

## May 11th, 2021 Hopewell Ave PS School Council Meeting Minutes

**Attendees:** Daphne Dumbrille, Bryce Colenbrander, Martina Sherwood, Christopher Werely, Claire Kerry, Fran Morrison, Heather Barrett, Allison Kelly, Norah Lynn Paddock, Roopa Dolvane, Ying Ling Lin, Deborah MacAskill, Kate Jaimet. Deborah Gomes

**Regrets:** Matthew Brown

### **1. Welcome, Approval of the Agenda, Approval of April 2021 minutes**

Agenda moved by Alison Kelly and seconded by Daphne Dumbrille Carried, none opposed.

Minutes moved by Daphne Dumbrille and seconded by Heather Barrett. Carried, none opposed.

### **2. Principal's Report**

Planning for next year is well underway. We are busy working on school organization for next year. This includes staffing, timetables, developing class lists.

As we continue to engage in remote learning educators are working hard to provide unique experiences for their students. Virtual field trips are becoming more popular. Last week our grade 6 students went on a virtual walking tour of Chinatown with artist and passionate tour guide, Don Kwan. Visits to our National Gallery are taking place. Students have participated in virtual science fairs and math contests as well.

We are looking ahead to plan another virtual grade 8 leaving ceremony and special ways to honour our Class of 2021. Stay tuned for further updates. Luckily, the week before the school closure we were able to hold our graduation photo session.

**Question:** Will the burn mark on the turf yard be mended? Some (ex Hopewell) Grade 12 students burnt a book on the turf yard causing a large burn hole, one left a bank card so could be identified and police were notified.

**Response:** A work order for the repair has been completed for a patch job (no need for replacement) Chief Custodian, Chris Farquhar has said it has happened before but the damage was less intense, this vandalism will be paid for by School Board and School Council will not have to fundraise to patch it.

**Question:** Have teachers had access to vaccines and how is it affecting morale?

**Response:** Martina commented that it sounds like the process is going smoothly. It does seem like availability is picking up, and teachers are positive.

**Question:** If Teachers choose not to be vaccinated will they be allowed to teach? Is there a policy in place.

**Response:** No discussion on this at the moment and this would likely be a Ministry level decision.

### **3. VP Report**

Christopher reported that the Safe Schools and School District School Code of Conduct Policy was under review. In November 2019, the OCDSB approved a consultation plan to address the Safe Schools and School District Code of Conduct Policies. <https://ocdsb.ca/cms/one.aspx?portalId=55478&pageId=31997834>

After the completion of the first round of discussions with students, parents and staff, the board are sharing the first draft of the updated Safe Schools and Code of Conduct policies.

Draft - Code of Conduct Policy

Draft - Safe Schools Policy (Emergency Preparedness and Response)

Draft - Safe Schools Policy (Managing Student Behaviour)

The OCDSB will share these draft policies with stakeholder groups, including students, parents and staff. Additional virtual group discussions will be held for further feedback (dates to be determined).

Parents can also email us your feedback here: [safeschools.consultation@ocdsb.ca](mailto:safeschools.consultation@ocdsb.ca)

### **4. SANDBox update**

Update from Fran with good news to share with the School Council. The tender closed on April 30th which received many bidders, one was selected and we are going ahead with the yard renovation. Contract is in the process of being awarded officially, once awarded it will be communicated wider. Build will occur between July 3rd to August 25th, this is tight timing according to the Board.

Next steps for the fundraising team is to thank sponsors. Currently working through a thank you plan for sponsors and issuers of grants. In the OSCA community newspaper a full page thank you ad is to be taken out in the summer, along with social media thanks to be conducted.

\$4k will be needed to be fundraised next year to cover a \$4k shortfall. Fran has committed to coordinate this fundraise effort

**Question:** Were we able to afford optional items?

**Response:** Yes and at the last minute they had a choice to add additional playhut or additional multiple items, the school provided the additional \$4k so we were able to do both.

## **5. Treasurer update**

Treasurer's report the same as last month with the additional outgoings of \$3 in bank fees.

## **6. School Council Executive 2021/22**

Need to recruit and fill out positions needed for next school year. Expected to be substantial turnover in positions. It was confirmed that descriptions for roles are sent out to parents in a school info pack. Elections for positions will happen in September.

Kate Jaimet put herself forward for a position regarding Grade 8 graduation for next School year. Martina described the Grade 8 virtual ceremony, teachers spoke, students were acknowledged, Hopewell Hs were given to all students, teachers went to houses with balloons and certificates. Possibly doing this again this year. Jenna Neerhoff is heavily involved in the intermediate students and keen to celebrate these students. Probably more difficult this year, as there hasn't been any sport, or music, but will celebrate their resilience this year. Something special will be planned within the safety parameters.

## **7. Other Business/Questions**

**Question:** Claire flagged Teacher appreciation, to make sure that we would do something despite teachers not being in school.

**Response:** This raised a discussion of options which ranged from gift certificates for local (to school) business that staff frequently use, to care packages sent to homes or to have lunch/breakfast when teachers can be back in the school together. There are 65 staff. It was concluded to do something when all staff are in, and if this can't be before summer vacation then an email of appreciation to be sent to say when you are back in school you will have an appreciation lunch/breakfast.

**Question:** What is the State of ventilation in the school? Now we are aware COVID is airborne in nature, How is Hopewell considering this?

**Response:** Hopewell is Luckily in a position that the School had a whole building

ductwork replacement and replacement of filters more frequently. There is a HEPA filter unit in the room where students who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 are isolated before they are collected from school and one in a high traffic area.

**Question:** Are windows required to be opened? And if each classroom is measured for air quality?

**Response:** In the classrooms they are not required to be open, better to keep windows closed, due to interior classrooms. If windows are opened then it affects interior classrooms negatively. Air quality inside is better than outside measured better inside. Random tests on classroom air quality are carried out.

**Next meeting: June 15 2021 7pm Google Meet.**