

Minutes of Tecumseth South Central P.S. School Council Meeting

Monday, October 5, 2020

Start: 7:05 pm

End 8:14pm

Members Present:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Anna Lisa Wienecke | 8. Kathrine Hopkins |
| 2. Krista Elford | 9. Tina Rakovsky |
| 3. Paige Presswood | 10. Sheena Kanthak |
| 4. Melissa Mackenzie | 11. Sheana Jesso |
| 5. Sherri Cicirello | 12. Melissa McKoen |
| 6. Rebecka Mayne | 13. |
| 7. Jenn Gore | |

Staff Present: Susan Nixon (Principal), Sam Cousins (Teacher Representative)

Guests: David Gauthier, Kim Siemens, Robin Hryniewski, Kelly Lynch

Member absent: Susanna Jarvis

Opening

Virtual meeting called to order at 7:05pm by Co-Chair Anna Lisa Wienecke

Welcome and brief introductions.

Approval of Minutes (last meeting February 3, 2020)

Sherri approved minutes, Rebecka second. All (who were in attendance) in favour.

Principal's Report, Mrs Nixon

Mrs Nixon started her report with an introduction about herself and her career. She has been with SDCSB for 16 years and was principal at Tottenham Public prior to coming to Tec South.

Enrollment this year: 180 students, including 30 students online.

Staffing:

Kindergarten – Mrs. Sanford
Grade 1 – Mrs. Kennedy
Grade 2 – Mrs. Santo
Grade 3/4 – Mr. Gray
Grade 4/5 – Mrs. Margie
Grade 6/7 – Mr. Lalonde
Grade 7/8 – Mrs. Leaist

Teacher Librarian + Music – Mrs. Cousins
Special Ed. Resource Teacher – Mrs. Davidson
Educational Assistants – Mrs. Belfry & Mrs. King
Group Home – Ms. Cheshire
Custodians – Mr. & Mrs. Mulla
Before & After School Care – Mrs. Di Bartolomeo
Senior Adm. Assistant-Elementary – Mrs. Rosie

French – Mrs. MacArthur

Students have settled in their cohorts and are staying in their zones during recess.

Covid-19 is a big challenge, on average 30 students are absent every day. Continuous changes and new recommendations from Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit in regard to screening over the past weeks. As information comes in, it is shared with school community. Parents are encouraged to visit the health unit website.

SCDSB goals and Tec South goals: Numeracy & Literacy, Well-Being, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion and Community. Mrs. Nixon stressed that a main focus will be on character traits and especially kindness.

Parents are currently not allowed in the building but support and help from parents is much appreciated and encouraged. Student safety main priority.

Teacher's Report, Mrs. Cousins

Mrs. Kennedy and Mrs. Cousins will share the role of teacher representative.

Everyone is falling into the new routines, the first week were very much focused on the new sanitization routines and the concept of social distancing. Social distance reminders are still frequently needed.

The library is closed. However, students can now access library material via google classroom and books are delivered to the classrooms for use in school. Younger grades get a selection of books delivered to their classroom, due to covid, books are not able to go home with students.

This upcoming Friday is Terry Fox run, 40 laps for 40 year anniversary, families are asked to donate \$2 through school cash online, Toonie for Terry.

Last week was orange shirt day, it continued throughout the whole week with story walks and different activities in each class.

David asked where parents can find information ahead of time. Mrs Nixon replied that monthly newsletters will start coming out and that the October newsletter will come out this week via email. Paige advised of the parent council Facebook page. Anna Lisa mentioned that some families are still not receiving school emails and encouraged parent council to help pass on information.

2020/2021 Parent Council Election

Returning members: Paige Presswood, Anna Lisa Wienecke, Kathrine Hopkins, Krista Elford, Melissa McKenzie, Sherri Cicirello, Rebecka Mayne, Susanna Jarvis

New members: Tina Rakovsky, Sheena Kanthak, Melissa McKoen, Sheana Jesso, Jenn Gore

Election:

Chair: Anna Lisa Wienecke will continue as Co-Chair, joined by Melissa McKenzie
Both were nominated and accepted.

Secretary: Rebecka Mayne volunteered to be secretary.

Fundraising/Treasurer: Paige Presswood was nominated and accepted.

Fundraising

Absolutely no fundraising or donations of material of any type are allowed at this time.

Old Business

- Water bottle filling stations are in progress, no timeline.

New Business

- School spirit wear: no masks available at the moment, Paige will assist with administration, Mrs. Nixon will find out if we can go ahead and encourage families to order spirit wear. She will find out if money raised goes to school or parent council. Perhaps orange shirts and Terry Fox shirts could get added to the entropy shop for next year like the Anti-Bully shirts were added last year.
- Mrs. Nixon talked about the possibility of an outdoor classroom (at her previous school Crick donated \$17,000 to school for a similar project). Mrs. Nixon explained that it is a lengthy process to make alterations to the school grounds so if we initiate it now, it could possibly get completed next summer. Paige suggested including the outdoor canopies like they have at Schomberg Public School.
- The purchase of picnic tables was suggested, and Mrs. Nixon will investigate. Paige asked if school chairs and kindergarten picnic tables can go outside for students to use.
- Mrs. Nixon will look into available funds in school council account and also the cost of ordering new and larger picnic tables from Home Hardware in Tottenham. This could hopefully be done quickly and voted on via email with council members.
- Paige suggested that she could supply tree stumps to make an outside classroom circle. Mrs. Nixon will look into if this is possible.
- Paige suggested the purchase of snowshoes, Mrs. Cousins agreed that would be a great idea, Mrs. Nixon will investigate and advise on cost. Teachers would like more sports equipment for outside. Mrs. Cousins is looking into buckets for drums and seats.

- Students are allowed to bring costumes on October 30 to celebrate Halloween. Mrs. Nixon is hoping to have a parade train outside.
- Rebecka raised concerns about the current pick up situation at the end of the school. It is very busy, many cars, students walking through the parking lot. Could a drive by and pick up be an option? Or a “kiss & ride”? Mrs Nixon will look into it and potentially ask OPP for help to set up a traffic plan.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14pm by Anna Lisa Wienecke

Next meeting: Monday, November 2, 2020@ 7pm via zoom