

Connaught School Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 20, 2022

Virtual via Google Meet and in-person at Connaught School in the Library

Executive in attendance: Julie Mayrand (Chair), Zoe Lomer (Vice-Chair) Gisèle Salazar (Secretary) , Andrea Villeneuve (Treasurer),

Principal: Kim Simpson; Vice-Principal: Minou Morley; Teacher's Representative: Louisa Battistelli

Quorum: 15 attendees altogether.

<i>Agenda Item</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
<p>The inaugural school council meeting for the 2022-23 school year was convened at 7:04pm. After a land acknowledgement, the June Minutes and the September Agenda were approved followed by a round-house of introductions of all attendees in person and online.</p>	Chair
<p>Elections</p> <p>The following candidates for the following executive roles were approved for the 2022-23 school year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chair - Julie Mayrand ● Vice-Chair - Zoe Lomer ● Treasurer – Andrea Villeneuve ● Secretary – Gisele Salazar ● Teacher Rep -a variety of Connaught teachers will share this role which Michelle Richardson filled over the years. <p>All positions were approved by acclamation.</p>	All
<p>Principal's Report</p> <p>Principal Kim started with a thank you to the executive for all of their hard work and gave a special mention to staff, students and families for their support of new routines and for everyone's patience, flexibility, perseverance, and positivity.</p> <p>Enrollment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 374 students in person ● 17 homerooms (same number as last year) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3 kinders (Foxes, Caribous, Cardinals) ○ 1 semi-DD specialized class (R14) ○ R12, R23, R34, R56 (English) ○ EF1A, EF1B, EF2A, EF23A, EF3A, EF4A, EF45A, EF56A, EF6A (Early French Immersion) 	Principal

Transportation - Province-wide shortage of drivers continues

First Assembly - Friday, September 9 - Welcome back - introduced each class and all of our staff/ favourite book

Meet the Staff event - will be held on Tuesday, September 27 from 4 to 6 pm with more details to follow from each teacher.

Learning and Growing

- Literacy - we are continuing our work in this area across all grades based on the Right to Read inquiry and the latest research into reading education
 - Recognition that literacy is a basic and essential human right
 - Dr. Hollis Scarborough - Scarborough Reading Rope - essential components that lead to skilled reading (elements from both language comprehension and word recognition; intertwined like the strands of a rope)
 - Recognition that many students require systematic, explicit reading instruction to unlock the key to decoding
 - Foundational Literacy (K-2) - shift in assessment tools and pedagogical practices that correspond with targeted skills
 - support teacher capacity and student success

Snack Program (in partnership with Ottawa Network for Education (ONFE))

- Classroom bin model
- Non-stigmatizing and does not single out or turn away students
- All children have the opportunity to participate
- parents/guardians are always welcome to contribute to the program through financial contributions in the form of cheque or grocery store gift cards (Loblaws if possible)

HVAC

- Connaught has a dual filtration system
 - 1 - pleated filters - 6 of 7 units are MERV - operational since March break timeframe last year, 7th is on the list (different sizing)
 - 2 - bag system - after the MERV filters for smaller particulate
 - HEPA filters in all classrooms

Extra-curriculars and Upcoming Events

- Terry Fox Run - Friday, September 23 - assembly and run
- Cross country running practices started on Sept 15
- Girls on the Run - girls in grades 3 to 5, 4 staff supporting this initiative

Truth and Reconciliation - Orange Shirt Day - September 30 - somber day, important to respect the time and space for mourning, not a spirit day, not a day for an assembly/social media posting - intention needs to match impact

PA Day on Friday, Oct 7 - Literacy focus

<p>Stay tuned for Picture Day - originally booked for Oct 7 (prior to PA Day schedule) IEPs go home on October 17</p> <p>Connaught will be a voting site for municipal elections on October 24 and we are registered as a 'student vote' site so grades 4 to 6 will be participating so we are looking forward to that learning opportunity soon</p> <p>Q - new teachers? A - 5-10.</p> <p>Q - field trips etc? A - No green light for overnight field trips (eg. grade 6 trip)</p>	
<p>Teachers' Report</p> <p>Culture of sports is being built back up. Grade 6s hosting Terry Fox run and assembly. Donations are coming in (goal is \$1,000 and close to meeting that amount already). XC is back up running (110 kids participating). A convener for soccer are needed. Intermurals may be back on but not being promoted yet/ Grades 3-5 girls targeted Girls on the Run program to promote running (roughly 20 girls can participate). Donations will be school-wide not class-specific</p> <p>Grade 5s involved in student elections (grades 4-6 can cast a ballot)</p> <p>Looking to facilitate World Book Day (March 2nd)</p>	<p>Teacher Representative for September: Louisa Battistelli</p>
<p><u>Treasurer's Report</u></p> <p>Mabel's Labels - started with \$100 cheque for passive fund raiser.</p> <p>Pizza - \$20,000 worth of pizza sold to date. 21 students so far identified to receive free pizza through sponsor a slice donations (via online ordering option which has raised \$1,300 so far). Profit expected \$8,000 to be allocated to Library Commons</p> <p>Committed Spending</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice board and chalkboard have been committed since 2018. Kim indicated that we are around 9th in the queue for the chalkboard. Quotes are also being put together. Money has been held over for years for this initiative. • \$3500 has been put aside for yard renewal (music garden). <p>Summary of Accounts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2021: \$12,400 starting balance. By end of year our closing balance was \$18, 271. Raised \$21,643 - a large portion of this was an \$11,000 contribution from Lawn for Connaught. Overall equated to \$60 per student rather than \$15 raised per student the previous year. However we do need to spend as much money as possible in the year it was raised. Pizza day raised \$2,000 (we are set to raise 4x that much). - Chapters netted \$1,000 but has been discontinued by Chapters. 	<p>Treasurer</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We have spent \$1000 (two grants to other schools in our community) and \$1100 towards technology purchases. \$650 towards inclusive books, upgrades to nature education center and staff appreciation lunches. <p>We have 3 years worth of fundraising data but the past few years have been atypical so not so easy to extrapolate from previous years.</p>	
<p><u>Learning Commons Update</u></p> <p>\$25k was the original estimate but freight and soft furniture costs have gone up since the original quote. The original costing estimate has been revised to \$35,000. So far we have spent a little over \$15,000.</p> <p>Slide deck presentation of phased purchases. Phase 1 (eg. wobble stools, tables and chairs, mobile circulation desk) and Phase 2 (replacement bookshelves, window bench, standing desk, mobile bookdrop, book cart, music cart).Phase 3 - more modern, soft modular seating will be introduced. Some items already delivered. Expecting remainder of phase 1 and 2 purchases to be delivered in October.</p> <p>Library techs are waiting on blinds, projector and floor rugs.</p> <p>Julie will look into Best Buy technology grant for library development.</p> <p>October - the library walls will be refreshed/repainted white by custodians.</p>	
<p><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Priorities for 2022-23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Budget will be considered for October school council meeting ○ Event calendar was presented: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ October Movie Night - October 28th ■ December wreaths/multicultural potluck/winter feast - November 30th - could promote sale of wreaths at winter feast. ■ Pancake Breakfast - February 21st ■ Dance - March 3rd ■ May Movie Night - May 4th ■ Lawn it For Connaught [June *] ■ June BBQ - June 21st ○ Proposed Fundraisers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spirit wear sale at least once a year. Goal is to have it in place by November . ● Plantables ● Wreaths ● Mabel's labels ● Pizza days ● Considering soliciting donations for new playground equipment (\$100-200k) - big kids structure is nearing end of life. 	
<p><u>AOB</u></p>	<p>Chair</p>

<p>Annual report - this has been drafted and will be submitted in October.</p> <p>Principal's profile - can be resubmitted largely as in previous 2 years.</p> <p>Garden committee update was provided. Volunteers' call in October to come. New service berry tree will be planted soon. There is an old grant available for tree replacement if needed.</p>	
<p><u>Upcoming Dates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Meet the Teacher Night - 4-6pm September 27th ● Truth and Reconciliation Day - September 30th ● Picture day - October 25th. <p>Next School Council meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2022 at 7pm in person and via Google Meet.</p>	<p>Chair</p>
<p>The meeting was concluded at 8:34pm</p>	