



School Council Meeting Minutes

Timberlea Public School

A great place to grow and learn

October 19, 2021

Virtual Meeting Attendees

Chair Carla Seguin, Vice Chair Bobby Volk, Secretary Phyllis Pitura, Principal Waleed Najmeddine, Teacher Rep Heather Fisher, Hope Martin, Carolyn Browne, Terri Lee Hurley, Candis Kish, Melanie Fost, Kelly Koban, Shauna Bulbeck, Kelly Hansen

1. Call to order 6:30pm, Greetings and additions to Agenda
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes May 19, 2021 Consensus Reached
3. Timberlea School Parent Association Update and Fundraising Goals - Phyllis and Hope
Please meet our new executive for the school year - President Hope Martin, Vice President Terri Lee Hurley, Secretary Carolyn Browne, Treasurer Phyllis Pitura. We still have a position of Casino chair or coordinator available. Current initiatives on going are the Dielemans christmas catalogue so far \$2420.15, and upcoming Growing Smiles Winter Wreaths and Poinsettia Drive, We just finished off a Jungle affiliate fundraiser which helps build a back up account to pay to top up growing smile orders. When an order is made with growing smiles we are obligated to buy fast to fill the truck space so sometimes 3 or 4 items are added to our order that we end up being able to offset the purchase of with the jungle affiliate income these then can be sold or raffled or given as gifts to our fabulous teaching staff and office staff. Our only goal currently is to pay off in full our original pledge to MicroSociety made in 2018 when the program was purchased. We still have approximately 2400.00 and change to repay on that initiative. Looking for outdoor learning and outdoor space and indoor meeting
4. Indigenous Studies as a replacement for French feedback Waleed- see in principal's report point 7
5. Principal's Report

Principal's Report

Tuesday Oct. 19, 2021

Thank you to TSPA members from this last years for getting our association back in good standing with Corporate Registries and AGLC

1. COVID Update

- No new cases among students/staff since Oct. 14
- Status: Alert 5-9 cases
- **Carla request for the specific to the classes to be listed when notice is sent out of close contact**

2. Enrollment and Staffing

- ECDP - gr. 6 → 225
- Review of EA allotment from Inclusive Education Dept. - Student Needs assessments



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- School budget vs Inclusive Ed. Dept. budget
- **There is an ongoing review the needs of students that have special needs trying to keep our Ea's we have because the the students they were allotted to help are no longer with us**
- **Carla S - asked if there is a way to encourage the Division to keep supports in place while evaluations are going on as it is so difficult to hire new people. Parents are encouraged to write the Division.**
- **Hope M - wanting to know if fully vaccinated parents will be able to volunteer in some way- Waleed not yet; waiting for division to allow parent volunteers in the school**
- **Kelly M - Encourage parents to reach out to our school boards trustees to say we need more support in classrooms.**

3. Terry Fox Fundraising - \$3281 Congrats to our School Community for being a model of generosity.

4. Walk for Wenjack - Wed. Oct. 20 @ 1:00 p.m. this is Legacy Week

- Div 1 and Div 2 [routes](#)
- Students walk with classmates/staff only

5. Extracurricular

- Art Clubs? (Mrs. Fisher) **Grade 1 art club starting in November. Short 3 to 4 week sessions going to try to get through all the grades**
- Knitting/Crochet (Ms. Skinner) - Grade 6 (18 students) **9 students one week and 9 students the following week**
- **Carla asked about a Gr 3 student starting a dance club. Waleed shared a Grade 3 student approached him about wanting the talent show to come back, and it could be done virtually, as well as starting a dance club. She would like to see a dance club started, the student has approached Ms.Morris about doing this and they are working together to make it happen with the grade 3's. Waleed said if students come forward with Club ideas, the school will try to make it happen.**
- **Kelly will be looking into supporting the start up of a chess club with her child.**

6. MicroSociety

- PM, DPM, MP's elected
- First parliamentary session on Thu. Oct. 21
 - Learning roles of government, MP's, keeping minutes, etc.
- Ventures → hiring managers/staff, bank loan/business license applications, etc

7. French/Indigenous Studies

- [Parent survey results to date](#) survey open to Sun. Oct. 24
- Gr. 4-6 student straw poll French (32), Indigenous Studies (43) ... 11 students absent
- Bring results to staff to discuss
- **A lot of emphasis on the experiences of the indigenous studies instead of french, and how it would go over with our school community.**
 - **Melanie Fost is wondering if there's a way to do both? Waleed feels it might be better to dedicate a scheduled time to it**
 - **Kelly H - (from chat dialogue) Just wanted to say how much I appreciate you bringing this forward. It's great to see the interest in adapting our approach to educating kids. I found that the limited time in French studies does not provide a**



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benefit that would outweigh that of the opportunity to learn alongside much of the Country

- Bobby Volk is support of both, Phyllis in support of both wanting to know if there is more funding available through either program or more cost to our school to participate in either program,
- Kelly K - What are the limitations of teaching a second language at this grade level? Carla doesn't see why it has to be an either or, she is appreciative of how indigenous studies is already interlaced in the curriculum and would be sad to see French completely off the table

Important dates

- Wed. Oct. 20 - Walk for Wenjack @ 1:00 p.m.
- Wed. Oct. 27 - PTI's 3:30-6:30 p.m.
- Thu. Oct. 28 - PTI's 5:00-8:00 p.m.
- Fri. Oct. 29 - Teacher Institute Day (no classes)
- Mon. Nov. 1 - All Saints Day (Christianity)
- Wed. Nov. 3 - PTI's (ECDP)
- Thu. Nov. 4 - Diwali (Hinduism); PTI's (ECDP)
- Sun. Nov. 7 - Daylight Savings Time ends (clocks back 1 hr.)
- Wed. Nov. 10 - Remembrance Day assembly
- Thu. Nov. 11 - Remembrance Day (no school)
- Fri. Nov. 12 - Day in Lieu for PTI's (no school)
- Fri. Dec. 3 - PL Friday (no classes)

6. Outdoor Learning update - Carla

We did receive funding towards outdoor learning. Carla and Ms Elly met to brainstorm committee members and felt it was important to have the Christian School represented. They have agreed to come on board, so the Steering Committee will be Parents and staff from both schools. A larger group of stakeholders have been identified and will be contacted as needed. We have a rep from the RMWB already. Other groups include the Friendship Centre, Communities in Bloom, Agriculture in the Classroom, and neighbourhood groups.

Now that the Steering Committee has all been identified, they are trying to schedule a first meeting

7. Substitute Teacher/ Ea Recruitment - Carla

There is a lot of subs being used currently and we realize the pool isn't very big in our community, is there anything we can do to help with recruitment for teachers and EAs?

Waleed shared that casual EA's are a pool of people. For substitute teachers, they have to have a few more qualifications. We have special permission to have TAS (Teaching Assistant Supervisors) that can have any kind of post Degree. Priority for calling subs goes first to people with a teaching degree, than any degree, that individuals with experience working with kids.



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Waleed will look into hiring processes/qualifications and share the info with Council, Carla will distribute.

Kelly Hansen - I wonder if there is some communication that we might provide to all the kids/parents to remind them of best practices for welcoming substitutes into the classroom. Change is not always easy for kiddos but if we share the same key messages/guidance it can sometimes help. Also a note of thanks, the sub in grade 5 has been so wonderful from my child's perspective.

Carla to follow up on Kelly's suggestion.

Carla shared it would be helpful to know when a teacher is going to be away and for how long as it helps to prepare the kids for school and manage them at home (ie the child comes home really upset after school, much later you find out its because the class was really loud and there was a sub.

Candis - feeling a lack of communication with 1 class and more communication with her other child's class as to when a teacher will be absent or needing extra supports sent home on how to study for certain things.

Kelly K - overall requesting the need for more information shared with us. We as parents want our kids to succeed and we are all here interested in how that works and moves forward.

Waleed will follow up with staff to encourage them to communicate when they will be out of the class and for how long.

8. Next Meeting tuesday November 16 th 6:30 pm
9. Adjournment 7:37