

Connaught School Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 19, 2022

	<i>Item</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	
1	Opening Remarks The meeting was convened at 7:03pm and began with a land acknowledgement. The April Agenda was approved as were the December, February and March Minutes.	Chair/Vice Chair	
2	Principal's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">● COVID-update - mask mandate has been reinstated in OCDSB schools and there has been a thoughtful and gradual process of reintroducing things: intramurals, student lunch monitors, kindergarten helpers, field trips, leaving ceremony preparations● Operations-update - Spring planning has begun with assignment of teachers to classes for next year and potential hiring of staff.● Staff Professional Development continues with Aspen training, MATH (the Thinking Classroom) and foundational literacy based on the Right to Read report which was recently released● Library Learning Commons - there was a great initial meeting with E. Eagen stepping up to assist● Other - An update on health exemptions and the school climate survey was also provided. Spring-fire drills have not yet taken place and will be scheduled around EQAO	Principal	
3	Teachers' Report An update on various activities in the classroom was provided by Michelle. Certain volunteers are coming into the school. STEM activities, garden tower, bell-playing for music class and participation in Learning Commons planning. There have been visits this past month to the Parkdale Food Center for solutionary learning to build relationship and provide service for our neighbours with an aim of inspiring poetry/writing activities.	Teacher Representative	

	<p>A brief update on gardening was also provided.</p> <p>Compost is being offered by a private group, if not readily available we can order \$100 worth to boost the soil.</p>		
4	<p>Treasurer's Report & Fundraising Update</p> <p>March and April were big months financially. We didn't raise as much this year as last with the Easter Breakfast but we netted \$630. Spiritwear totals were revised downwards due to miscommunication with the vendor. Final review is \$972.90 which includes donations that will be carried forward for next year. Spiritwear funds have not come in yet.</p> <p>The Pizza Day Program is back as of two weeks ago and there will be six more before year end. \$240 dollars was raised and this week's pizza day order is even larger. The proceeds will go to the Learning Commons. This year, there are more students looking to participate in complementary slices (up from 3 to 27 students) so direct funding has been provided by parents and grandparents to Sponsor a Slice. From next year pricing will go up to \$2.50 instead of \$2.25 a slice and Sponsor a Slice donation functionality will be included as an option in Hot Lunches.</p> <p>Plantables - we have now met the \$300 threshold for a free garden kit from Plantables for the school. We are aiming for \$500 to be raised but its not clear if we will meet this this year.</p> <p>ChaptersIndigo - \$25 last month and another \$20 so far this month. The proceeds will also go to the Learning Commons.</p> <p>Direct donation of \$100 from student's grandparents</p> <p>Spending</p> <p>Committed spending has not changed since the last update. The vast majority of funds are intended for the Learning Commons Initiative (\$2k) and outdoor chalkboard 20 iPad dongles have been delivered.</p>	Treasurer	
6	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Commons Project. A meeting was had last week in the space to work out what the initiative entails and to discuss plans for the 	Chair	

	<p>Learning Commons as well as feedback from the kids on what they would love to see for the space (eg. zones to be used for different purposes such as circle time or quiet time). Pictures of current library space have been uploaded to the website.</p> <p>The project will be undertaken in phases with Phase 1 involving decisions around seating. And blinds will be replaced within 8 months. Circulation desk and carpeting will be replaced this summer. First phase anticipated to be \$5,000.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Garden Group Committee - discussion last week on front beds with aim to find shrubs to fill the space. Discussion was had on creative sourcing of perennials that will bloom in the fall (eg. Black-Eyed Susans) and also Spring blooms. Work on the bed under the mural has also taken place and bulbs are already starting to come out. Mid-May planting is coming up. ● Late Spring Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lawn It For Connaught planning is underway. There was a brief meeting earlier today to assist. ○ End of Year BBQ - in the planning stage with 3 volunteers so far. A few vendors have been contacted (eg. Merry Dairy; coffee supplier at Parkdale Market; Hot 89.9). Would be useful to touch base with whoever organised the BBQ in previous years. Kerry will provide spreadsheet with purchasing details from previous years. ● Yard Sweeping - Bark and gravel are making the yard a bit messy right now however custodial staff didn't really want support in sweeping the last year but Kim will enquire for this year. 		
7	<p>Upcoming Dates Reminder</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Next meeting - May 17, 2022 <p>The meeting was concluded at 7:43pm.</p>	Chair	