



MAPLE RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Education
Foundation
of Ottawa



Maple Ridge Elementary School Parents Council

1000 Valin St, Orleans, ON K4A 4B5

December 8th, 2020

Attendees:

Keith Penny (Trustee), Jennifer Tracey, Mireille Filion, Robert Levesque, Amanda Hope, Michelle Snook, Elitza Palazov, Kate Woods, Barbara MacIntyre, Crystall Matheson, Wendy Mak, Rosita McLaughlin, Brenda Beaudoin, Mara Belitzky, Lisa Briscoe

Regrets:

Cynthia Allen, Nelofar Dost, Kahraman Kamleh, Jennifer Malek, Rhiana Lorimer

Welcome

Introductions

Meeting called to Order

6:33pm Minutes Record by: Brenda Beaudoin

Approval of December 8th, 2020 Council Agenda:

Approved by Michelle Snook

Old Business & Approval of last meeting's minutes:

Motion to approve was by Michelle Snook, Seconded by Wendy Mak

Zone 8 School Trustee: Keith Penny

- Trustee since 2014, his children went through this school
- Where we have been spring summer and fall: busy, managing COVID, combating racism and budgeting. Trying to work with starting a virtual school. 4 or 5 school reorgs. Politicians didn't think we'd make it to thanksgiving.
- Racism: a lot of board activity. Reviewing the police involvement in schools. Some kids feel uncomfortable with them in the school. Consultation ongoing. Activities the board is taking on.
- Budgeting: very difficult. Ensuring PPE and virtual schools are in place. Trying to meet the budget. MOEd have provided money to try and ensure safety for all staff and students.
- Just catching up and moving into proactive instead of reactive. The strategic plan is based on three pillars (refer to OCDSB strategic plan). Board educating staff about systemic

racism.

- Culture of Innovation: quit a few retirements.
- Culture of caring: Police involvement in schools policy, very large consultation with all stakeholders. Reviewing human rights policy in consultation with stakeholders and approve it. Some policies are out of date and need updating. Even language is out-dated (1980 time frame)
- Culture of social responsibility: access identity-based data with regards to suspensions, credit accumulation, achievement and streaming. On going reviews on how we use this identity-based data. Last week talked about suspension and expulsions and how we should better manage that. Students in kinder to grade 3 do they really need to be expelled our suspended and does it really do any good. Education Act identifies when we have no chose but there are a lot of areas where we do.
- Indigenous Equity and Human Rights Roadmap: a large document talking about the roadmap and how we might use it. How we might leverage that work and going forward designing our equity work and resources for underrepresented students.
- Learning Support Services Operational Review: approx. a year ago we made a commitment based on parents comments to review the learning support services (special education).
- Social Responsibility: look at how some of our advisory committees operate, better usage of them.
- Fiduciary responsibility: Audit all our financial results, pass a budget, and complete a Director performance review. In the fall we had quit a bit of activity relating to trustee behavior and code of conduct issues. In order to deal with these issues we will be hiring an integrity commissioner (need RFP issued first) which will act as a resource to the Board to ensure we act with the utmost integrity.
- 3 questions:
- #1 School pro grants: \$39000 received, staff discussed and with parent involved committee, going to use for virtual speaking engagements. Keith asking if we have any comments about this? No initial comments.
- #2 What about short fall in enrollment: number of students registered but didn't show up. Large number where kindergarteners. Budget was based on those numbers, shortfall of \$24M. Which equites to about 240 teachers or quit a few educators in general. Rec'd documentation from MOEd that indicates revenue and grants are going to based on current registered numbers and not those registered at end of October which is the usual date the budget is based on.
- #3 Asynchronous learning: complicated things going on, some parents are opting for full asynchronous learning or partial asynchronous learning and stepping away from the synchronous learning of the virtual school. So students are not engaging with zoom/google meetings with they teachers. Parents want teachers to send them assignments offline inside of e-learning. Mary Jane stated there wasn't a huge trend and it is very complex, some parents not fully withdrawing but only for certain classes and asking for the asynchronous learning. Next week they will be reviewing and determine best model for that. Very hard to



coordinate and hard to keep track of the students. It's a very complex learning model.

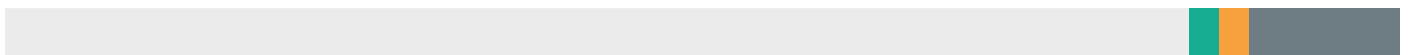
- Keith.penny@ocdsb.ca Here to help, send him an email.
- Q Is the board looking at next school year and what that would look like or just this one: managing this year only right now, next September is so far away. Even January is a challenge right now. Things may change depending on vaccine distribution. There may be parents switching in and out of in person school, its not that easy to coordinate. Massive effort with managing 70,000+ students and 7,000 staff. Appreciative of the efforts by all; keeping our schools safe. Its encouraging seeing our numbers compared to Peel and other areas of the Province who are getting locked down. Hope we can maintain it going forward.
- Keith thanks everyone for staying engaged!
- Q: what is the attendance for the speaking engagements? Keith's response: He's not sure but first one is tomorrow. Does not appear its been advertised all that well. Keith will send the Board workplan and this item to Principle Filion and Cynthia for distribution to Council.
- Comment: \$39,000 is a lot of money that could be used on the schools, if not well attended then maybe they need to come up with a better idea. Keith's response: Yes, we probably need to keep and eye on it and monitor so that we can ensure the money is used effectively.
- Q: For schools that might need it more, can they apply? Initially these programs were applied for by the individual schools and is there a way for schools hit harder in terms of finances and maybe they don't have a well established Council that we're fortunate to have, is there any way those schools can gain access to these funds? Keith's response: You're right there are some schools that don't even have school Councils due to various reasons. Senior staff keep an eye on those schools very carefully in case they need anything. We have done a lot of that in the past. Senior staff are working hard to ensure these students do not go without. Those students deserve a good education just like everyone else.
- No other comments.

Principal's Report: Mireille Filion & Robert Levesque

- Mary Jane shared info relating to what Keith was talking about: virtual learning. Some parents are asking for that instead of meeting with the teacher all day, the lessons would be pre-recorded so the students can learn anytime they want. The Board is looking at this, but this is demanding, as those teachers that putting the asynchronous learning together are still having to do synchronous time with the other students so they're having to do it twice. Or if they video tape while the teacher is presenting this is a privacy issue. This is all new and the Board must determine the needs. The Board must also follow MOEd requirements.
- Prepared a google slide show: Appendix B

Chair Report: Rosita

- **Ottawa Carleton Assembly of School Councils (OCASC) Update** – November 12- OCASC gathering to discuss fundraising and outdoor classrooms. We as a school are doing the Poppa jacks fundraiser. Wendy attended. Took away that we have been saving up for the kinder yard that we have a cushion for kinder yard, other schools don't have that



cushion, much tougher position to be able to support school initiatives. We're lucky to have such a great community.

Fundraising & Communications:

- PopaJacks fundraiser

Financial Summary: Jennifer Tracey (Appendix A)

- Forest of Reading – Council had voted to financially support the Forest of Reading program for \$1100 however the total cost was \$1261.04. An email was sent to council on November 25, 2020 requesting approval to spend the additional \$161.04. No one was opposed. Motion passed.
- \$9,400 available funds. Waiting on sound system receipts should be coming soon (from the 2018-2019 school year)
- Nothing else to report

Wish List: all

- Trying to get some presenters (ie. indigenous dancers) for the second half of the school year.
- Nothing else identified

Round Table: all

Elitza: we have \$58 raised for MR from Boston Pizza, initiative is still active and MR is still enrolled. Put name of school on back of receipt and put in on-site box. Usually get check in June. Will pick up cheque before end of school year.

Pam Dossett contacted Canadian Tire in Orleans (Tim Brooks, General Manager of store #422 at 3910 Innes Rd) for the potential donation of sleds. Although CT normally provide best possible price on donation items, they generously agreed to donate 20 sleds for the kinder students at Maple Ridge as an exception. Getting kids outside for fresh air and outdoor play is part of the CT mission of building a stronger community, and given the pandemic this year have cut into Council fundraising abilities, the Store was glad to make an exception. Kinders will thank CT once we get snow.

Wendy: Sound system-no need for it right now. Components have been purchased. Testing is being completed. Quick start guide will be generated so anyone can set it up. Plan is for it to be portable, all in one. Colour coordinated it. Budget was \$1800, but will be under that.

Wendy: From last years Purdy's campaign we have 4 gift cards-suggested using them for xmas gifts for custodians for their hard work this year. Cynthia has an unknown number of gift cards as well. Believe they are \$25 value each. There are now 5 regular custodian staff, two during the day, remainder in evening. Motion to give each custodian a Purdy's gift card and an additional gift card (ie. Tim Horton's). Will put out for evote.

Q: Gifts for teachers/staff. There has been no direction from the Board. Only direction regarding class parties. One class is doing Secret Santa-deadline for gift. Gift will be stored for a period of time. Class by class. No treats, parties or assemblies. Advising not to pass gifts between families at school. Staff needs to decide how they deal with gifts but must be done in a safe manner. If you receive something put it away for a few days.



School is recommending at least 2 masks/day. Change after recess. Change when wet.

Bus loop is still available for student drop off but only after all buses (4) and van (1) are gone. Pylons will stay in place until all organized transportation vehicles are gone. Usually gone by 8:22.
Q: Did communication go out about bus loop? Yes, but another communication will be sent out in January.

Q: Did the construction make a difference: A lot of work for a cross walk but didn't really make a difference.

Discussion: Concerns with traffic flow during student drop off. Traffic and safety issues with so many parents dropping their children off by car. The school will be sending out communications about road safety (ie. dropping off child, before pulling out into traffic, school bus rules, kiss and ride lessons versus kiss and stop and u-turns by the crossing guard). The message will be education rather than being negative. Need to look at traffic flow and communication. Cones to put up in no stopping zone to cross walk. Winter will be interesting. Robert will generate communication and will reach out to get assistance with potential improvements. Avalon: Parent task force? Active transportation project did traffic studies and flow. Very complex. Worked with bylaw, Ottawa Safety Council and OSTA. The point to the project was to decrease students being driving to school. Robert to reach out to his contacts about options. Parent task force: concerned with putting parents in this dangerous situation. Not sure some parents would take directions from volunteers in vests. Also concerns with new construction in area and with some streets having no sidewalks.

8:09pm meeting adjourned

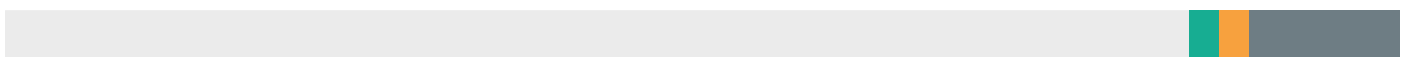
December 8th/2020 meeting minutes approved by MRES council:

Cynthia Allen

January 12/2021

Executive Signature

Date



Appendix A. Financial summary

Maple Ridge - Parent Council Income Statement & Fund Reconciliation

	(Last meeting)	(Last year)	
	Dec 5, 2020	Nov 8, 2020	Jul 31, 2020
Income			
Lunch Programs			
Revenue	0	0	16,983
Expense	0	0	-10,560
Total Lunch Programs	0	0	6,424
Movie Night			
Revenue	0	0	0
Expense	0	0	-184
Total Movie Night	0	0	-184
Other			
Grants	0	0	500
Other Revenue	137	137	1,202
Other Expense	0	0	-627
Purdys Revenue	0	0	1,805
Purdys Expense	0	0	0
Total Other	137	137	2,880
Total Income	137	137	9,120
Expense			
Interest, bank charges	11	8	33
Miscellaneous	0	0	722
School - activities	-940	-940	1,097
School - books & equipment	2,468	2,307	6,314
School - greening	81	81	50
Total Expense	1,620	1,456	8,216
Net Income	-1,483	-1,319	904
Available funds, beginning of year	10,979	10,979	10,075
Available funds, end of year	9,496	9,660	10,979
Reconciliation			
Balance per bank	10,663	13,847	14,693
Balance per PayPal	0	0	0
Outstanding cheques	0	(1,921)	(695)
Outstanding deposits/receivables	0	0	0
Cash On Hand	0	0	0
Commitments			
Hot lunch	0	0	0
School equipment	(1,167)	(2,267)	(1,881)
School Activities	0	0	(1,088)
School - Greening	0	0	(50)
Available funds, end of year	9,496	9,660	10,979

Maple Ridge

School Council- December

OCV ↔ IN PERSON

- message was sent to all families Friday, Nov. 27
- limited case-by-case basis where circumstances permit.
- no general opportunity to switch from in-person learning to OCV
- switches may be permitted:
 - *in cases of dire need*
 - *evidence that current placement isn't working*
 - *consultation with multi-d team and SOI*
 - *considering availability of space and*
 - *minimal impact on staffing*
- some movement of classroom spaces may be necessary to comply with COVID protocols
- A student may be placed at a different school if no space is available.

Mental Health at Maple Ridge

Mental Health committee:

December assembly Dec 16th, looking to engage students and staff.

Mental Health- Resources/Discussions/Filling our tool box!

What can we do as a school to support students and staff during these difficult times?



What is happening at Maple Ridge!

Poppies Donation for the Legion: \$480

Virtual Book Fair: school sold 172 books

Maple Ridge Clothing: we are looking to put in another order in the spring

Community Center after school program: will not be operating after this month.

JK to Grade 5

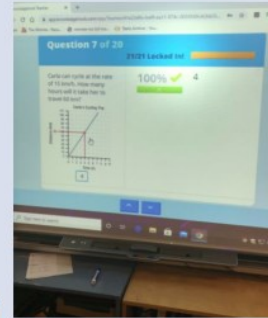
- Egg drop challenge in R4/5
- New sleighs for Kinder- Thank you Pamela -Canadian Tire donation
- Grade 3 English students Science Fair style sharing time with the rest of the class
- Gr 2 and ½ Smyth and Belanger joined the public library on zoom for a read aloud and storytelling by an elder on Sept 30th Orange Shirt Day.
- Having fun playing socially distanced games in the gym. - Grade 3 EFI

Grades 6-8

- Habitat building, paper plane challenge -Grade 6 (Nov)
- Rideauwood Presentations: Grade 7- technology and Grade 8 - addiction (Nov-Dec)
- Junior Achievers Economics -Grade 8 (Nov)
- Pencil Drawing: Growth Mindset -Grades 6,7,8
- High School Information: Dec -Jan (Grade 8)
- Get Real Presentation: Equity and Empathy for Grades 6,7,8 (Jan)
- MADD Presentation for Grade 7 and 8 - the effects of drugs and alcohol (Jan-letter will go home)

Math at Maple Ridge

- Game shows Knowledgehook: support concepts covered in math (Grade 8)
- Scope and Sequence: long term math plan created by OCDSB to create consistency
- Coding: December/May/June
"hour of code" Dec 7-11 (EFI 6 and 6/7)
[Scratch](#)
- Financial Literacy (starting in January)
money, budget, investment, taxes, interests



Inclusive, Safe and Caring Initiatives

- **virtual meet - Tues. Dec. 8**
15 students (4 classes), 5 staff, 2 parents
- **focus**
promoting belonging and awareness of diversity in Maple Ridge community
- **feedback opportunity**
positive things that make people feel welcome here
ways we (intentionally or unintentionally) make people feel unwelcome here
- **next steps**
video clips planning wider school project
meeting #2: January 5

