

**Parent Council Meeting**  
Thursday, February 11, 2021  
3:15 pm

MINUTES

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

1. We welcomed our new principal, Dawn Diamond, who said she's had a warm welcome at MPS.
2. December 3, 2020 meeting minutes were approved.
3. Principal and Teachers' reports
  - a. Principal: Thank you from Dawn Diamond for the welcome display at MPS. March Break has been moved to the week of April 12.
  - b. Teachers: Tara reports that it is good to be back to in-person school. They've recently celebrated the 100th day of school, Pink and Red day is tomorrow. Indigenous knowledge keeper will come again in March to do teachings monthly.
4. School Council Financial update: Lisa reports that we have received the \$500 PAC grant. Total in account at this time is \$5718.
5. Yard update by Dawn: MPS was chosen for yard improvement to increase "curbside appeal" to be started in summertime. She met with Joe from facility management and received the plan for MPS. Lisa will send us a map of the plan. The cedar in front has already been done. Students and staff will give input into what will be painted on pavement. Any feedback to be sent back to Joe in the next couple of weeks. Dawn will look into a gate opening in the fence to Kinder yard. Parent council could look into a sun shelter or roof for the outdoor classroom. There will be a windbreak of trees.

The lighthouse was discussed: The board cannot certify the lighthouse. Every piece of equipment on the yard needs to be certified by the board. It could possibly be moved to the playground as that is part of the community centre grounds. Kylie will contact the township regarding this.
6. Hot Lunch Ideas: Kayo suggested some options for hot lunch from the WIPP and proposed that Parent Council could pay for some lunches.

Dawn explained that hot lunches are not allowed at this time as the school staff cannot handle money. Our school was to be introduced to an online payment system for lunches but this was postponed due to COVID. She offered to ask the board if it would be allowed if parent council paid and the food was brought in from a local restaurant (WIPP). Council will not pursue hot lunches at this time.

For Future: General Wolfe would be interested in providing lunches. They would also utilize locally grown produce, including anything the students themselves would grow (such as salad greens).

Tara expressed thanks for snacks donated by parents. Parent council agreed to provide more snacks in future as sometimes students are still hungry after eating all of their lunch. Kayo to purchase items to bring to school weekly.

7. Spring Fundraiser Ideas

Because school staff cannot receive cash, we won't be able to do our usual cheese fundraiser. Kayo said that the community garden group plans to do a seed sale. She will discuss with the group if they'd like to share profits with the school. Dawn suggested a few online ongoing fundraising sites, such as Flipgive and Specialty Trophies. Lisa will pursue one of these to sell school attire on an ongoing basis.

8. Indigenous Teachings

Kayo raised an idea of an online portal (blog etc) to share resources related to the activities that students learn every month in classrooms. Teachers can share some materials and Gillianne Mundell (the Indigenous Education & Reconciliation Lead for the Board) might help in this matter. Discussion to be continued.

The following resources are available for families to learn more about the indigenous education that is being offered to students:

LDSB website has information for families:

[https://www.limestone.on.ca/programming/indigenous\\_education](https://www.limestone.on.ca/programming/indigenous_education)

2018 Ontario social studies curriculum for grades 1-8 includes Indigenous curriculum

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/social-studies-history-geography-2018.pdf>

Next Meeting is Thursday, April 22 at 3:15pm