

Roger Neilson School Council Meeting

Thursday September 19th, 2024- Hybrid In-person/Virtual

Minutes

Present:

Kevin Coulter (Principal)

Mandy Bush (Chair)

Brooklyn Sinclair (Secretary)

Julia Wiegard (Treasurer)

Myla Bromell

Alice Bennight

Samantha Martin – via WebEx

Pam Kearnan

Dawn Barry (Teacher Representative)

Angela Hibbs (Teacher Representative)

Tori Schaap (Compass Early Learning and Care)

Tara Lutz (School Administrative Assistant, CUPE representative) - via WebEx

Minutes:

Kevin Coulter opened the meeting with the acknowledgment that we respectfully gather on the treaty and traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabeg. Mr. Coulter welcomed everyone back from summer holidays. He went over the purpose of school council and what they are responsible for as well as a reminder that this is also a voice of the community. Fundraising is a big part of what school council does as well as being the voice for parents and students in the community.

Brief introductions were made before the elections for school council roles were conducted. The following roles were elected for the 2024/2025 school year:

Chair Person: Mandy Bush

Secretary: Brooklyn Sinclair

Treasurer: Julia Weigard

Mandy motioned that elected roles be accepted as such. Brooklyn seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

Mr. Coulter mentioned we should be posting the minutes and financial summaries from each meeting to the school website, as well as the updated constitution.

Principal's Report:

Kevin Coulter presented the principal's report. He started by speaking about how happy the kids seem to be to be back as well as the lovely summer like weather. The weekly newsletter is being seen by the parents and they will continue to go out every Sunday evening.

There is a PA Day coming up on Friday, September 27. These days are for teacher and staff professional development.

Mr. Coulter spoke about the accommodation review for KPR. There are roughly 36,000 students in the KPR school board. Our school is at roughly 75% capacity, which means the overflow of students from Millbrook will be coming to Roger Neilson until such a time where a spot opens up for them in the school closest to them.

He also spoke briefly about the Board of Trustees and the information regarding the school potentially running from K-8 starting next school year. It seems the BOT have been taking in feedback from the community and families so we will see what happens with that.

Mr. Coulter spoke about the Board Action Plan, where the main focus is reading and writing. He mentioned that the goal is K- Grade 3 should be learning to read and Grade 4 and up should be "reading to learn." We talked about the Positive School Climate Survey that is conducted every year that gathers feedback from students and families to

help make the schools a more positive environment. They will be setting up a team which includes students, parents as well as teachers and school staff.

Kevin spoke more about how there haven't been any big class switches and that the class numbers are much smaller this year as well as lots of new teachers and staff this year. The school now has two smaller LLS classes instead of one.

He informed us that they received the bill for playground inspection with maintenance and repairs, the total was \$400. School council paying the invoice was motioned by Julia and seconded by Brooklyn.

Teacher's Report:

Teacher's report was given by both Dawn Barry and Angela Hibbs. Soccer tryouts are happening currently as well as prepping for the Terry Fox run on Friday September 20th at 2pm.

Teachers are hoping to get the PALS club up and running again as the students really seemed to enjoy it last year. This is where the older kids (Gr 5/6) run little games and activities for the younger kids. This helps them with leadership skills.

Treasurer's Report:

The School Council account has a balance of \$5477.60 at the beginning of this year.

Each teacher was given \$200 to go towards classroom activities, class trips, etc.

Pam Kearnan asked about teachers without permanent set classrooms and was advised to have them bring it to the school council meetings so it could be decided on as a group. We did this last year and it worked out well.

Agenda Items:

- School Council will be selling World's Finest Chocolates from October 8th until October 22nd. Each student will be able to pick up a case starting October 8th in the main foyer between 3pm and 6pm. It will be signed out and when sold, bring the money back to the main foyer between 3-6pm and students will be able to hand in money and get another case if they wish. Each case sold will enter the

student into a draw for prizes. Money raised from this will be going towards purchasing Buddy Benches for the kindergarten yard and big kid yard.

- Mandy brought up purchasing an ACF licence which allows the school council and teachers to stream 100's of movie titles. This licence costs \$575+ tax for the year. Motioned by Mandy and seconded by Brooklyn.
- Myla brought forward information about two local candy shops that offer fundraising opportunities. These will be looked into more to see if it's a good fit for the school and community.
- School Open House/Meet the Teacher night will be September 26th from 5:30-7pm. School council will be selling pizza that evening in the main foyer.

We discussed ideas for what we would like to raise funds for this school year. We are interested in hosting Jimmy Chapman again, as the kids all love when he comes. We are hoping to add a couple of Buddy Benches to the Kinder yard as well as the big kids' yard and possibly some tables for the older kids yard. We would like to do another Critter Visit like we did last year, it was a hit with the kids and adults.

We discussed and picked dates for upcoming School Council meetings and they are as follows:

October 17th

November 28th

No meeting in December

January 23rd

more dates will be decided at a later meeting.

Meeting times will remain at 5:30pm in the Roger Neilson PS library as well as virtually via WebEx. Next meeting will be held at 5:30pm on Thursday October 17th.

Meeting adjourned.