

## **Summerside School Council - Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at 7:00pm via Google Meet**

### **In Attendance**

Stuart van Oostveen, Nik Cotter, Angela Ronald, Bobby Chauhan, Erika Roy, Sui Ling Lee, Jenna AuCoin, Jenna Robertson, Becky Stanisic, Dahlia Maxwell, Cryssy Savage, Stacey Downing, Lynda Mama, Nicole Bothra, Ali Shaker, Helen Broom, Saaimah Malik, Rebecca Pereira, Sarah Ahmed, Andrea Gordon, Christopher Banks

### **Approval of Agenda**

Agenda is approved.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from last June are approved

### **Principal's Report (Stuart van Oostveen)**

### **The Role of School Council**

All schools in Ontario have a school council. They are important advisory bodies to the schools and school board. The purpose of a school council is, through the active participation of parents, to improve student achievement and increase accountability of the education system to parents.

Effective school councils are those that:

- prioritize student achievement, equity and well-being
- focus on the needs and interests of all students in the school
- are composed of members who represent the diversity of the board
- promote effective, ongoing communication among all partners in education
- establish a positive, respectful relationship with the school principal and staff
- provide feedback to parents by letting them know how their advice and ideas have been considered
- have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities
- have a clear and consistent process for decision making and conflict resolution
- maintain high ethical standards

### **Some Suggestions**

If you have a concern, please, contact your child's teachers and the principal directly. For example, any particular student details with respect to behaviour and disciplinary action are confidential - and just as any parent would not want other parents to speculate about an incident that took place at school that involved their child, we need to preserve the dignity of all our students and maintain confidentiality. This is a professional obligation of all educators under the Education Act, Safe Schools Act and other legislation.

### **What's Happening at Summerside**

- Parent information night is September 29 with a staggered schedule
- Starting sports activities - Junior and Intermediate Cross Country is the first sport up and running
- Hot dog sales Friday by the Intermediate division - fundraising for field trips
- Popcorn sales are starting next Thursday -supporting sports and athletic equipment
- Milk program is starting again - order forms coming tonight or tomorrow. Funds going towards Makerspace and S.T.E.A.M
- Terry Fox assembly is Friday and the run is on October 6
- Three student clubs are underway - Beyond differences, Black Excellence and Student Council
- Trees arrived at Summerside today - 18 trees in total. The district covers half cost of the maintenance - the remainder of the cost is shared between school council and school budget
- Thank you to Nicole Vasquez who volunteered to weed the gardens in the front of the school. We are very appreciative

**Question:** Will there be an opportunity for parents to help volunteer with sports teams?

**Answer:** If needed, we will definitely consider it

**Question:** Will Makerspace be running an after school program again?

**Answer:** We will look into seeing if there's interest from staff to supervise

### **Teacher's Update** (Nik Cotter and Angela Ronald)

- Recess buddy program is in the works. Seeking student leaders to help students that might feel lonely at recess
- The School Ambassadors program is developing as well. They would be responsible for greeting new students to school and helping to guide them
- There have been several field trips to Macskimming
- Classes can link up for reading buddies
- Library has reopened and kids can take books out again

**Question:** Do criminal record checks need to be redone for this year?

**Answer:** If you had one last year, no need to re-do. If you're obtaining one for the first time this year, we're using the process through ONFE.

### **Financial Report**

- Balance as of today is \$11,083.11
- Checking to see if sign for graduation was paid

### **Recruitment**

- It would be valuable to have a table set up at Parent Information Night with volunteers there to hand out flyers to help recruit to School Council

### **Elections**

- There were no nominations for any seat on the Executive Committee so the council will be moving forward with only Members at Large
- Members at Large: Jenna A., Becky, Cryssy, Sui Ling, Dahlia, Erica, Ali, Saaimah, Rebecca, Jenna R., Helen, Bobby, Christopher, Sarah

### **Meetings**

There is a vote for whether or not meetings will continue to be held online vs. in person

5 hands for in person

9 hands for virtual

5 for indifferent

- It's decided to proceed with the meeting for October 19 as a virtual meeting.
- Have the permit to use the room if needed on the third Wednesdays every month

### **Sub-Committees**

#### **Fundraising**

Led by Jenna R. and joined by Jenna A., Becky, Saaimah, Erica, Sui Ling

#### **Social Media**

Cryssy, Rebecca P., Bobby

*Meeting adjourned at 8:33pm*