



School Council Meeting Minutes

Council Members

Chair:	Robert Ayres	Principal:	Sylvie Blais
Vice-Chair:	Vacant	Vice-Principal:	Ingrid Hollander
Secretary:	Jenny Ingrey		
Treasurer:	Amber Giffen, Jannelle Yoon		
Parent Members:	Hakan Karatas		
Members:	Julia Lantos, Cara McCrae		

Meeting Date:	Monday, November 1, 2021
Meeting Time:	6:00pm – 7:00pm
Meeting Location:	Online Teams Meeting

minutes

Call to order at 6:02 pm

Welcome and Attendance (5 minutes)

All present: Robert Ayres, Sylvie Blais, Julia Lantos, Jenny Ingrey, Jannelle Yoon, Hakan Karatas, Amber Giffen

Old business / updates:

- Formal review and approval of June Meeting Minutes: approved
- Review and Approval of previous meeting (October) minutes: approved
- Review and Approval of this meeting's agenda: Jannelle asks about Vice-Chair vacancy? Wants to nominate Hakan Karatas; he's ok with it; just a point of clarification...; Jannelle moves to submit nominee of Hakan Karatas for Vice-chair; all in favor; motion carried to move from parent rep to vice chair
- Declaration of any conflicts of interest: no.

Reports:

- Principal's Report:
 - S. Blais: being new to LAFIPS, just adopted dress code: should be about how parents give input and the school admin/staff helps to ensure is implemented; discussion with I Hollander (VP): here to serve the community and will go with what School Council decides in unison; they will not weigh in on the decisions; diverse group of parents, but small number; may want to put this out to a larger group of people
 - Appreciation: to parents because you send to school 'most amazing group of students'...; shared a couple of stories about students; one where two intermediate students offered math problems in the front area of the school and worked on the whiteboard to make it a Math board (the kids are initiating these ideas); kindergarten not immersion yet but goal is to address our teachers in French to encourage French



Louise Arbour French Immersion Public School
Minutes School Council 2021/22

speaking: we hope the kindergarten team gets on board and they all say 'bonjour!
Comment ca va?'

- Inclusion: S. Earls (Admin Secretary) and the Safe and Inclusive School Plan: to ensure everyone saw themselves in the school; Google doc sent out to ask about culture, celebrations, which were compiled to provide a full list of celebrations and what represented them. Coming up is Diwali; S. Earls asks for help from parent community on FB group where volunteers from temple are decorating the school office and making a piece of artwork under the stairs; sharing youtube videos in classes as well as other materials
- SISP Update: School and Inclusive School Plan: I Hollander to chair the committee and school team and reaching out to parent team to meet again to review and update the SISP. And to figure out how to assess if we are meeting
- Nov 5 progress reports
- Nov 11 Remembrance Day
- Nov 20 Trans Day of Remembrance
- Spirit days to be reduced: going to once a month to alleviate stress for families (see dates in calendar)
- Treasurer's Report: A Giffen: \$10,000 coming in and two produce expresses going out; S Earls will be cashing out; \$378.15 in September; \$989.78 came today; balance sheet should be circulated throughout School Council; mostly breakfast program is most active; will be more active once fundraising; latest version will be circulated
- Home and School Representative's Report: A Giffen: talked about fundraising; problems getting into bank to change over hands; discussion over paying fees; brainstorming fundraising;
- Chairman's Report: not much to report this month; next meeting more to add

New Business

- Review approval of Council By-Laws: R Ayres created from scratch last year; change year this year is new council and new dates; no comments or concerns? Motion to approve: Jannelle Yoon; A Giffen to second; all in favor? Yes.
- Review of Student Dress Code: will come back to the dress code;
 - See the marked up copy from J Ingrey (sent to R A)
 - Last year not reviewed because of timing; should be annual review, but not last year;
 - J Ingrey showed suggestions on the dress code with details about spelling out what it means to be avoid clothing that is offensive to include racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, Islamophobia, etc.;
 - Try today to discuss, ask questions, prepare a draft policy for next meeting and circulate to parents and students for approval;
 - K Dubinski, parent: started when Grade 1 student felt not able to wear spaghetti straps; girls getting pulled out of class for wearing crop tops; a dress code should take subjectivity out and take guesswork out; shoulders covered, pants a certain length, why? If this is about empowering kids, then Hamilton school board writes in what you can do, not what you cannot do...; kids need to be consulted annually
 - S. Blais loves that the reframing is about what kids can do, not what they cannot do...
 - K. D. to add what teachers will do if 'violations'
 - S Blais to emphasize that this is not about who you are as a person, not to be punitive, to show value in each child
 - K. Dubinski: asks about Karin Raman, School Trustee, working on dress codes at board level Equity and Inclusion Committee who are already discussing the Hamilton-



Louise Arbour French Immersion Public School
Minutes School Council 2021/22

Wentworth; to reach out to them to see if that is already being done; S Blais will reach out to see

- Deadline is up to us; should we wait or draft our own? We will do a draft: send this out to our school community and/or decide to send to SISP with the first draft and the revised draft; J Ingrey to write draft policy for first iteration and send to School Council by next meeting; suggests also that the draft policy with the original policy be sent to SISP for them to review even if just a productive exercise
- Review of previous year's annual report: nothing exciting there but need to be submitted by S Blais; no concerns with that. Just a review and making Council aware of it; if we do get to do fundraising to it, that will be part of it
- Recommendation to strike a fundraising committee (sub-committee; no need for motions to strike this committee):
 - R Ayres: to take burden off full council meetings
 - To handle any fundraising that may come up including the new School sign: we need a proposal to get approval from the board to get started fundraising
 - Note: it is generally recommended to have committees wherever possible and not have these items handled by council as a whole (All though all of council may participate in the committee)
 - Any objections to striking a committee? No.
 - RA will start the committee; anyone else? Jannelle Yoon also;
- Recommendation that the committee review the application to TVDSB re fundraising for the school Sign;
 - S. Blais: Will be a multi-year fundraising proposal because of the cost of the sign; not to be making money as a school council; need to also work with Home and School so we coordinate timelines so that we don't double up on asks going out to community
 - \$20 - \$25 grand proposal for school sign; will be circulated soon
- Parent volunteers for parking lot supervision, beginning and end of day
 - Is this an option? Yes. We can have volunteers now and we need them
 - J. Yoon: too much of a burden for school admin alone; how do we communicate to parents that we need volunteers? And do we need training to provide to them?
 - S Blais: volunteers need to be double vaxxed, and have a police check; need them to come in and make sure no one is parking in the fire zone; and to wear a vest; Council could put out in Messenger to recruit; request should come from Council;
 - H. Karatas: agrees that the parking is an issue; need to communicate this to a broader audience
 - Need to check if they do need a police check and double vax even if outside



Louise Arbour French Immersion Public School
Minutes School Council 2021/22

- J Yoon and H Karatas to write the wording and send it out;
- School Council Website updates
 - Frequency and process for getting updates completed; need to figure out how to get that updated between S Blais and R Ayres
- Kindergarten area supervision at drop off and at recess: J Yoon: recess incidents to other children re: physical altercations; do we need more supervision? These incidents not witnessed by teachers; parents have felt they had to intervene;
 - S Blais indicates that they have more supervision/higher ratio than recommended by Ministry of Ed, Ontario; in morning drop-off, meeting ratios; collective agreements are capped at 80 minutes supervision/10 day cycle; cannot be assigned more; need to use staff provided; secondly, ECEs are used but within their workday get half hour unpaid lunch and 2 15 minute paid break; same for EAs; everyone is maxed out in minutes; even VP and Principal also maxed out; but talking about sight lines and restricting Kindergarteners from going behind the shed or the slope; being able to run; maybe parent volunteers could do this (with police checks and double vaxxed attestations); better that parents can come in; will the board address re: volunteer opening up;
 - J Ingrey: suggested grades 7 and 8 students to be helpers but S Blais clarifies we cannot mix the cohorts; and self-regulation is part of the four Kindergarten frames already

Questions from the Community:

- Will there be school pictures taken this year? Yes; secondary photos and grade 8 grad; next step will be opening up to elementary; soon but not yet
- Will there be LAFIPS spirit wear offered again this year: Yes; email just came out
- AG: offers to be the conduit between Home and School and School Council

Closing:

- Next Meeting: Monday, December 13, 2021
- Adjournment: H Karatas moves to adjourn; second J Yoon; meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm