

Summerside School Council Meeting - Wednesday October 20, 2021 at 7:00pm via Google Meet

In Attendance: Andrea Gordon, Bobby Chauhan, Crystal-Lee Savage, Daphnee Crepin, Jenna Robertson, Jeff Matthews, Kailey Satta, Marcia Green, Nik Cotter, Rebecca Ryan, Rebecca Stanisic, Sana Fazli, Stacey Downing, Stuart van Oostveen, Sui Ling Lee, Jenna AuCoin, Chatura Prematunge, Colleen Dwyer, Lynda Mama, Erica Roy, Saaimah Malik

Welcome and introductions as well as hello to student representatives

Approval of Agenda and Last Meeting's Minutes

Motion to approve agenda is moved by Bobby - no objections so the agenda is approved. Minutes are approved.

Principal's Update - Stuart van Oostveen

Equity - Equity is important in our school. It's important to hear all the voices in our school including students, staff, and parents. Several students have said they wanted school to be a place where they feel at home and that they were missing afternoon prayers, so now we have a prayer space at school which will be starting Friday. About 20 students will be attending.

COVID - The Public Health nurse was in on Tuesday and did a tour, making sure we're in compliance. We've been given some PCR take home tests. Parents can pick them up and bring them back to school or they can bring them to Ray Friel. It's very important that we're maintaining mask wearing and physical distancing and also important cohorts are kept separate.

IEPs - This week IEPs are going home for students with any kind of special learning need.

Vice Principal's Update - Rebecca Ryan

Technology - Andrea and Rebecca are still working on distributing Chromebooks that have been returned. We've put blurbs in the last couple parent updates trying to get those devices back. 8 or 9 came back from this. The Learning Technology Specialist is coming on Wednesdays. They make sure the Chromebooks are in working order and then they are being redistributed. Some new ones are being sent to the school as well.

Vaccine Clinic - We had a successful school vaccination clinic today for regular Grade 7 and 8 vaccines. Next one is coming up in a few months.

Question - The Chromebooks you are talking about being redistributed, is it going into tech tub or to students specifically?

Answer - The ones being returned are being distributed at a one to four ratio to the general population.

Student's Report

Sana - During the second week of school we had the Minute to Win It outside which was a lot of fun. We had the Terry Fox Run. All students participated. We almost doubled our fundraising goal and got a pyjama day as a reward. Students spearheaded the new prayer room with almost 20 students signed up.

Daphnee - Some classes have started virtual field trips and are hoping for real field trips soon. Students are hoping to switch zones at recess, also looking for more basketballs for four square. Students are hoping for art supplies for recess to possibly make a graffiti wall.

Student questions for council - There is a news story about the government providing feminine hygiene products to schools, what will that look like for our school and when will it be starting?

Answer - We haven't heard about this specific program yet from the district yet but as soon as we know you'll know. For any students to be aware though, there are always feminine hygiene products available for students at the office.

Stuart - love idea of outdoor art supplies. In regards to the request for more basketballs, we are not going to get basketballs but we are going to get utility balls for four square. They are not as hard and dangerous. As soon as field trips can happen, they will happen.

Rebecca - Mr. Cleveland took photos of the roof today and there are 15-16 balls on the roof right now but it's inaccessible right now. We're working on getting a ladder installed to get down to lower roof.

Colleen - Really great job Daphnee and Sana, you mentioned students would like other rewards instead of pyjama day, what other rewards would you like?

Answer - Maybe electronic day, some students don't like pyjama day because they feel uncomfortable at school in their pyjamas. Maybe crazy hair day, crazy hat day, hoodies or hats, movie day for classes.

Follow up - We can possibly look at planning some of those for spirit days.

Teacher's Update - Nik Cotter

- We've got Grade 3 leaders helping with entry and exit at recess. They are holding doors, squirting sanitizer and standing in the stairwell to make sure students are going up and down on opposite sides
- Music classes are happening. Currently just percussion but not wind instruments. As soon as Mrs. Turpin gets approval, she's ready to start using the new ukuleles
- Intermediate staff got to take part in Indigenous professional development. The training was looking at cultural appropriation, using class circles, sharing tools, using Indigenous subject matter more than just Orange Shirt Day
- Erin and Rene, our Learning Support Teachers, this past month attended Empower training which is decoding and spelling for Grades 2-5 and 6-8
- Educators are learning strategies for virtual learning being engaging and authentic.
- Virtual field trips are happening with Macskimming, The educators host different experiences by video. They are not as good as an in-person field trip but good nonetheless
- Educators are busy providing progress reports for Grades 1-8 and initial observations for Kindergarten

Question - How can council help with virtual field trips?

Answer - Just more wanting council to know about it and keep your eyes open for virtual learning experiences.

Treasurer's Update - Lynda

We started this financial year at \$9243.16. There was one monthly fee on September 29 for \$4.95, creating a new balance of \$9238.21. On October 14, a cheque was deposited for \$465 from Swarm gear.

Balance as of today is \$9703.21.

To note, the monthly fees occur when we are under \$10,000.

Fundraising Committee Update - Jenna Robertson

The fundraising committee met for the first time last week with a good turnout. We've come up with meeting dates for the rest of the year. We'll be meeting one week prior to the council meeting. We want to make the school playground structure a priority for fundraising for this coming year. We have reached out to a contact to come in and talk about different models and the pricing. What we were quoted in the last couple of years has likely gone up a bit.

Here are the fundraisers the fundraising committee has agreed to put forth until January.

- Flipgive - Bobby
- Purdy's chocolate fundraiser for Christmas which will be led by Saiimah
- Swarm gear and Verne will be helping with that
- Mabel's Labels and that will be led by Jenna Robertson

We'll be putting all fundraisers together in a newsletter and we'll be talking to the social committee to work together to put all those in place.

We also discussed possibly putting together letters for major corporations such as Minto and soliciting funds for the playground. It's something that we will look at later in the year.

There's currently \$19,000 put aside for the playground structure. There is a landscaping plan in place for school. It can be tweaked a bit to possibly bunch trees to make a shaded area but will need to stick close to that plan though. In case we ever get portables, there's a place for those to go as well.

Social Media Committee - Chatura

Initially we were thinking of a Facebook page but when we saw the digital media policy and decided that would be better suited as a long term goal. We're going to continue to have discussions about it. We thought since parents are not allowed to be on school grounds we were hoping to be able to take pictures of student's artwork and post them.

The priority is that since the social media accounts are put in public domain, we need to make sure we are safeguarding students' privacy at all times.

The suggestion is to do a mock up Facebook group with restricted access to Summerside parents only. We will work on who would be administrators and hope to have this up and running by January.

Newsletter - A school council newsletter will start again and will be similar to the one that has been sent out in previous years. There will be a corner for the student council, and an allocated space for the fundraising committee.

Flyer - The social media committee will be sending out a flyer specifically for our current fundraising opportunities. Cost of printing would be less than \$100 so it can be approved by the executive committee.
Consensus to move forward with paper flyers

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm