

# School Council & BPAC Meeting

## MINUTES

September 17, 2024

Meeting called by; Brittany Fraser  
Type of meeting; Monthly  
Note taker; Nicole Walker  
Chair; Brittany Fraser  
Attendees; Nicole Walker, Brittany Fraser, Krystina Edwards, Andrea McFaul, Wayne Jackson, Meike Thomsen, Candace Gartshore, Shelly Sochr-Joyce, Georgia Balsevich, Morgan Metzger, Yan Guo, Chen Liayi, Brit Hart, Janess Shorten, Kyle Schaub, Marny Paul, Marlen REibig, Michelle Edwards, William Stephenson, Therace Quest

### 1. Motion to open School Council Meeting

- Time; 6:31pm

### 2. Attendee Introductions

### 3. Guest Speakers – Amy Tetz & Jill Hickling – Grade 4 & 6 teaching team

- Presentation with three key topics
- 1. Open Minds Grade 4/6
  - 4s will be going to Jube School with Ms Hickling
  - 6s will be going to Science Center with Ms Tetz
- 2. ROARS award redesign for the entire school, to support the growth of all students.
  - The school will pick one attribute a month. September is Responsibility. What does that mean for each age group? It will mean something different for kindergarten vs grade 6. In grade 6, they are working on things like making eye contact when you're talking to someone, shaking hands, and more
  - If they show improvement in that attribute then they will be rewarded with a sticker for their certificate.
  - ASK – stickers needed - \$940 for preferred sticker; \$1.88 a student.
    - No decision was made, but will need to figure out asap
  - **a. First ROARS assembly is October 4**
  - **Respect**
  - **Ownership**
  - **Action**
  - **Responsibility**
  - **Safety**
- 3. Computer Science – New curriculum
  - Problem Solving, design process, coding, perspectives
  - A ton of new equipment is needed!

- We talked about a Purdys fundraiser, which is definitely doable!
  - Will talk more at next meeting about doing a fundraiser before Christmas for Purdys, when April is present
    - a. This would be something that was run by BPAC, just like any other fundraiser
- Can grants be written for technology? Follow up!

#### 4. Principle Message & School Report – Meike Thomsen

- Land acknowledgement
  - See below for Meikes admin update
- Some additional add ons..
  - \*\*\*Candace ask - Looking for parent volunteers that have experience in the Arts, that can come a team a small group of kids, through a rotation on Friday mornings. Reach out to Candace if this is something that interests you
    - Fridays are STEAM Fridays for the division two students
      - a. Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math
- Lunchtime Clubs – will start up within the next month. Students will be made aware of different things happening in the daily announcements. Information will also be sent home once everything ramps up
  - The students guide what they want by showing interest in different topics
  - Choir – starting next week. Forms went home today
  - Leadership – only grade 6 students this year. Happen during STEAM rotations on Fridays, so they kids can really get time to work on their ideas. Ms Hickling is leading this, this year
  - Open Gym – will happen for each age group on different days
  - Card making club – talk about wrapping this into a fundraiser with cards the kids make....more talk about this next month
  - Robotics Club– Tetz
  - Cosmetology Club – Hauck
  - Hockey Club – Benty
  - Bike Club – Tomas – volunteer run
- Classroom Champions
  - Erica Vos – Olympic Bobsledder
  - All students will be receiving a Classroom Champion tshirt
  - Erica works with each classroom throughout the year, building a relationship with each one.
    - Weekly and monthly videos and check ins
  - ‘Dream it, set it, achieve it’
  - Teaching the kids perseverance and hard work will pay off
  - Goal setting and building confidence
- Parent question – Phys ed – ‘it feels like there is less phys ed time this year...daughter only has 2 phys ed gym sessions per week’

- Answer- each class gets 2-3 inside gym sessions each week at a regular specific time. If teachers wanted to team up with another class, they could have inside gym 4-5 days. Teacher preference
  - Teachers are free to take their kids outside as much as they want, given it is structured, instruction time.
  - Unstructured outside play happens at recess and lunchtime each day
- Indigo Love For Reading Program
  - Shop at Signal Hill Indigo before October 6 and make a monetary donation to our library. 100% of funds come directly to our school
  - 1 of 136 school chosen across Canada
- Field Trip, lunchroom and school fees with be in Powerschool by mid October probably

## **5. Close School Council Meeting & open BPAC Meeting**

- Close; 7:35pm
- Open; 7:35pm

## **6. Action items from June Meeting;**

- 50/50 – Nicole
  - When do we want to do the next one? In June we talked about doing one around Halloween
    - Talk about this next meeting – plan to roll out 50/50 mid October
- Grant update – Michelle was absent in June
  - Fall submissions? Nothing right now
  - Move to October meeting
    - Talk about whats left with grant money. Lots of possibilities to use funds
      - a. Concrete seating
      - b. Sandbox
      - c. Trees/shrubs
    - Talk about possible grants next month too
  - Michelle to touch base with McCashin and Hauck before first frost to harvet the garden
- Mural – Brit
  - Mural done!
  - BCA is game to support more art on the school
    - \$1000 grants
    - Windsor plywood donated the wood for current mural, and would be happy to help with another one as well.
    - Brit to look into other options

- Fish on fence idea
  - There is a company out of Vancouver that will come and talk to the students about marine life. Do fish activity with them.
  - Maybe we can do it ourselves
  - Past experience says this is very expensive
  - Brit to look into grants
  - Brit to talk to Michelle about some options

## **7. New business;**

- Treasurer Report – Krystina
  - Overview of last year
- CASINO! – Nicole
  - Saturday October 5 & Sunday October 6, 2024
    - Elbow River Casino
    - 4 spots for on call volunteers
    - All paperwork has been submitted and everything is ready to go
- Fundraising - April absent
  - Popcorn Thursday
    - Leadership Club helping every thursday
  - Poinsettias – no
    - Purdys instead before Christmas
      - a. Talk at next meeting about roll out
  - Bowcroft apparel – store is open now
    - Nicole to post on FB
  - Nicole to send candace all ongoing fundraisers. Candace to make a flat sheet that gets sent out to students. Swag will be added into this
    - Mabels Labels, SkipTheDepot, Healthy Hunger, Popcorn, FB link
  - April working on card fundraiser to present at October meeting
- Book Fair – Nicole
  - November 27 – 29
    - Delivered November 25
  - Volunteers needed – advertise end of October
  - Tuesday November 26 – Math night...
    - Decision made - We will sell the bookfair at Math night!
- AGM – Brittany
  - Next meeting – October 8

## **8. Close meeting;**

- Time; 8:10pm

**1. Building:**

- a. The mural is installed! Thank you Brit and Dylan (artist) for getting this organized!
- b. We had 3 leaks. Leak in bistro was 'fixed' in May but in June it leaked again. On Sept 12, big rain, it leaked in the Bistro, in the hallway by the gym and in room 4 in a corner.

**2. Enrollment: 359 as of Sept 9, 2024**

- a. 144 in German bilingual program
- b. 216 in English program → we are growing!
- c. We opened 2 more classrooms this year
- d. Class sizes are – but changing daily!!! We will be 359 when everyone is here.

**Community:**

|          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| K:       | 22        |
| Grade 1: | 16 and 17 |
| Grade 2: | 17 and 16 |
| Grade 3: | 20 and 21 |
| Grade 4: | 18 and 19 |
| Grade 5: | 18        |
| Grade 6: | 31        |

**German Bilingual:**

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| K:         | 24         |
| Grade 1:   | 19         |
| Grade 2:   | 17 and 15  |
| Grade 3:   | 22         |
| Grade 4/5: | 22 16+6)   |
| Grade 5/6: | 25 (14+11) |

Reason we can have such small classes is \$50,000 small school fund (less than 350 sts) and **Focused Program Allocation of \$95,000** (connected to the Equity Index)

**3. HR:**

**a. New staff:**

- i. Teachers:
  - 1. Ms. Dana Lahti (grade 2), sadly surplussed,
  - 2. Jill Hickling, new literacy LL
  - 3. Sabrina Nacinovic (temp) for Ana Ferzacca's maternity leave
  - 4. Manuel Kleinboehl (German grade 4/5 and 5/6)
  - 5. Courtney Schafer (German grade 3)
  - 6. Kyra Tessier (Grade 4)
  - 7. Kassidy Hou (temp last year, probationary this year)
  - 8. Sonja Cattannach (temp last year, probationary this year)

ii. Support staff:

- 1. Marlen Reibig, lunch supervisor
- 2. Charos Asil, lunch supervisor

**b. Surplussed staff:**

- 1. Anja Dressler, voluntarily surplussed herself (on maternity leave)

2. Taylor Plewes voluntarily surplussed herself (on maternity leave)

**4. German student teachers, 7 this year – this is 4 more than last year! Maybe even 8!**

- a. **Charlotte Westermann** has been with us since August 26, she needs to improve her English and, therefore, is with Lisa Mitchel, grade 5
- b. **Madlen Ludwig** (Dec/Jan), she has a **DaF**
- c. **Frederica Scotti**, Jan-April 2025, **music and theatre background**
- d. **Katherina Alsmeier**, Feb – April, special ed
- e. **Paula Maire Junck**, March 1- June 26, English
- f. **Regina Rech**, March 31 to April 2025 for 6 weeks, **math and physics!**  
Fully trained teacher!

**5. Tech:** 2 more Smartboards arrived (paid by program growth). 2 more are ordered through the TEP (replacing old & broken)

**6. Attendance:**

- a. **38.46%, Area 1: 34,28% and CBE 41.1% ,      Last year: 57.88% , above 10%**
- b. **13.4%, Area 1: 12.06%, CBE 16.7%      Last year: 19.29 % miss more than 20%**