

Ecole Rideau Public School  
Parent Advisory Council Meeting  
October 20, 2022

6:30PM Welcome and introductions

6:35PM Co-Chair Remarks

6:40PM Approval of minutes from Jun 20, 2019, Adoption of the agenda

6:45Pm Principals report, Vice Principals reports and Teacher Representative report

**7:00PM Reports**

Lunch Program

Treasurer's

Fundraising

PIC report

Environmental

**7:20 Old business**

7:25PM New business

8:00PM Adjourn

**Meeting minutes**

**Attendance:** Dawn Duffenais, Valerie Arsenault, Sarah Phinney, Geoff Dowling, Christian Muise, Lindsay VanZuylen, Sachil Singh, Scarlett Flores-Singh, Tracy Wallis, Wanda Praamsma, Shereen amiri, Tamine's Parents, Phoebe Cohoe.

**Welcome and introductions**

**Co-chair remarks-** None

Approval of minutes- minutes had not been distributed as a result they could not be approved.

**Additions for agenda-**request to add virtual tutoring.

**Principals report-**Valery Arsenault

1] Valerie opened the meeting with the update with regards to the survey about the congestion around the school and traffic. The following is a summary of suggestions.

A. Send a reminder in the newsletter reminding parents of yard duty times, vigilance with driving around the school, including slowing down and reminding parents to walk their kids as much as possible.

- B. It was suggested that the school giving the location to parents of where they can park.
- C. Better snow removal with facility easier parking.
- D. Better busing system would assist with the congestion.
- E. Painting parking spots on the road where parents are allowed to park.
- F. Having crosswalks more visible.
- G. Having more presence of the by law officers.
- H. Installing speed bumps.

The overall results of the survey showed that 40% of children are bussed, 30% of children walk and 50% of children are driven. Given that this does not add to 100% it appears that some parents answers for dual modes of transportation.

The reasons that were given for her children being driven instead of walking were: Inaccessible parking, difficulty crossing the street, having to park in no parking areas, with people parking on both sides of Toronto Street becomes 1 lane, snow removal becomes an issue.

The reasons that were given for picking his children Instead of bussing were: Bad weather, best time to meet with the teachers, after school activities, the drive is faster than children being bussed, children have had negative experiences on the bus and the bus rides are too long.

2] Valerie reported that the color house activity would start this week with an outdoor activity where the kids would have 5 stations with games. All of these games would be collaborated games.

3] Update on construction work in the gym. Valerie reports that she hopes that the Gym will return to its use as soon as possible. Apparently no work has been done over this past week as all of the workers being sick. Valerie is hopeful that we would have the gym back in the next few weeks.

4] Reminder that Monday is a PA day. While children are off the staff will be focusing on review of marginalized children. There will be a focus on review of which children at the school should be reaching out to. This comes on the heels of the new policy on human rights.

5] The grade 3 classes are starting to participate in swim to survive. Valerie attempted to get a grade 4 and 5 classes (who missed out as a result of COVID) to participate but unfortunately there is not enough physical space.

6] Halloween-there was a debate about Halloween and whether it should be a black-and-white day or costumes. The results were mixed and it was decided that costumes were allowed to be worn as long as there was no full face mask. All the children will have a Halloween parade throughout the school.

7] There will be some changes in staffing as Mme Kozo has left for maternity leave and will be replaced by Mme Conrad. Mme Erin has also obtained a full-time EA position and they have posted for the Kinder planning position.

8] Picture days on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 25 and 26th

**Vice Principals report**-none

**Teachers report**-none

**Reports:**

**Lunch program: None**

Thursdays.

**Treasurer:**

1. Valerie reported that there is approximately \$12,000 in the parent council account.
2. There is 1 last payment due for the play structure and the amount of \$5291.14.
3. Valerie also wanted to know who would be signing for the Nevada account as it requires a second signature. Last year it used to be the previous principal (Greg Seiveright), but no one is sure why this was, or if there was a need for it to be a school staff. This was deferred until the next meeting.

**Fundraising**-none

**PIC report**-none

**Environmental**-none

**Old business**-none

**New business**-

**Virtual tutoring**—given that most children at Rideau do not receive homework they have no means to participate in the virtual tutoring that is being offered by the Limestone district school board. There was a question posed, if children could get some type of work so they could participate in this. Valerie reports that the other issue is the virtual tutoring is only being offered in English. As a result the only subject that the children can participate in is math. She has approached the school board to see if there is a way to offer it in French.

There was a question about emails not getting to some parent council members and this will be reviewed.

Next meeting: November 14, 2022

Adjourned at 6:56 PM

