



MAPLE RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1000 Valin St, Orleans, ON K4A 4B5
Phone (613) 834-1927 | Fax (613) 834-6625



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Education
Foundation
of Ottawa



Maple Ridge Elementary School Parents Council

1000 Valin St, Orleans, ON K4A 4B5

February 1st, 2022 – Meeting via Google Meets

6:30-8:00pm

Meeting called to order: 6:34pm

Attendees:

Jennifer Malek, Jennifer Tracey, Lysanne Darmody, Cynthia Allen, Mireille Filion, Mira Tuepah, Mohsen Karami, Pamela Dossett, Lisa Briscoe, Wendy Lim, Alexander Shavlovsky, Barb MacIntyre, Sajith Pillai, L Depass, Brenda Beaudoin, Amanda Hope

Regrets: Crystal Matheson, Mara Belitzky

Minutes Recorded By: Amanda Hope

Welcome & Introductions *Cynthia Allen*

Approval of Meeting Agenda. Nothing amended; agenda approved as is. Cynthia motions to approve, Amanda seconds. All in favour. Agenda approved.

Approval of January's meeting's minutes: Jennifer Malek moved to approve minutes. Seconded by Barb. All in favour. January 11, 2021 meeting minutes approved.

Principal Report: *Mireille Filion/Lysanne Darmody*

A very informative report was provided by both the principal and vice principal outlining everything that has been happening at Maple Ridge since the last meeting.

Covid updates: school continues to monitor absences, has not come close to 10% at all, which is not far from previous years. One hundred and sixty students would have to be absent to reach the 30% threshold. Haven't had to close any classrooms, but lunch monitors have moved to ECE/EA roles if necessary. First priority is ensuring the needs and safety of students are met.

They were able to get all the rapid tests out to all staff and students. Office staff had to spend an afternoon dividing them up and arranging them for classes. No word on if or when they will get more. A few PCRs left that expire mid-February. Email sent last week from the board of the opportunity to voluntarily report positive cases. Information and details are kept private. Schools have been told not to send emails or letters to let families know of a positive case.

Q: Jennifer - Is it still just the 2 positive cases or has there been more? A: Yes, there are a few more but I

only know because they have told us. There have not been multiples in a class. Could be more but we only know of what we've been told.

Q: Wendy - Previously if there was a contact and you knew about it, you were asked to isolate. Can the teacher isolate if a student in the class has it? A: No, told to isolate if symptoms; not as a close contact. But if a family member has it then the whole family is supposed to isolate.

Q: Cynthia - The screening form: does it go anywhere? A: Mireille - This is something we do at the school level, and honestly we can't check them all. We are taking parents at their word that they are doing this. We do have to send it out and are asking everyone to continue to do so. It goes to Lysanne and I. Lysanne - It is a tool we can use if someone does send their child to school and they have symptoms to follow up. But I haven't seen any students develop symptoms and parents are quick to pick them up if necessary.

Kinder registration is open as is MFI (at Trillium). There will be a transfer period so any families looking to transfer to a school that is not their home school can do so at this time. Maple Ridge has a cap of 0 transfers so only special circumstances may be considered. There are ~16 registrations for JK so far. Hoping for 3 Kinder classes again. There is a May info night specific to Maple Ridge.

Report cards are being finished this week and will be sent to parents on Feb 16 after 4 pm. It does not come directly from Maple Ridge so parents are encouraged to check their spam folder if they do not receive it. They will need the student OEN to gain access. Can request a paper copy if need be.

Lysanne - Sir Wilfrid Laurier info session Welcome to High School information night. The grade 8s had a Zello training on how to pick their courses for next year. Feb 9 will be grad photos. March 4 is tentative for the rest of the school. Wed, Feb 9 is the Get Real presentation for 7/8: Black History/Anti-racism presentation. Thursday is Black Excellence Day. Encouraged to wear black in support. Committed to it being a year-long discussion: not just a month.

Q: Cynthia - Council had supported a few books on this a few years ago. A: Yes, and we are looking to purchase more as well.

Q: Cynthia - We're not doing the usual 3 winter activity days (as has been done in the past), is there anything like that being planned? A: We just had a discussion about this at our staff meeting and so we are going to do some spirit days to boost morale (can see everyone is tired). Looking to have a few grade 8s to help lead some outdoor activities. Wish List: asking council to help support (a hot chocolate station, maybe a treat). Looking at Feb 16 or 17 for this. Calling it a Canadian Winter Day.

Valentines Day - discouraging distribution of cards between students, but students are welcome to bring their own treat.

Q: Pam - Is it the teachers that communicate this stuff, or the school level? A: Black Excellence Day we just found out Monday and the Valentine's Day information will be added to the next communication, usually sent out on Fridays. We try not to send out too much too often because there's so much communication sent from the Board as well.

Q: Jennifer T - Can a bucket be placed in the class so there is no contact? A: We could look at something like that?

Q: L Depass - Clarifying it is Black Excellence Day not Black Awareness Day (as was previously stated and has been corrected).

From Lysanne via the chat: On Thursday, February 3, OCDSB students and staff will be participating in Black Excellence Day. On February 3, 2021 the province of Nova Scotia repaid the fine and court costs associated with Viola Desmond's 1946 court case to Viola's sister, Wanda Robson. Viola had been found guilty of tax evasion in 1946, after challenging racial segregation at the Roseland Theatre in New Glasgow. Black Excellence Day reminds us that despite these intentional inequities, People of Black African descent continue to excel in all areas of life. Black Excellence Day is a new opportunity for us to come together to repair the harm and damage caused by racism's past and present oppressive practices. Students and staff members are welcome to wear black on this day, and to post on social media using the hashtags #BlackExcellenceDay and #OCDSBBlackExcellenceDay.

Q: Cynthia - Do people have to sign up for the board emails? A: It's controlled at the board level and sent to the email on file.

Chair Report: *Cynthia Allen*

MRES Council Constitution Review - Cynthia will be on the committee and thinks a section on virtual meetings will need to be added. Looking for 1 or 2 more people to join.

Pro Grant Suggestions - Cynthia sent an email to council about the pro grants: the board will be putting a list of speakers together that we can choose from or boards can suggest their own. There is a grant through the city of Ottawa as well; that was money we used for the butterfly garden. The application is open now. It's a community environmental protection program and the applicant can be a council, teacher, etc. Will defer this discussion to the next meeting. How can we put it out to families? The ProGrant will have to be virtual again.

Are the floor curling kits being used? A: I'm not sure but I can ask.

OCASC Update: *Amanda Hope*

PRO Grant - Ministry will be providing \$78,828 to OCDSB for this year's PRO Grant. At the Jan 19 PIC meeting, it was voted that OCDSB will use these funds for a speaker series similar to last year. If we have any suggestions for improvement from last year, I can bring it back to OCASC as there is a subcommittee that will put forward suggestions. If we have any questions/concerns/comments, it was suggested that we reach out to PIC, our Trustee, or Superintendent.

Guest Presentations -

Dr. Nili Kaplan-Myrth shared her expertise and concerns regarding COVID safety measures in schools. You can watch her delegation at COW Jan 11th <https://youtu.be/qadVRgrKw4M>

Dr. Jennifer McDonald shared information about masks and provided a demonstration on proper fit for

masks. She shared some resources on respirators versus masks and how various fabrics filter particles. (Links shared below.) You can also view her delegation at COW Jan 11th <https://youtu.be/qadVRgrKw4M>

<https://theconversation.com/time-to-upgrade-from-cloth-and-surgical-masks-to-respirators-your-questions-answered-174877>

<https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.11.18.20233353v1.full.pdf>

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1eE2BERAvRzs28kG87ft3a27FS9-gHvdC?usp=sharing>

<https://twitter.com/jenniferkshea/status/1480404083508973569?s=21>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/types-of-masks.html>

OCASC is hoping to have the video of the presentations available soon. When it is, I will share the link as I thought they were quite interesting and informative.

Fundraising & Communications: *Wendy Lim & Pam Dossett*

Pam - Posted about Black Excellence Day in the FB group.

Wendy - Everyone is a little fundraised-out so thinking of taking a break.

Q from Pam - Are we doing Purdy's for Easter? A: No, we just did last year because we had skipped the Christmas one.

Cynthia - A fundraiser in support of the grade 8 grads is the next fundraiser I can see.

Financial Summary: *Jennifer Tracey*

Added in Purdy's revenue \$1000 and \$500 from the Parent Involvement Committee which is given to all parent councils. Plus a few cheques from Mabel's Labels. Maybe Papa Jacks for the winter fun day?

Wish List:

Winter Activity Day request: 500 hot chocolate - ingredients and cardboard cups, maybe the popcorn? Could have it back in their classroom rather than outside. Will ask the staff. Not sure of a cost as it was just discussed today at staff meeting. Will be put to an email vote because of a quick turn around. Mireille to find the cost for hot chocolate. It's 0.60 cents per 22g bag of popcorn.

Two Kinder classes looking to get new easels. Mrs. Armstrong just got one when her class reopened last year. It's a white board and magnetic. The ones they have are quite old and they are used everyday. Would cost \$300-\$350 each.

Thoughts? Wendy - It is used daily so I think it is a good thing for them to have. Wendy put forward motion to vote. Jennifer motioned for up to \$700 to cover taxes. Seconded by Wendy. Motion passed.

Q - Brenda - How are you planning on doing the hot chocolate? Powdered in a large kettle? A: Yes, I would

think. I've never done it at Maple Ridge. If a student needs something specific, we would make a separate one. Not sure what Maple Ridge has for equipment. Brenda - Costco has some for a good price and walmart as well, rather than the grocery stores. Cynthia - Maple Ridge used to have the large canisters for coffee, etc. But one didn't work. The community centre might have one as well; can reach out.

Round Table:

Cynthia - My son says everything is going well with masks and such.

Jennifer - Has there been many grade 6s talking about going to St Pete's? Lysanne - Not sure; haven't heard anything yet.

Brenda - Mireille, thank you for doing a great job with the buses and such. The other day there were numerous parents parked in the crosswalk and my child couldn't cross the street and the parent behind me went into the semi-circle. A: The large snowbank is gone now so we're going to look at putting the pylons back. Before the kids couldn't walk safely because of the banks. Complaints have been made to the city but no tickets are given.

Pam - Question about je lis je lis: Mme Bisson is great at providing encouragement but it seems like the student motivation is dying down. Is there a way to see how many students are engaged in the program because it is a good amount of money for this program. Worth seeing for next year if this is a program that should be continued. A: Yes, I will make a note to follow up on this. Agree it's good to check in on this.

Lisa - I know some teachers are logging in and can check to see how many times the students are actually logging in and are setting goals for those students.

Q Cynthia - Was there a problem with graffiti? A: Yes, arrived one morning and it was all over the portable and in several spots around the area. It was quite large and our custodian was awesome and tried to remove it but with the cold he needed special material. Was able to get someone there by recess to take care of it. I do not think it was any of our students.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm

February 1, 2022 meeting minutes approved by MRES council:

Cynthia Allen

March 1/2022

Executive Signature

Date

Appendix 1: Financial Summary and Commitments

**Maple Ridge - Parent Council
Income Statement & Fund Reconciliation**

	<u>Jan 30, 2022</u>	<u>(Last meeting) Jan 9, 2022</u>	<u>(Last year) Jul 31, 2021</u>
Income			
Grants	500	0	1,150
Other Revenue	111	111	442
Purdys Revenue	<u>1,012</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>706</u>
Total Income	<u>1,623</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>2,298</u>
Expense			
Interest, bank charges	14	14	33
Miscellaneous	0	0	910
School - activities	0	0	-140
School - books & equipment	2,713	2,713	3,005
School - greening	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>81</u>
Total Expense	<u>2,727</u>	<u>2,727</u>	<u>3,889</u>
Net Income	<u>-1,104</u>	<u>-2,616</u>	<u>-1,591</u>
Available funds, beginning of year	9,388	9,388	10,979
Available funds, end of year	<u>8,284</u>	<u>6,772</u>	<u>9,388</u>
Reconciliation			
Balance per bank	6,713	6,713	9,388
Balance per PayPal	0	0	0
Outstanding cheques	0	0	0
Outstanding deposits/receivables	1,571	59	0
Cash On Hand	0	0	0
Commitments			
Hot lunch	0	0	0
School Equipment	0	0	0
School Activities	0	0	0
School - Greening	0	0	0
Available funds, end of year	<u>8,284</u>	<u>6,772</u>	<u>9,388</u>