

Summerside School Council - February 22, 2023 In-Person at Summerside

7:00pm

In Attendance: Jenna Robertson, Sui Ling Lee, Nadine Mott, Nik Cotter, Donna Dickson, Chrissy Savage, Navneet Baines, Stuart van Oostveen, Saaimah Malik, Erin Clamen, Nikhil (Student Representative), Erica (Student Representative), Jenna AuCoin

Approval of Agenda

- Agenda is approved

Introduction to school trustee Donna Dickson

- Some of the issues to bring to Donna Dickson: first approach Principal then the Superintendent but issues that are currently underway are: breakfast programs, bussing issues, violence in the classroom

Student Report (Nikhil and Erica)

- Clubs - students are finding there are too many clubs that overlap so they are wanting to blend some clubs and possibly start a book club
- Athletics - boys basketball has now started for Intermediates
 - Triple ball tournament - boys placed fourth and girls placed first
 - Intermediate girls do open gym Fridays
 - Ski trip for Intermediates to Mount Pakenham (96 students signed up)
- Student leadership
 - Black Excellence club just hosted their first assembly. Stefan Keyes and Donna Dickson attended
 - Reached out to Kindergarten and Specialized classes to do read aloud for Black History month
- Student council continues to raise funds to subsidize field trips, activities, spirit days
- School wide events
 - Candygrams were sold from Kindergarten to Grade 8 and delivered on Valentine's Day
 - Choir has resumed with a view to concert in Spring
 - Band continues to meet Mondays and are practicing two new songs
 - Violin Club meets Monday and Wednesday - also aiming for a Spring concert and possibly performing for a retirement home in the area
 - Ukulele Club for Grade 4-6 continues to meet Mondays
 - Music therapy underway for Specialized classes being funded by donation
 - Diversity Club planning Culture Day in April - parents are welcome to come in and showcase their culture
 - Bake sale tomorrow for EFO to help support (Toonie Tuesday)
 - Intermediate students completed a three day workshop in Hip-Hop which ended in a dance showcase
 - EF7a/b are going to MacSkimming for the Fur Trade Program
 - Band members are getting excited to see Grease at Sir Wil next week
 - Manie Musicale will be starting with basketball
 - Started new Dungeons and Dragons Club

Teachers Report (Nik Cotter)

- Report cards went home last week
- Staff book club continues focusing on Literacy and phonemic awareness
- Black Excellence Club meeting with Sir Wil's Black Excellence group - likely canceled this week due to bus cancellations but will try to reschedule for next week
- Student development - 10 students went to OTSS activity day at the end of January to practice some skilled trades
- Grade 8s completed course selection for Sir Wil

- Pathways for Exploration - Summerside has been granted 15 spaces for Grade 8s
- Kindergarten Information Night scheduled for February 23 (likely rescheduled due to weather)
- Student Ambassadors have been playing with students from the Specialized Program classes at recess
- DIBELS - Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills - delivered at the beginning, middle, end of year. Used to assess decoding, comprehension. We take the information to see how to use it for literacy across the school
- The Parent Resource Lending Library is still available. The books were purchased a few years ago in consultation with school Psychologist

Principal's Update (Stuart van Oostveen)

3 Foci - supporting equity, literacy, mental health

- Working to support equity - there is a lot going on with Black Excellence Club, Black History Month. Very important for students to see themselves represented in curriculum
- Students have asked to have an Islamic student group - working with staff to move forward
- Doing a lot of work with literacy. Building understanding of oral language and building vocabulary
- Grade 1s are building recognition with letters, in Kindergarten we're teaching sounds and letters
- Grade 2s - are working with UFLI
- Tier 2 Intervention - Lexia Program can be used for students who are struggling with literacy. It can be used on paper or online
- Tier 3 Intervention - Empower is used for speech and language. The program is recognized worldwide. The program is very scripted and regimented focusing on decoding and comprehension
- Mental health - it's been very beneficial to bring back all social, physical ways to express themselves - has made a big difference
- When students are struggling, teachers have been opening up spaces in school for students to chill and talk
- Multi Disciplinary Team - It's been great to have the team back in school. Speech Pathologist, Social Worker, Psychologist, ASD Team

Treasurer's Update (Jenna AuCoin)

- Current balance \$26,992.96

Purdys (Saaimah Malik)

- Active - deadline to order is March 19
- Already close to \$300 in profit

Pizza (Jenna Robertson)

- Term 2 is active on School Cash Online, deadline is March 3
- First term profits about \$14,000
- Next term hopefully \$11,000
- Freezer stash needs to be replenished

Outdoor Project (Jenna Robertson)

- Exploring the idea of moving away from idea of fundraising for a play structure (can't use from November to March, physical accessibility, cost prohibitive - quotes of upwards of \$250,000 with only \$25,000 set aside
- Instead looking to install outdoor classroom with cedar chips, different seating plans
- OCDSB is matching dollar for dollar up to \$25,000
- Outdoor classroom idea is accessible to everyone
- If agreed on tonight, can be installed this summer
- Motion is approved by consensus

- A Google Form will be sent to staff to vote on preferred layout

PRO Grant Application (Jenna AuCoin)

- An application for a \$750 grant has been submitted to fund an in-person speaker to come to Summerside to discuss facing hate online
- A decision will be made by February 27

Short-Term Spending (Jenna Robertson)

- Agreed to write cheque for \$7500 for staff wishlist
- There's already \$5000 set aside for lights
- Will likely be holding a movie night end of May - School Council to possibly provide popcorn and have pizza available for sale
- Summerfest off the table for this year
- Meet the Teacher/School Council night in September a possibility with a food truck
- Grade 8 leaving ceremony
- Giving back to community - Carson Grove and EFO

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm