

2022-2023 Vincent Massey School Council meeting

February 15, 2023

Attendance:

VM staff: Susan Bower

Executive: Erinn Brooks, Erin Corbin, Katie Eberts

Members: Christine Dagleish, Caitlin Anstee, Heather Munro

1. Meeting was called to order
2. January 2023 meeting minutes accepted (moved by Caitlin, seconded by Katie Eberts, passed)
3. Event - End of year BBQ
Some volunteers came forward from the Friday emails. Contacts provided to the school council teacher representatives. Those teacher reps will reach out to contacts at other schools to determine more of the logistics involved.
4. Committee - Grade 8 leaving event
Potential to have a dance a thon organized by student council.
Volunteers that came forward were provided to Heather and Kerrie.
Students will take the lead in determining the types of fundraising and parents can support as needed.
Erinn has a contact at another school that has organized a dance a thon before - info can be provided to the student council if this is an event that they are interested in.
5. Principal's Update (presented by Susan Bower)
Term 1 report cards sent home today. Communication between home and school IEPs will come out in a few weeks for Term 2.
Ambulance was in parking lot on Monday as a parent had fallen getting out of their vehicle in a visitor parking spot. Board contracts a company to maintain the area so Julie and Susan reached out to the Board to follow up. (Indoor recess on the same day for first recess)
Basketball for intermediates has started before and after school.
Cooking club for intermediates starting next week.
Bracelet and Rubiks cube club are ongoing.
Black history month in February - try to incorporate diversity throughout the year. Many initiatives ongoing but this provides another opportunity to .
Toonie Tuesday is ongoing - funds go to the Education Foundation. (School can reach out when families need support - money donated goes directly to families in the school community).
6. Treasurer's Report
\$3,247 petty cash
\$1,739 (available that is not maker space, library, educator allocations) Educators have division leads - instead of transferring money to each educator it could be provided to those leads.
7. Book giveaway

There are 4 volunteers. Will start book collection next Tuesday. Meeting volunteers on Wed to explain the process.

Susan indicated that the office could put a box outside the office for book collection.

For Movie night, can put box out for collection as well - will include call out for books with promotion for the event as well.

Will include a message in the Friday update to ask for books to be brought to the school starting Feb 21.

Next council meeting will be in person to sort books in the library for the book giveaway.

8. Movie night

Asked Susan if March 3 will work for someone from the school to attend.

Will also be asking student council to help again in handing out drinks and popcorn.

Will use tickets this time for drink and popcorn sales.

Will be trying to get a larger speaker for the movie night this time. (Greg Mckean - runs media club that is the contact - would also be able to help with set-up/take-down)

Will send flyers home in backpacks earlier (this will include a note about the book donations for the book giveaway)

9. Do Nothing

Asked if anyone had info on how much goes into organizing this.

Mary can set this up in school cash online - that would go into the council account at the school.

Document from another year that has info on some items that were being fundraised for.

10. Sports equipment

Madame Deere organizes skating for various classes and noticed that the inventory of helmets and skates of smaller sizes for students 9 and up.

There is a parent that is willing to help with the inventory and then they will come to council with a request for what is needed.

All donations support the students at Vincent Massey. In past years, funds raised have been used to purchase literacy resources, musical instruments, sports equipment, technology and much more.

Your donation will make a big impact on your child's learning experience.

11. Volunteer call-out + professional development webinar recap

- Specific requests have helped to generate interest and people coming forward for various events.
- Last Wednesday there was a webinar - How to Make School Council Inclusive.
- 3 panelists - parent outreach - only one school council representative - very little engagement. She wanted to get involved and do outreach and have better diversity for the council. Discussed various tools they used to increase participation. Use a translation widget. Using OLS support with in-person meeting translation. Don't always host the meetings at the school - could use community center. Were able to grow the council to around 34 members. Made the council involvement more visible/tangible for parents. Try to do outreach at any events that they could.
- Another panelist spoke about community gardens and the benefits, how to start one.

- Principal at Hawthorne public school - try to breakdown barriers to joining school council. Have it be more common knowledge and accessible. Switch model from Euro centric, have school council model adapt to the parents.
- Multi cultural event - Susan Wilson will connect with parent volunteers that have submitted their name. There is a school council grant for projects of up to \$750 - however applications are due Feb 20 and funds can't be used for purchase of food.
- OCASC - Council of school councils - hold meetings. Membership fee for the year. (ocasc.ca)

12. VM Merch

Pricing/sourcing update - reached out to company that has provided a list of costs for Gildean and Under Armour - for hoodies/sweat pants etc.

There is a VM parent that is willing to design a logo -

School staff is looking into changing the logo – feels that the students should be involved in the design process.