

## **Parent Council Meeting**

Wednesday, March 23, 2022. 3:00pm  
(Online)

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**Present:** Dawn Diamond (Principal), Tara Beers (Teacher), Lisa Posthumus (Secretary), Angela Macauley, Kayo Murakami Wood, Judy Gerber-van Vliet (Parents)

**1. Minutes from January 26, 2022 were approved.**

**2. Principal's and Teacher's report:**

Tara reported that the students in the senior class have been participating in tech again and recently completed sewing. Woodworking starts in April. The primary class has been studying myths. Earth hour will be observed this Friday. The students will also be learning about the orchestra and are listening to a virtual symphony. Ms Diamond is teaching ukulele to the senior class. The senior class is also participating in filming workshops with Mikayla Pyke and completing a submission for the Heritage Fair.

Dawn gave a COVID update as requirements have changed. MPS is already considered one cohort so changes to cohorting will not affect MPS. Masks are now optional, but are still provided. Individual choices will be respected.

Symptomatic students will still be sent home with Rapid Tests. Please continue to screen your students before school daily. Enhanced cleaning continues. School visitors are allowed on a case by case basis.

EQAO testing will be resumed in May for grades 3 and 6 in reading, writing, and math. All testing is done on the computer. The time for each test will be in shorter increments and we will have 6 weeks to complete the tests, so they will be spread out. EQAO is meant to collect data, and is not reflected on report cards.

Parents can provide snacks if needed but dates for testing will be spread out over the month so that it is not as much pressure all at once for kids. Parents could provide a bag of snacks to celebrate finishing the EQAO.

Reading buddies will be working together on a Cardboard Challenge with Mr. B. If families have cardboard boxes to contribute they can bring it to the school.

**3. School Financial Update**

The school has purchased a portable net system to be used for gym class.

#### 4. Ongoing Business

- 1) **Hot Lunch** - There haven't been as many leftovers recently! Dawn will check to see if serving in school is now possible. There are some requested menu (eg. noodles) that need to be served immediately. April's menu is complete. May will be the last month that the hotel will serve lunch. In June we'd like to invite chef Andrew, Chris and Tom to have lunch with the school as a thank you. We could also invite the bus drivers as we've done in the past. This could be done as a picnic outdoors. Dawn will discuss this with staff at the staff meeting.
- 2) **Wilton Cheese** - Cheese forms go out tomorrow and will be returned in 2 weeks. Angie will pick up the cheese. This needs to be sorted by PAC and sent home on April 14 before the Easter weekend.
- 3) **Land-based Learning/PRO Grant** - We had 10-13 kids with 5-6 parents at the first 2 sessions with Virginia. Video clips were made of Virginia's teaching, which Kayo put on the school council website and Facebook. After the first 6 sessions, we can carry on with land-based learning for any interested community members. The Wolfe Island community garden group would be willing to take over administering it for the summer and into next year. Saturdays during the hotel market would be a good day. Tara stated that it would be great if MPS could offer this program during the school day so that all students could benefit. Kayo said it may be good in the future to incorporate the sessions into Mrs Beers' class and to invite families with younger kids. Angie is interested in the program as an after school program for MPS to offer once a week from 3-5pm. Dawn to discuss this idea with the Superintendent in charge of after school programs. Kayo informed us that we will need insurance for an ongoing program and Virginia is familiar with companies that insure forest schools. Ongoing we would also need to pay her. She would prefer a half day weekly ideally to offer the program within school hours.
- 4) **Seven Grandfathers Teachings Exhibition** - Kingston Frontenac Public Library does not display art from outside their programs. Novel Idea and the Hotel will display the art. Another idea is to display the art at a school open house. Kylie's class will work on the descriptions of the art in April.
- 5) **Community Gym** - Kayo sent a message to Darlene at the township office. Darlene said she has never gotten any requests for a community gym before. Kayo will send a more formal request to the Township so that it can be raised at their meetings. The Township has purchased new exercise circuit equipment for the playground next to MPS.

#### 5. New/Other Business

Kindergarten registration is now open.

MPS does not yet have an online payment system.

Staff will discuss End of year celebration at their next staff meeting

**NEXT MEETING:**  
**May 18, 2022**