



# Pleasant Park *Public School* Parent Council

564 Pleasant Park Road, Ottawa Ontario, K1H 5N1 Phone: (613) 733-5253 Fax: (613) 733-2375



## Pleasant Park Public School Council Minutes

October 21, 2020 at 6:45pm

1. Welcome, it's nice to see you here!
2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes: Diane motions to accept the Minutes from October and Emily seconds
3. Financial Report
  - i. Amount raised: \$74
  - ii. Amount spent: \$0
  - iii. Current balance: \$10,500
4. Council Update
  - a. Pizza Update: Diane is preparing to send out options for parents to direct their pizza funds. After discussion, Council agrees to provide options for refund or to direct funds to school, and also to remind parents that there are many good charities in the city, including the food bank, to which they could direct their refund.
5. Principal's Update (See Admin Report to School Council appended below.)
  - a. Halloween Walk on October 30: There are several guidelines to reduce COVID-19 exposure risks.
  - b. Health and safety update: Parents and students must continue to follow the COVID-19 guidelines.
  - c. Remote and in-person learning: We have been able to include families in virtual learning.
  - d. Library books have gone back into circulation in the classroom.
6. Discussion Items
  - a. Funding requests:
    - i. **\$525.37 including tax** for in-class sensory and building toys (play dough, magnetic tiles, building blocks, marblerun)



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1. 3 kinder teams combined request that will be shared amongst the 3 classes. **Motion to approve \$525.37: Ben motions, Emily seconds.**
  - ii. **\$4,840.00** Scientists in the schools
    1. 22 presentations - 18 different classes plus 2 presentations for the 1/2 class and 2 presentations for the 2/3 class. **Motion to approve \$4,840: Jillian motions, Tiffany seconds.**
  - iii. **\$4,068.00 (including taxes)** for LUV to groove the 2 weeks of dance lessons - 1 week for grades 1-3, and 1 for grades 4-6. **Motion to approve \$4,068: Diane motions, Ben seconds.**
  - iv. Discussion around possible additional funding requests coming up in the current school year:
    1. Possible request for microscopes for juniors
    2. Reader books
    3. Honorarium for an arts performer
    4. Outdoor classroom
- b. Fundraising
- i. Flip give flyer is ready to go out.
  - ii. Possible pizza fundraiser through local pizza restaurant.
7. New Business
- a. Lisa suggests creation of a committee of parents that come up with ideas to get kids out of doors in nature. Carolyn will ask board what initiatives are acceptable and also find a contact from another school who can provide guidance. Lisa suggests putting an 'outdoor committee' standing call for volunteers in the school newsletter.
8. Next school council meeting November 18th at 6:45 via google meet
9. Adjournment at 8pm.

## **Admin Report to School Council - October 21**

It's been a busy few weeks, and as I know you've heard, we have had our Terry Fox Run with a full school participating, and our Junior Cross Country Run, with our primary students cheering everyone on! We are grateful to staff who are doing their best to organize some kind of outdoor event every few weeks. Next is our Halloween Walk...which is currently being organized for Friday, October 30th, while respecting the protocols and guidelines provided to us by the school board. It will be one class at a time, outdoors and with a spooky but not too scary Halloween theme. There will be pictures and we will share in the updates and on Twitter.

The district is adopting the following guidelines based on the input of OPH:

- **Simple costume, no accessories, no costume mask, no makeup**
- **No change of clothes at school**
- **No distribution or exchange of treats, or sharing of food (i.e. no class parties)**
- **No costume parades**
- **Continue to respect the distancing /cohort instructions**

We continue to enjoy lots of learning and play time outside, so we ask that your children are dressed warmly, layers are best, and have the right footwear. Rubber boots are recommended, and a change of shoes and socks is best kept in a plastic bag to stay at school. We are trying to keep our floors clean and safe, as well as to limit lost or missing shoes, and keeping personal items from being touched by others.

### **Health and Safety updates:**

We are asking for your support to remind students that we must distance and wear masks at school. It's understandable that students will tire of these unusual expectations, but we need to stay vigilant, and create safe habits to keep us virus free. We are asking that during nutrition break, all students eat quietly, and only speak to friends while wearing their masks, or when they are finished eating. Washing hands often and drinking water is also recommended. We've just had a donation of lots of water bottles, for those who forget to bring a reusable bottle, so thank you so much to a very generous parent!

Please continue to screen your children before school...and to look at the updated information on the OPH website. We've had a second confirmed COVID-19 case at Pleasant Park, and were able to support the OPH and school board processes much better the second time around. Our only challenge was that we have students who are on a bus list, and we have no way of taking attendance, or tracking who is riding the bus. We shared misinformation to OPH for contact tracing which resulted in a lot of backtracking for staff there and inconvenience for many families. Please update your bus information on the OSTA website, and give up your seat if you aren't using it.

### **Remote and In-person learning:**

We have been able to include some of our families from the remote learning waitlist to the OCV (Ottawa Carleton Virtual) schools. This is great news!

For our in person students, we need to be sure that all families have access to their teachers' VLE (google classroom/brightspace). This is where our teachers post real time information,

lessons, assignments and videos to help keep our students up to date with their learning if they are off school and well enough to engage. We understand the challenges, especially for our younger students, so please reach out to your teachers if you need assistance or advice. Students should be receiving feedback and support, so please ask.

**From the office:**

May we ask that if you need to pick up your child early, to give us as much of a heads up as possible? Please communicate with the classroom teachers in advance, as the class may be outside, and it's difficult to locate the children in a hurry.

If any parents have emails to send to teachers, please cc Caroline and I. In the event of a teacher absence, we need to be able to communicate important and timely information with occasional staff.

Thank you!

**Important dates:**

October 22nd - Meet the Teacher

October 26th - IEPs are scheduled to be sent home

October 30th - Halloween Walk

November 11th - Remembrance Day

November 22nd - Progress Reports accessible on Parent Portal