

Parent Council Meeting Minutes  
December 5, 2024

In person: Mme Arsenault, Mme Kennedy, Teena, Alicia, Mme Carlone, Rebecca, Patty, Christian, Ally, Paul, Cat

Virtual attendees:

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of today's agenda and last meeting minutes

Approved

Chair Report

- a. Many things in the works - cheese sale ends tonight, gift card fundraiser, pewter ornaments

Principal Report

- a. Last PA Day: carousel of presentations in the morning on Executive Functioning, Universal Design for Learning, and Students' Mental Health and Well-Being. It was followed with a board directed math presentation of ministry initiatives, board expectations and digital tools for math. In the afternoon, we had another math session grouped by divisions (primary, secondary).
  - i. Online math resources available:
    - All classes have access to Knowledge Hook - can also be used at school - targets skills in certain areas and progress management
    - Math-Up - follows curriculum - currently have 11 licenses, good for 10 years.
- b. SAP check-in – The board is asking for a December check-in on our Student Achievement Plan, qualitative data and quantitative data. (number of teachers instructing literacy with a 30-minute focus on explicit instruction of phonemic awareness, 15 minute of math fluency daily – based on specific skills, etc.)
- c. Staffing – Mme Morawiec is back, Mme Rea is back, Mme Dusharm should be back next week.
- d. Committees – Rideau 100 is meeting right after this meeting. No update.
- e. Budget – In our board funds (money from the ministry), we have almost spent all of our surplus funds from the COVID years which makes this year's school budget a little tighter, we are spending a lot of money on special education items

	<p>(noise canceling headphones, chewlery, pencil grips, special seating tools, equipment for the sensory room, etc.), photocopies, instructional material, staff release for PD and technology (not spent yet). In our non-board funds (school-generated money) most of our expenses are related to consumables for teachers (150\$) per staff and to subsidize field trips (buses are very expensive); the only source of revenue at this time is hot lunches which makes around 600\$ per month.</p> <p>f. Play Day – It was a great success, student council did a fantastic job leading the activities and students responded well.</p> <p>g. Sand box – If someone with carpentry expertise can help write the proposal, we could submit that to the board before the break.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion around having high school students at LaSalle or KSS build this - Rebecca to reach out to KSS</li> </ul> <p>h. Clothes (L&amp;F) rack proposal – Wondering if any parent with carpentry experience could help with this.</p> <p>i. Also - Kinder teachers noting that the yard gets no shade-long-term solution is a retractable awning but the wall will be repaired at some point - could use temporary tents like the ones used on sports days but will need to be secured.</p>
<p>Teacher's Report</p>	<p>a. Many classes going skating</p> <p>b. Queen's engineering coming weekly to work with girls gr 4-6 - girls in STEM</p> <p>c. Kinders running a whole month of activities - some classes</p> <p>d. Lego robotics has started for grades 4-6</p> <p>e. Jingle bell walk next week</p> <p>f. Sewing class a success</p> <p>g. Some requests - running club - rideau runners CC in fall and RR in spring with over 100 kids participating - they lend out jerseys in the beginning but are not receiving them all back - would parent council be willing to purchase 12 jerseys?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If it were a vest/pinny rather than a shirt, would it be more likely to be returned?</li> <li>• Numbered pinnies would be trackable</li> <li>• Could all sports transition to one kind of pinny?</li> <li>• Mme Carlone to get the price for jerseys.</li> </ul>

	<p>h. Staff would like to run an arts day for the whole school - need artists, dancers, music, etc who would be willing to come in and run a workshop - something to bring the school together</p>
<p>Fundraising Report</p>	<p>a. Cheese sale - Teena and Rebecca will pick up - depending on how large the order is some kids can take it home, other families will need to pick up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Send out a statement saying if you ordered a larger box come and pick up based on the order information.</li> </ul> <p>b. Gift cards - Rebecca will add Val or Christine as another administrator.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Used as a budgeting tool or a way to direct some of the household money being spent anyway toward the school, eg. if you know you spend \$500 on groceries each month, buy a gift card and you will still get \$500 for groceries, but a percentage will go to the school.</li> <li>● Anywhere from 2-12% and there are promos every month where some cards will provide more money back to the school.</li> <li>● Cannot go home with kids - need to be signed off by the parents - this is rather than having people pay for their own shipping.</li> <li>● Three ways to pay - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. if paid by credit, then 2.5% goes to the company for credit costs.</li> <li>ii. Pay through an account - needs to be in the account 4 days before the closing date.</li> <li>iii. EFT/direct withdrawal - provide banking information and funds are removed automatically.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Plan is to have them handed out from the office. Parent council members could hand out but should have at least two people present for accountability. Kate has offered to help with this if other members can be present.</li> </ul>
<p>Treasurer's Report</p>	<p>Approx 16,000 available - budget reviewed.</p>
<p>Events</p>	<p>a. Glow dance 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Thursday before the pa day on March 31st - arts day plus glow dance party - theme could be 100 years in the future.</li> <li>● May align with student council plan to have kids dress like 100 years in the future as a spirit day</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Suggestion to have it in the afternoon rather than after school - this makes it accessible for students out of town and for students who do not wish to dance.</li> <li>● Parent council to purchase glow sticks</li> <li>● How much money would need to be spent on glow sticks? Alicia to follow-up.</li> </ul> <p>b. Spring market sale</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A vendor sale in the gym - local vendors buy a table for \$35, then sell their items - discount if related to a student (eg. \$25). Could also ask for a sliding scale percentage of sales.</li> <li>● A couple of booths for kids to sell things themselves.</li> <li>● Connect with schools who already do this and see how they do it - Rebecca knows people - need to strike a subcommittee for this - so far Alicia and Rebecca.</li> <li>● Toward end of March or do it late April/May and sell gardening/planting supplies - or Mother's Day?</li> <li>● If we have date and rough idea of table cost, could give this to vendors at craft sales over the holidays to drum up interest.</li> </ul>
Discussion	<p>a. Pewter ornaments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Contest winners are in! 200+ ornaments purchased so far. December 12th is the closing date.</li> <li>● Folks without kids at Rideau want to buy them and Downtown Kingston want to buy them.</li> <li>● On December 13th see how many we have sold then decide how many can be sold outside of School Day.</li> <li>● There were 20 extras - 3 will be given to the prize-winners already and Val to select 17 names of families who have not ordered ornaments who may like to receive them.</li> </ul> <p>b. Student-led Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mme Carlone sent a survey for staff</li> </ul> <p>c. Teacher-led school fundraiser</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Kingston Frontenacs tickets for February 22nd game - to be sold in January with a portion of proceeds going to the school.</li> </ul> <p>d. Can we organize a potluck or a day to celebrate the wonderful staff at Rideau?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In the new year to plan a potluck or similar.</li> </ul>
Committee Updates	<p>a. Library Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No updates - meeting moved to next week</li> </ul> <p>b. Lost &amp; Found → Once Upon a Child</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Volunteer has offered to take all L&amp;F items to Once Upon a Child - the money earned would go back to the school for the library project.</li><li>c. Board Game Library (Ali &amp; Christian)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Ally can get them at cost</li><li>● Have a list - need to vet it, decide if they need more than one</li><li>● There are also relationships with distributors who may be able to donate games - YES - can create a board game library or use as prizes etc in the future</li><li>● Can clear out the staff room and create a board game library - can be signed out</li><li>● Need to decide budget for board game library.</li></ul></li></ul>
Adjournment	Next meeting January 13th at 3:45pm