

## **2020-2021 Vincent Massey School Council meeting – April 21, 2021**

Attendance: Ginette Thibeault (Principal), Scott Macklin (VP), Nivin Radwan (Teacher), Chrystal Beckett, Christina Moffat, Allison Klus-Palermo, Amanda B., Janet Mark Wallace, Erin Brooks, Caitlin Anstee

- 1) Meeting was called to order.
- 2) Previous meeting minutes were approved (Christina Moffat, Chrystal Beckett). Agenda for meeting was approved and seconded (names not recorded)
- 3) **Teacher updates** (Nivin Radwan): With the switch to virtual schooling this week, no teacher updates however teachers requested gift cards to support virtual learning (for web-friendly curriculum like Teachers Pay Teachers). Voted and carried: up to \$200 per division (Chrystal, Caitlin).

### **4) Principal Updates** (Ginette Thibeault)

- Thanks to Scott, Mary, Sandra and Brittany in the office, we have handed out just under one hundred Chromebooks to students/families that need them during remote learning. They put together a very efficient system so that Chromebooks were ready for families to pick as of Monday at noon and Tuesday morning!
- Planning for the 2021/2022 school year is beginning.
  - We are projected at 615 students in-person (2019-2020: 695).
  - There will be approximately 50 students in the OCV (virtual school board).
- Projections and enrolments directly impact staffing: We are planning for 30 homerooms - that is a reduction of 3 homerooms: 1.5 EN staff and 1.75 FR teachers and 2 ECE's from 2019-2020
  - 4 kinder classes of 28 or 29
  - 9 Eng program homerooms (Gr 1 - 8)
  - 13 EFI program homerooms (Gr 1 – 8)
  - 4 Specialized program classes (DHH, DSP, 2 EFIGifted)
- We are currently looking at teacher's assignments. It is a work in progress throughout the spring. We will not be advertising any vacancies, however some of our staff may apply to vacancy lists throughout the spring. Some staff may be assigned to the OCV school.
- We do our best planning but there is always a possibility of a reorganization at the end of September given the actual number of students that are present at that time.
- FACILITIES: Our WIFI is being updated over the next few weeks

### **Board Updates:**

- **Autism Awareness Virtual Speaker Series:** On April 22, the Speaker Series will welcome Autism Ontario, Service Coordination and Developmental Services Ontario to share information on supporting families in navigating services and supports locally. Open to #OCDSB families & staff. Learn more and register: <http://ow.ly/SY5g50EeZXc>

### **Important Dates:**

- **Friday, April 23rd: PD Day - no school for students**
- **Tues. May 4: VM Spirit Day: Star Wars Day**
- **May 3-7: Education week**
- **Wed. May 19: VM Spirit Day: "Dress to Impress" Fashion Day**

**5) Treasurers Report:** Treasurer was not able to attend the meeting but sent updates to share:

- \$3,874 in bank account with some set aside for kinderyard (approx. \$1000)

**6) Fundraising Updates:** Do Nothing fundraiser brought in \$2,021.84. What can we use the funds for?

- Gift from Parents council to school: Pinnies which could be used for gym class. Decided on 15 pinnies of 6 colours, Approx \$960. Voted and carried (Allison, Caitlin).
- The other gift from Parents council to school, if the Treasurer can confirm that we have enough in the budget this year, is to buy up to 4 large stencils for games on the pavement (<https://fastline.net/playground/>). \$115-\$200 approx per stencil. Once they school has the stencils they can just repaint the games themselves when they fade. Voted and Carried (Chrystal, Erinn).

**7) Kinderyard Project:**

- Commendations to Jacqueline for all her work.
- Schoolyard tree planting program: mid-may we're getting 2 deciduous and 2 evergreen trees.
- Gardening bench is \$1800 and we have 1900 from grant. Waiting on a letter of approval.
- Planting at the school this weekend is off due to the "stay at home" order which ends on May 20. Looking to push off the Ritchies and Greely deliveries. Club will meet again in a few weeks

**8) Library Rejuvenation.** Elliott has been cataloguing the new books. No other updates.

**9) Pro Grant workshop:** May 31, virtual event 6-7:15pm. Topic: "Addicted to screens". We need a sign up sheet to submit to the board and Ginette will add to a Friday update.

**10) Refuse to Lose:** Allison will coordinate sending out the nomination forms. Amanda has the trophy to add the name of the winner to, and will arrange for a smaller trophy for the winner.

- Parents Allison and Erinn asked if there an opportunity to review the VM slogan "Refuse to Lose" to look for something more inclusive and equitable? Ginette mentioned board is having similar discussions, including rethinking awards in general; she will look at whether we could have access to a coach to look at things with the council. Amanda also suggested not doing the award right now if it's too much for teachers right now. We'll proceed for now unless it seems to be too much on the backs of the teachers.

**11) Other business:** n/a

**12) Next meeting:** May 19

**13) Meeting adjourned:** 8:38pm