



Louise Arbour French Immersion Public School

School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: November 19, 2024

Time: 6:00–7:00 PM

Location: Virtual (Microsoft Teams)

Attendance

Council Members:

- Colleen Kelsey, Chair
- Katie Big-Canoe, Vice Chair
- Amber Giffen, Parent Representative
- Matthew Stolk, Parent Member
- Maly Bun-Lebert, Secretary
- Erma Schadenberg, Treasurer
- Marielle Arnold, Parent (new attendee)
- Janelle Yoon, Parent Member

Staff:

- Sylvie Blais, Principal
- Julia Lantos, Staff Representative
- Sheila Pinder, Acting Vice-Principal (new attendee)

Regrets:

- Pamela Hart, Vice-Principal (on leave)
 - Kyla Kennedy, Parent Member
 - Veronique Forbes-Mellis, Parent Member
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Agenda

1. **Land Acknowledgement** – Presented by Colleen Kelsey.



2. **Welcome & Introductions** – All attendees introduced themselves.

3. **Approval of Agenda and Previous Minutes:**

- Motion to approve the agenda: *Moved by Katie, seconded by Sylvie.*
CARRIED.
 - Motion to approve the minutes from September 25, 2024: *Moved by Maly, seconded by Sylvie.* **CARRIED.**
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Discussion Items

1. **Process Updates:**

- School Council meetings are required by the school board to be hybrid.
- Annual report to be submitted by September 30. Sylvie will draft the report with Stacey and send it to Colleen for review.
- Volunteers to the school must complete a Vulnerable Sector Check.

2. **School Council Documentation:**

- Minutes will be public and posted on the school website once approved.
- Council documentation will be stored on the Teams site created by Maly.

3. **Parent Engagement Initiatives:**

- Explore social media platforms (e.g., Facebook, Instagram) for engagement, pending TVDSB approval for Instagram.
- A parent survey can be explored to gather feedback on preferred communication methods.
 - Opportunity to collaborate with Fanshawe research students to conduct research and evaluation.
 - Build a volunteer database.
- ACTION: Colleen, Katie, Maly & Jannelle to meet before the next council meeting to determine some goals and action and present at the next meeting.

4. **Fundraising Subcommittee Update (November 7 Meeting) (Amber Giffen):**

The fundraising committee identified some short term and long term goals.

- **Short-Term Goals:**
 - “Je Parle Wolf” plushies – Pricing TBD.



- Stage AV/lights – Awaiting quote.
- Musical Instrument repair - Awaiting quote
- Recorders (instrument)
- Line painting refresh in the yard
- **Long-Term Goals:**
 - Second gaga ball pit – Approx. \$5,000.
 - Continued fundraising for outdoor equipment maintenance and upgrades.

Approval of \$1,089.04 for “Je Parle Francais” plushies (*Moved by Colleen, seconded by Katie*). **CARRIED**

Treasurer’s Report (Erma Schadenberg) (See detailed financial report)

- **Fundraising Totals (as of November 18):**
 - Big Box of Cards: \$277.60
 - Farm Fresh Veggies: \$308.10
 - Fudge Fundraiser: \$56.18 (in process)
 - Popcorn Sales: \$853.43 (monthly)
 - **Subtotal:** \$1,495.31
- **Account Balances:**
 - School Council Account: \$2,825.82
 - Hungry Wolves Account: \$12,369.28
 - **Closing Balance:** \$16,690.41

Concerns were raised about improving communication regarding fundraising efforts and where funds are allocated.

ACTION: Fundraising proceeds must align with designated purposes. The council will find better ways to communicate our fundraising goals and outcomes.

Principal’s Update (Sylvie Blais)

1. **Staffing:**
 - Mme. Hart is on leave; Mme. Pinder is filling in as Acting Vice-Principal.



2. Finance:

- Fundraising proceeds must align with designated purposes.
- Current needs: musical instrument repair, recorders, outdoor equipment, stage sound system, etc.

3. Parent Grants:

- Potential for "Investing in Children" grants to fund family literacy nights. There are two options: Robert Munsch and Exploring the enchanted forest.
- Motion to approve Sylvie to pursue "Investing in Children" grant for exploring the enchanted forest in April/May (*Moved by Amber, seconded by Janelle*). **CARRIED**

4. Student Updates:

- EQAO: Grade 3 students performed above board and provincial averages in all areas.
 1. This is a great success considering grades 1-3 only receive 60 minutes of English and they write math in French.
- Grade 6 are meeting most of the board and provincial averages aside from math. This we want to do better in.
- Extracurriculars: Spring show ("High School Musical Jr."), basketball teams, LEGO Spike robotics for STEM.
- Monthly assemblies continue to focus on building global citizenship through their "Wolf paw".

5. Other Highlights:

- Eco Club engages in monthly yard clean-ups.
- Primary concert preparations have started, scheduled for December 17.

Next Meetings

- January 21, 2025 (6:00–7:00 PM, hybrid format)
- April 15, 2025
- June 3, 2025