

# Paris Central School Council Meeting

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**November 21, 2023 / 6:30 - 8:30 PM / School Library**

## ATTENDEES

Mrs. Reuben, Mrs. Nicholas, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Steckle

Council Co-Chair: Nikki                      Council Co-Chair: Chrissy

Parent representatives

## AGENDA

### Welcome Introductions

1. Teacher representatives introduced - Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Steckle
2. Student council president introduced - Abby Curry

### Review and Approve Current Agenda

- Confirmed and approved by members and attendees

### Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

- Previous meeting on September 26, 2023
- Minutes confirmed by members and attendees

### Business from Previous Meeting Minutes

- Big Crunch fundraiser was organized and was completed on November 1, 2023
- Ms. Davila asked about a sound wall to put up at the Outdoor Classroom space - would like wooden boards put up to prevent a visual distraction from traffic and pedestrians
- Mrs. Reuben to ask for approval from School Board
- Nikki to provide drawings to help speed up process
- Playground Committee report can provide a survey that has drawings of space and measurements
- School is available for parents to meet outside of council meetings, but would have to submit online application - parent community is not for

profit and will not be charged – the school library may not be available as the before and after school programs use the space

- It was mentioned that the County of Brant Public Library may be a possibility, however policies have changed and fees would be applicable to use the program rooms as a meeting space

### **Chair's Report**

- Snack program is now up to approximately 20 volunteers and has been very successful with little food being returned
- Fundraising for snack program has been successful and we have placed second out of schools in the area earning a gift card worth \$200
- Some teachers are asking that snack bins be left in the hallway outside of the classroom to avoid distracting students
- The sensory wall in the Kindie area will be made by parents – waiting for School Board approval before moving forward
- Several parents are interested in leading the project – have been advised to reach out to Nikki or Mrs. Reuben
- Funding can come from fundraising, donations, or playground fund
- Ms. Davila has suggested reflective flowers (similar to chalkboards) – three flowers for approximately \$500
- No progress on organizing parent engagement nights – can post ideas like Amazing Race, math and literacy activities, movie nights, etc. on parent FaceBook group to gauge interest

### **Principal's Report/School Improvement Plan**

- Grand Erie Action Plan handouts were distributed to members
- Math professional development series for all teachers from grades 1-9 with a large focus on grade 6
- Coaches are coming to the school once per week to support the school
- Professional development focus on high impact instructional practices to find what is effective when teaching students – teachers are presenting different strategies so each child can find their own way to the solution
- Teachers see a struggle with online learning and multiple choice – EQOA is online and provides no guidance, just random selection
- Students have voiced that online mathematics is overwhelming

- Teachers want to teach strategies for finding the solution before looking at the multiple choice answers as this may improve test scores and student confidence
- Parents expressed concerns over the curriculum not presenting basic math skills early enough - Mrs. Reuben mentioned voicing their concerns to the School Board
- Basketball nets have been proposed as part of school improvement plan - submitted request to School Board, waiting on approval

### **Teacher's Report/Student Council Report**

- Field trips have been successful and fun - lots of parent volunteers for Myrtleville House
- Would love to see parent volunteers for driving students to sporting events - parents can let teachers know if/when they are available, must have insurance that covers collision and \$2 million liability
- Currently seeking parent volunteers for the Christmas concert
- Students have requested new jerseys for sports teams - t-shirt style, currently only have tank top style

### **School Funds Report**

- No changes to report from last meeting

### **Playground Committee Update**

- Combining with School Funds report

### **New Items/Other**

- Too late to organize and conduct a fundraiser for Christmas this year, must be arranged much earlier in the year - possible to have a fundraiser in January for things like gift cards as parents are interested in spending money on things they can use (groceries, gas, etc.)
- Crock-A-Doodle was very successful - would be fun to do it again for a grade 8 graduation idea - Crock-A-Doodle can come into school or can give gift cards and charge a reduced price of 10-20%
- Selling popcorn to raise money for grade 8 graduation trip

- Parent council has requested a list of fundraising events to help promote and to gather volunteers - will help parents to plan their availability for events
- Hot lunches are being sourced throughout the Brant County/Brantford area - La Botega (possibly more expensive than initially thought with additional delivery fee, lots of organization and would need volunteers to help sort foods for each classroom), Our Kitchen Brantford (rent out space and cook hot lunches for schools, all meals are allergy-free, meals start at \$5 + add-ons), pizza lunches (currently running for December, prices being kept down this year for families due to economic situation)
- School Cash Online is no longer rounding totals
- Would like to investigate if School Cash Online can make an option available to donate to school snack program - currently, donation button is available through a different menu rather than where parents see what is available to purchase on student menu
- Starting September 2024, school forms will be available online
- Parent council is interested in offering a virtual meeting option for next council meeting - could help to increase attendance - hybrid meeting format seems to be preferred

## Adjournment

## NOTES

- **Minute taker confirmed** - Leta Seegmiller-Free as Melissa Cuthbert not available for this meeting
- **Next meeting date - January 23, 2024**

## ACTION ITEMS

1. Brainstorm for a year-end carnival or multicultural fair during January's meeting
2. Ask for approval of sound wall from School Board
3. Provide drawings of sound wall and board sizes in area to speed up application of sound wall

4. Snack bins should now be left outside of classrooms rather than inside to avoid distracting students while in class
5. Post engagement ideas on Parent Group on FaceBook to test interest in these events
6. Follow up on School Board approval of new basketball nets
7. Provide parents a list of school events requiring volunteers
8. Decide on other hot lunch providers
9. Confirm whether School Cash Online can offer a permanent donation button
10. Offer a hybrid Parent Council meeting for January