

Maynard Public School
Parent Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday March 30, 2021



In Attendance

Krista Bareke, Cara Bauder, Krista Dukelow, Robyn Holmes,
Megan LaSalle, Becky Lewis, Brigitte Reid,
Staff: Heidi Linnen-MacDonald, Shannon Scott

Regrets

Lynn Allaby, Janine Visser, Ashley Jones, John McCrae (Trustee)

Treasurers Report

There is currently \$5062.33 in the parent council account. All funds that have been allocated have been withdrawn.

New business

1. Recess DJ / Dance Party

Parent council recently discussed via group chat a local school (Metcalf) who hosted a DJ for the students at recess for them to enjoy some physically distanced dancing fun.

This idea was presented to Mrs MacDonald at tonight's meeting and the following points were made:

- There is currently a mixed lunch schedule with varying numbers of students on the yard between 11:49 and 12:49.
- Currently no guests are permitted on the grounds, and therefore alternate location and power supply would need to be arranged

Suggestion was made that if this is pursued that all grades be able to enjoy it. Vote was held and members were in favour of exploring this idea further. Heidi will bring this idea up to staff to discuss what it means for outdoor supervision and separation of cohorts. Continued discussion about this will occur in the group chat outside of the meeting time.

2. Student Recognition

A question was raised in the group chat about whether it is possible to increase the amount of student recognition at the school. A suggestion was made that perhaps there could be monthly recognition of students for various traits; perhaps including traits that are not typically recognized in order to encourage and motivate students. Mrs. MacDonald indicated that currently recognition is primary centred around WITS and random draws designed to

recognize students who have demonstrated kindness. The suggestion of an additional recognition model will be taken back to the staff for their feedback.

Ongoing Business

1. Outdoor Education

A survey was sent home with Mrs. Baker's class inquiring about how many students have skates and helmets. The intention was that group was to be used as a test for the skating activity at the outdoor rink. Unfortunately, due to the changes in weather, the conditions of the rink deteriorated before that could occur. Mrs. MacDonald advised that it appears helmets will be the main issue moving forward. It was suggested by Mrs. MacDonald that the individuals who volunteered to assist with this have a meeting prior to the end of the school year to begin planning for the fall. It was noted that the recreation coordinator from Township of Augusta has been very helpful to the school during discussions about this.

2. Code of Conduct

Robyn met with Mrs. MacDonald and Mrs. Foxtan last week for ongoing discussions about the code of conduct. All feedback from parent council regarding specific requested content or general suggestions for language were brought back to those parties. Mrs. MacDonald continues to speak regularly with the superintendent to ensure that all required content is included (i.e. bullying and dress code). The staff have provided input regarding language for the document as well as ensuring the document focuses on equity and inclusivity. The next step for the school will be to have consultations with small groups of students to get their input regarding content, followed by the larger student body and families. That process will continue into June and also in the fall months if necessary.

Staff Report

Students continue to work hard and have a great deal of fun at Maynard. Some activities occurring within the school include:

- Students in kindergarten made boats to float in their "lake" that appeared in the kinder yard when the snow melted.
- Students have been measuring with non standard units (i.e. paper clips)
- Mrs. Brennan's class made leprechaun traps for St. Patrick's Day
- Mrs. Baker and Mrs. Wilson's classes have been making postcards about Ontario
- MP Michael Barrett is having a virtual meeting with one of the classes next week
- Mrs. Marshall's class has been learning about syrup

Principal's Report

1. **Health & Safety** – COVID protocols have not changed much over the last few weeks. March 2 was the last major change with all students in a household now being required to isolate if one student has symptoms of COVID-19. Mrs. MacDonald indicated that the school continues to receive a great deal of support from Tanya Boileau from the Lanark, Leeds & Grenville District Health Unit. She has been available to answer all questions and to problem solve with the school on difficult topics (i.e. the use of masks during strenuous physical activity)

2. **Data:**

The student voice survey was administered to Grades 4/5/6 student and had 42 responses. This survey is designed to capture the feelings of students regarding safety, inclusion, and acceptance in various school locations including classroom, outdoors and busses. This document was reviewed at the safe schools meeting that was held tonight. The summary of the report is anonymous; however the initial responses are not. This allows for the school to follow up with a student if any safety concerns are identified. The summary was sent to the parent council in the group chat for members to review.

3. **Scientists In Schools:**

The experiential learning grant has been received, as well as a donation from the Police Services Board. These funds will cover the costs of virtual scientists in schools programming, which the students have very much enjoyed.

4. **Outdoor education** (discussed above under ongoing business)

5. **Code of Conduct** (discussed above under ongoing business)

6. **Program delivery model for 2021/22 school year:**

Mrs. MacDonald indicated that the board has provided details regarding the learning model for next school year. As of right now, the plan is for learning to continue in cohorts with remote learning options from September – January. After that time, students will return to the pre-pandemic model. The PowerPoint with details of the learning model for next school year was sent to parent council in the group chat for review.

7. **Spencerville fair:** One of the Maynard staff members sits on the fair board and she continues to update the school on the status of the fair. Decisions are still being made about whether the fair will resume in person.

8. **Upcoming special days:**

- Ongoing pickup of materials for asynchronous students
- Thursday April 1 – wear blue in support of World Autism Day
- April 12 – 16: spring break
- April 22 – Earth Day (wear blue & green)

Questions

Q- Water station – what type of bottle is required?

A – Students require a wide mouth bottle. Ideally, opaque bottles are better, however for students with transparent or semi-transparent bottles, they may need to place their hand around the bottom of the bottle for the filling station's sensor to detect the bottle.

Meeting Adjournment: 8:03pm

Next meeting: April 27, 2021 – 7pm

Minutes compiled by Robyn Holmes
If any errors or omissions are detected, please advise.