

Vincent Massey Public School
Parent Council Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2021

PRESENT: Ginnette Thibeault, Scott Macklin, Erinn Brooks, Amanda Bee Jenny DzEllis
Chystal Beckett, Christina Moffat Tammie Windsor, Cheri Whitall

1. Meeting Called to Order

2. Approval of Agenda and Meeting Minutes from September 2021

- Approved by Chrystal and second by Christina

3. Principal and Vice Principal Updates

- ■ **Staffing update: Catherine Noble is our new Office Assistant, Ruth Bryce will be joining the teaching team on Monday for EF1B.** We are currently looking at hiring another educational assistant
 - Routines and resiliency: We continue to support our students' resiliency by establishing clear routines and expectations. The wellbeing of our students in all of our conversations with staff. We recognize that more students are struggling with a full day of school. We are happy to see a lot of learning happening outside.
- ■ The Third Path is a relationship-based approach to student well-being and achievement and we have a committee on staff who will be working to help our staff implement the strategies provided in the educator guides (safety, regulation, belonging, positivity, engagement, identity, mastery, meaning). We got to hear Dr. Tranter at our leadership meeting. It was very inspiring, motivating and this work aligns very well with our VM goals.
- ■ We will also be continuing our discussions on equity and inclusion with staff so that we continue to learn and embed important considerations in our daily practices.
- ■ **Library Update:**
 - We have purchased over \$2000 worth of books to fill in some of the gaps that we have in our collections.
 - Melissa continues to be supported by Tammy Moffat the Library technician at Manor Park and we are all so grateful for her support and expertise!
- **Important Dates:**
 - ■ **Thursday, October 21** - ECE Appreciation day / IEP's are sent to parents if applicable
 - ■ **Friday October 29** - School spirit day - Orange/Black or costume
 - ■ **Thursday, November 4** - Progress reports are sent home

- **Parent input/feedback:**
- ■ Principal Profile: due every year for Council to review October documentation
- ■ Appropriate Use of Technology form consultation
- Chrystal to create a google doc for parents to provide input for the Use of Technology consultation. Ginnette will add to the Friday update and Chrystal will post to school facebook page

Teacher Updates

- Staff not available for updates. Ginnette will inquire about updates from teachers either via staff presence at the meeting or written documentation from each division

Elections

- Christina has agreed to continue on as co-chair of the parent council. Since she has finished her 2 year term, council has agreed to keep her on as the position was vacant.
Welcome Back Christina

Constitution Update

- Suggested that we take a look at the parent council constitution to update areas (i.e allotment of executive positions to be extended from 2 years)
- Jenny mentioned it was looked at 2 years ago by Kate
- Ginnette mentioned that there are some areas that need to stay yet we can look at the constitution located on the OCDSB website

Treasurer Update

Fundraising

- Chrystal brought to the table the possibility of doing a fundraiser with Purdy's Chocolates. It was suggested that we steer away from selling items and continue fundraising within the school.
- Virtual fundraisers such as a Cahoot fundraiser, dance-a-thon and do nothing fundraisers
- Examples of items to fundraise for: Erinn suggested outdoor learning spaces. Ginnette to inquire with teachers regarding their wish list needs

Library Rejuvenation Project (Update from Tammie)

- The new Librarian Technician Melissa has gone through the books taking out books that are very old or in bad shape. Tammie will contact Melissa to update her on what has been happening with the rejuvenation project so far
- Tammie has asked about the \$500 that was allotted to Elliot to purchase books on Truth/Reconciliation. Has he spent the money? Ginnette to inquire.
- Melissa has spent \$2000 on books for the library which includes the Truth/Reconciliation theme. This money has come from the school budget and our scholastic account
- We still have \$500 in the flipgive account
- Grand Opening for the library will not happen because of COVID protocols yet students will hopefully return to use library early November
- Will Suzanne be able to come back to continue with the art projects in the library? Not with current COVID restrictions
- We have \$1000 donated to go towards a maker space. The maker space has been put on hold as it is a shared space and does not meet COVID restrictions to use safely
- Tammie suggested getting a library committee together

Other Business

- Amanda inquired about the Refuse to Lose plaque she still has at her house. Whose name will be put on the plaque and when will we be giving it to the individual
- Amanda also asked about the committee for the deaf and hard of hearing students where parents can voice their concerns. Ginnette suggested that the group be defined so that we continue to show respect towards parents along with being confidential towards parents needs.
- Chrystal and Amanda to brainstorm and create a committee motto and mission statement
- Erinn asked if we can move our next meeting to co-incide with the division meetings. Ginnett mentioned that the meetings are usually completed and will have the information for next meeting.
- Allison and Erinn have created a diversity and equity committee. They suggested/inquired about changing the bull as it is an aggressive animal. Ginnette mentioned it would be too costly to change the mascot not to mention the process to make the change. She also said the bull has a connection to Vincent Massey. The land that the school is built on is algonquin land. Ginnette will inquire.