

Osgoode Public School

Informal OPS Council Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2023

Members in Attendance: Gaynor Kondric, Karyn Hughes, Maggie Matte, Jackie Allan, Lori Leptick, Jenn Sutton, Laura Stack, Heather McMillan, Meryem Zniber (staff representative)

Regrets: Rachel Glennie, Jen Scharf, Kristen Cinnamon, Ashley Ladouceur, Kathryn Moncion, Jenn Gordon, Samantha Wagner, Erin Nixon, Stephanie Poulin, Tiffany Cousineau, Aimee Faith

Karyn welcomes all at 6:35 p.m.

Action items from April minutes

ACTION ITEM	UPDATE
Spring Fling	- Planning is well underway - Rachel shared OVCA's master sponsor list - Karyn has requested quotes for school logo tattoos
Library Bags	- Gaynor spoke with Mrs Edwards who confirmed students are not losing bar codes, but bags do fall apart often. Thick plastic bags that hold up better have been ordered.
Outdoor Equipment	- Carry over item to next meeting

Minutes from April meeting motioned to pass by Jackie Allan and seconded by Lori Leptick.

Principal and Staff Report – Gaynor Kondric & Meryem Zniber

- **MURAL PROJECT:** We have settled on a design for our mural project, and are currently waiting for a quote from our Facilities department regarding the dismantling of the trophy case in the front foyer. Once we have that quote, we can continue our discussions about how to move this forward. I have been in contact with Dave Lafreniere who has done the designs for us, and he is aware that this may need to go into next year while we settle all the details related to this project.
- **STAFFING:** The staffing process has begun, with one round of interviews and an (accepted) offer behind us. We have a partial assignment for the next vacancy round, which begins this week. Closer to the end of school as numbers settle/ as Planning reviews projected against actual numbers, we will share what we call our 'org chart' (still remains tentative/ can still change through September re-orgs across the system. As of today, we have lost one class, so we are projected to have 13 homerooms.
- **TIMSS/ EQAO:** Eight students in our grade 4 (from the 3 / 4 class) will be participating in a large-scale assessment of mathematics and science this coming Thursday. This is an international study that is administered by school staff, being observed by an employee of the Council for

Ministers of Education Canada. We are not expecting results to be shared back with us for further review. Students in grades 3 and 6 will be participating in the provincial EQAO tests right after the May long weekend.

- **SOCIAL EVENTS FOR FAMILIES:** We are looking forward to inviting new kindergarten families in for our Lemonade Social, where our SKs become grade 1 students for that hour, and our JKs get to be SK leaders for the incoming JK students. Staff will be sharing important information with families at that event. The kindergarten is also inviting families in for a Teddy Bear Picnic in June also! Today at our staff meeting, we talked about hosting the annual Family Picnic towards the end of June. Date TBA. Dates for the kinder events are in the weekly calendar that goes home Fridays.
- **SPORTS:** Ms. Claridge is very busy with sports these days! Soccer teams are practicing regularly. Plans are underway to host track and field events at the school for juniors (4-6) in May, and primaries (1-3) in June. Top 2 contenders in the junior events will go to regionals on June 7th.
- **LIBRARY BAGS:** Mrs. Edwards is repairing bags and providing new ones if bags have become irreparable. Students are not losing barcodes as these are available in the library on days when students have library in their schedule. We are ordering sturdy plastic bags as kinder note totes through U-line. Zippable vinyl bags with a front pocket to slip a name in might be an option as well for families.
- **TRANSITION MEETINGS:** Homeroom and learning support staff are in contact with grade 7 staff over at Metcalfe and Castor Valley to review student profiles, strengths and needs, accommodations and modifications, etc. These meetings are happening through May and June.
- **VOLUNTEER BREAKFAST:** Bring your appetites for our first volunteer breakfast in a long while! We will soon send out a link to families to determine how many parents/ guardians will be attending (7:30 - 8:00 am on June 21st).
- **RETIREMENTS:** Congratulations to three of our staff who are headed into retirement after long and rewarding careers in education! We wish Julie Lowe (Learning Support Teacher), Bonnie Fawcett (Education Assistant), and Linda Edwards (Librarian) our very best on reaching this milestone moment in life.
- **FAMILY PICNIC:** We are looking forward to hosting the annual Family Picnic on June 26th. For those who have never come to this event, it is a very casual and most lovely opportunity for families to throw down a blanket, bring some lawn chairs, enjoy a homemade picnic with other families all around the school property. This is a terrific community event that we hope everyone can attend!

Staff report:

- **Kinders:**
 - o They are learning about the life cycle of a chicken. The second batch of fertilized eggs only produced one chick! The children voted to name him Charlie and then decided to

create baby chicks out of the classroom materials to keep Charlie company. Charlie is at Ms. Sonya's place and she will continue to raise him.

- The class decided to try a third round of eggs. They made a few mistakes along the way so now, hopefully, they can have more than one hatch! They will get the new batch of fertilized eggs on Wednesday morning and the process will begin again.
- The class has been learning about the life cycle of a butterfly. They are getting caterpillars to have in the classroom in the near future (that will eventually turn into Monarch butterflies which they will release outdoors when it is ready).

- **Grade 3**

- Two great field trips were attended by EF3 A and B, and R3/4, at Canada's Museum of Agriculture and Food and the Aquatarium. There were exciting learning experiences such as workshops and hands-on exhibits.
- The class participated in the world-wide voting music program called Manie Musicale. Students enjoyed listening to francophone songs from around the world.
- Also students have been working on their social studies project and used clay from the newly stocked Stock Room to make amazing maps to represent the 3 regions of Ontario for their presentations.
- The class received their butterfly larvae yesterday. They were purchased using money allocated to the teachers from Council and they will nicely compliment the plants unit in Science.

- **Field trip for primary grades**

- Field trip to Canadian Agriculture and Food Museum next Tuesday May 16. We are very excited to learn about new topics and participate in hands-on workshops related to farming and food.

- **Jump Rope for Heart**

- The event will take place on Thursday, June 1st
- So far we have raised \$2,157 for the cause and we have already surpassed our goal!

- **Track and Field**

- We will be hosting an in-school Track and Field meet for the Junior students.
- The Junior students will have the opportunity to compete at the regional Track and Field meet scheduled for June 7 at Cairine Wilson High School.
- Two students from OPS will compete for each event for each grade and gender. The in-school meet will determine who our competitors are. Tentative date of Junior meet: between May 19 or May 30. To run the Junior in-school meet we will need 15-20 volunteers from 8:30-12:30ish.
- Primary Track and Field meet will be in June, tentative date to be determined.
- There will be a rest area and parent council would be welcome to organize a freezie or cold drink station for the students participating if they wish to do so.

Treasurer's Report – Maggie Matte

- At the end of April we had \$11,101 in the bank.
- We were able to remove \$2,000 from our future spending allocations as Scientist in the School was paid for with leftover funds from last year

- There is \$2,918 available in funds currently (not including approximately \$5,000 that can be transferred out of the School Cash Online account for milk and hot lunch)

Fundraising - Jackie Allen

- Plantables fundraiser is done for the season and raised \$212.
- Right now we're working on wrapping up everything for the year as we put our focus on Spring Fling planning

Other Items

- Hot Lunch
 - Kinder pizza day was a success
 - One of the challenges with hot lunches is that we get a lot of messages from all over the place about last minute changes and it can be an extra burden on school staff & volunteers. Using SchoolCash Online this year means we can't see the lists or modify them ourselves, which means we rely on notes which can get missed.
- Spring Fling
 - Call for volunteers for Spring Fling to be sent out in the next few days (through parent email from Gaynor, Facebook group)
 - Firefighters may be bringing a fire truck, still trying to get a hold of the right person
 - School will donate glue from stock room for slime station
 - Photo booth will use Council's Sprocket printer/paper that was used in the past (stored at Maggie's house)
 - Karyn & Jackie will buy supplies for the canteen
 - Laura will use 32auctions.com site for the silent auction (same one that was used in 2018 & 2019)
 - Some discussion of holding a used book sale in library since the Scholastic book fair isn't happening. Biggest concern over this is the time and effort that would be required to vet every book. Decision to instead make the library a colouring station, with potential a contest aspect to it. Jackie to take the lead.
- Yearbook update/lessons learned
 - Overall it was a great first yearbook and next year will be even better!
 - 140 copies were sold, which fell a little short of the 175 target needed for the lower price point. Jackie is following up with LifeTouch.
 - For next year, it would be nice to have a few more people on the committee. They don't have to create the book if they don't want to, but having a few more people to help organize pictures etc would be really helpful.
 - Good idea to have a layout plan at the beginning of the year of the things we would like to include such as the principal's address, staff photos, thank you pages, etc. Do we want to leave the staff pictures with the classes or have a teachers' page so that all staff are pictured in the book?
 - Having everyone submit pictures to the Google album actually turned out to be rather confusing. At times it wasn't clear which class the pictures belonged to as it wasn't always the main teacher submitting.
 - For next year, it would be helpful to have deadlines for staff to submit candid shots of their class so that all classes have a chance to be included in the fun and silly candid pictures that make wonderful memories. This is where those extra committee members

could be very helpful in getting those candid shots and team shots, etc in a timely manner.

- Voting items
 - Voting on \$70 budget for gifts for the milk runners and hot lunch helpers (\$10 x 7 gift cards for Fat Les)
 - Motion to pass by Jackie Allan and Lori Leptick
 - Approved
 - Voting on \$150 budget for staff retirement gifts (\$50 x 3 for Ms Edwards, Ms Lowe & Ms Fawcett)
 - Ideas include gift cards and carvings from local artist
 - Motioned by Jenn Sutton and Heather McMillan
 - Approved

Action items from May minutes

ACTION ITEM	UPDATE
Outdoor Equipment	- Rachel will price match and potentially purchase some items (specific request for balls; soccer, basketball, etc)
School Logo Tattoos	- Karyn to share results of her requests for quotes
Rooftop Photo	- Jackie will look into possibility of bringing this tradition back
Hot Lunch Orders (action for September)	- Karyn & Maggie will look into potential options to help streamline ordering process & reduce administrative burden for next year
Yearbook Committee (action for September)	- Gauge interest for committee at first meeting of the school year, potential for recruiting multiple reps to help start organizing pics starting first thing in the year (e.g., kinder, primary & junior reps)

Meeting ends at 8:30 p.m.

Thank you for attending! Next meeting will be the last one of the school year! It will be a shorter meeting on June 13th at 6:30 p.m. in the library, followed by heading over to the Red Dot for anyone who would like to join!