



Pleasant Park Public School Council

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



Pleasant Park School Council Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2022 at 6:45pm

1. Welcome by Melissa Faulkner and Land Acknowledgement by Juliet Knapton.
2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes
 - a. Emily motions to accept the Agenda, and David seconds.
 - b. Lisa motions to approve the Minutes from January 26, 2022, and Juliet seconds.
3. Financial Report (Angela Campbell)
 - i. Opening Cash: \$8,268
 - ii. Amount raised: \$1,852
 - iii. Amount spent: (\$1,153)
 - iv. Amount Committed: (\$3,600)
 - v. Current balance: \$5,367
4. Council Update
 - a. Open volunteer positions (Mel Faulkner)
 - i. Yearbook Representative: We have been talking with Megan about working with Edge again. We need parent/guardian volunteers to oversee student work. Diane provides background on how the yearbook has historically been developed and offers guidance to this year's volunteers.
 - ii. OCASC Representative: Ottawa Carleton Assembly of School Councils (OCASC) is an umbrella organization for school councils and parents in the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) to share information and facilitate communication within the OCDSB communities to enhance the education of all its students. Melissa has been acting as the rep, attending meetings. The meetings are held once a month for two hours. Juliet advocates for the role that OCASC plays and encourages volunteers.
 - iii. BBQ: Looking for volunteers for the BBQ, but it is not yet certain that it will be permitted to take place.



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- b. Pleasant Park Clothing Sale (Diane Lagace): Last year there was a request from students and teachers for PPPS clothing. We went with the same company as in previous years. We sold just over 100 items: t-shirts and hoodies. Recommends selling them online. As with last year, there will be an option the purchase an additional item to donate to the school. Will be looking for volunteers to process clothing and fill the orders.
 - i. Do we want to use School Cash Online?
 - ii. Do we want to stay with the cotton/polyester blend? Lower cost but not very durable. Kim is in favour of looking at higher-quality dry-fit clothing.
 - iii. Prefer to start sale soon and avoid end of year, though it worked out last year. Melissa supports running the sale earlier than last year.

Juliet asks if it would be possible to offer clothing year-round, asks if it would be possible to maintain a stock of clothing, suggests giving shirts to new students.
- c. Outdoor Initiatives Update (Lisa Scott): Currently four volunteers. We are looking for additional volunteers. We posted a request for volunteers and donations on the PPPSC website.
 - i. Diane reached out to the board to find out how to set up an account with charitable donation status for the outdoor classroom, and the board has explained that it will manage the account and will issue charitable receipts for donations of \$20 or more. Angela strongly supports this approach. Council agrees to use the “My Charity” website from the board.
 - ii. Juliet suggests organizing an event to write grants, will follow up with Lisa.
- d. OCDSB Parent Involvement Committee - PRO Grant (Mel Faulkner): We could receive \$650 if we have an idea. The cutoff date is March 25. Last year we received a grant for the virtual Scientists in Schools event. Megan proposes using some of the funding to offer the event in English/French/Arabic. Emily proposes looking into an event with from Mante Molepo (Parents for Diversity), a local lawyer who talked to us about “how to talk to kids about anti-racism”. She has curated a children’s book collection on anti-racism - she was great and really engaging. She is bilingual. Melissa will write the PRO Grant, with options of Scientists in Schools and Parents for Diversity.
- e. Diversity and Inclusion Update (Juliet Knapton):
 - i. It is Black History Month. Juliet wants to thank the school for sharing the Viola Desmond video with students.



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- ii. Hannah and Juliet planning to speak to PPPS Indigenous Rep and work on moving the Indigenizing the website and including Indigenous awareness in the PPPS activities and School Council.
- iii. Hoping to run “A Taste of Pleasant Park,” to be confirmed.
- iv. Hollaback is free online training program from the U.S. for educators, on the subjects of conflict and harassment, in a non-judgmental way. Wonders if School Council members would like to attend. Melissa asks Juliet to provide blurb for next School Council communication.
- v. Juliet suggests adding closed captioning to our meetings, as it provides greater accessibility and is helpful to everyone. Juliet provides link with instructions on how to enable closed captions. Melissa agrees to add closed captioning for future meetings.
<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/4409683389709h>
- vi. June is Indigenous History Month. Juliet welcomes any input on any events or materials that the school and school council could use.
- vii. Juliet asks if the PPPS website could be revised to change ‘parents’ to ‘parents and guardians’. Principal Mark agrees that the school will make these changes.
- viii. Juliet provides quote: “Not everything that is faced can be changed; but nothing can be changed until it is faced” -James Baldwin

5. Decision Items

a. Funding Requests:

- i. Ski for School (Grade 5-6) March 1 to 3, 2022 - \$250 (Diane Lagace) <https://www.wintertrail.ca/skis-for-schools/>: Diane provides background - ski rental for cross-country skiing event for Grade 5 and Grade 6 that would take place next week. The company is not-for-profit.
Juliet motions to approve \$250 for Ski for School, and Lisa seconds.
- ii. Egg Farmers Rock and Rings Curling (whole school) tentative: April 4 to 8, 2022 - \$350 (Diane Lagace) <https://rocksandrings.com/schools-and-groups/physical-education-games-for-elementary-schools/>: Diane was seeking an event that would be inclusive of everyone. Principal Mark suggests to ask teachers first they are interested. Charlene will reach out to teachers.



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Emily motions to approve \$350 for curling event subject to consensus of support from teachers, and Lisa seconds.

6. Staff Representative Update (Charlene Dunn): Charlene provides presentation on student projects, including Social Justice Committee work and individual class initiatives.
7. Administration's Update: Principal Mark thanks everyone for participating in School Council
 - a. Report cards went out last week.
 - b. It just came out officially today that masks are no longer required outdoors on the school property.
 - c. PPPS is hiring a temporary 0.5 time ESL teacher
 - d. Candygrams raised \$2500.
 - e. PPPS has ordered ten new Chromebooks
 - f. Today was Pink Shirt Day

Juliet expresses concern about videos shown to students during lunch, as some of them are old and include harmful cultural tropes. Megan explains that the school has a list of approved videos for teachers to show and the kind of videos Juliet described would not be approved.

Lisa asks if sports programs will be resumed this year. Principal Mark says that this is to be determined.

8. No New Business
9. Next school council meeting - March 23 at 6:45
10. Adjournment was at 8:50pm.