:** Submit receipt for tattoos to the office for reimbursement. Organize school council to prepare tattoos for event date. Confirm orders with FIRE IT UP one week prior to event. Prepare tickets for meal orders for students with BBQ Committee.
- **Nan:** Submit receipts for face painting materials to the office for reimbursement. Finalize styles for face painting. Finalize balloon artist.
- **Alina:** Organize with Energy Karate for the event date.
- **Office:** compile list of volunteers submitted from family weekly.
- **BBQ Committee:** Organize volunteers into groups for event preparation, running stations at the BBQ and clean up.

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<b>5.</b>	<p><b><u>Principal Profile</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This will be created as a shared plan to gather parent input for our Principal Profile</li> <li>- In the form there is a section on “5 particulars”: Examples of this can include but are not limited to; population, neighborhood, any other interesting facts</li> <li>- We want to get voices from different divisions and groups.</li> <li>- <b><u>Action:</u></b> Jodie B will email the profile that has been compiled by herself and other members of the school council to administration.</li> </ul>
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<b>6.</b>	<b><u>Next meeting</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Dates to be provided by Ms. Stone and Ms. Swerling for our next meeting and next BBQ meeting.</li></ul>
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<b>7.</b>	<b><u>Adjournment</u></b> <p>The meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.</p>
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