

# Connaught School Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 17, 2023

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: Astrid Johnson (kindergarden) and Remi Lachance (Grade 6)

Number of Attendees: 9

<p>The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm. The November Minutes and the January Agenda were approved after land acknowledgement.</p>	Chair
<p><b>Principal's Report</b></p> <p>After a thank you to the teacher reps for attending the meeting, Kim provided the principal's report for January including an update on staff changes, upcoming key dates and considerations for the school. In particular::</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● PA Day on Friday - the upcoming PA day was intended for report card writing for teachers, training for other employee groups</li><li>● Time of year when we begin the process of planning for next year<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Cross-boundary transfers</li><li>○ Kindergarten information night (Feb 2) and registration</li><li>○ Middle French Immersion</li><li>○ Later we will look at class placement, staffing, etc.</li></ul></li><li>● Student Generated Funds - obligation to spend SGF on students within the time period funds were raised</li></ul>	Principal

- Operating budget - last year's carry forward received, donations to breakfast program are welcome
- NEC - idea for funding - grade 6 research project - native plants/biodiversity
- Grade 6 trip - revisions - new date (April 5) and no longer overnight due to renovation of facilities - extended day trip instead; details to follow as plans are firmed up

### QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q – any updates on attendance re: COVID?

A – attendance has been steady

Q – Breakfast programs have been overwhelmed with demand/need. How is Connaught doing?

A – Currently running a deficit. Will continue to order groceries through gift cards provided. Bin system is costly. Donations are always welcome (money donations - can order online from the supplier). Preferable over grocery cards which require Minou or someone else to go in person to the supermarket. Tax receipts available for donations over \$25.

Q - Has tricycle for Chickadees been purchased?

A - Yes, delivered and assembled and funded by HEDC.

### Teachers' Report

- **Chickadees** went swimming (first off site trip) at a specialized school. The facility sent their school bus and chickadees will continue to go every other week during Winter.
- **Kinders** - first winter concert (morning and afternoon performances) with all three classes participating. Kinders engaged in regular Rosemount library visits.
- **Grade 1**
  - Mme Paula's class - energy learning and letter program.
  - Mme Marie-Eve - going skating tomorrow at Tom Brown's arena.
- **Grade 5-6** – participated in voluntary spelling bee. Classes enjoyed the learning commons and 6 students competed against each other. Organized the holiday assembly (December 22nd) - directed dances, singalong and book presentation to leaving staff members. Going skating and cross-country skiing this winter. Lunar gateway mission related activities (eg. design

Teacher  
Representative

<p>towards STEM and use of AI related aspects for the curriculum). Space and science focus with teh grade 6.</p> <p>Learning commons - working diligently to get the space ready for classes to start exploring the new space from next week.</p> <p>Ida has been nominated for Ottawa Faces top administrator of the year award. Nominations/votes can be placed until February 15th.</p>	
<p><b><u>Treasurer's Report</u></b></p> <p><u>Fundraising</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Spirit Wear</b> - roughly \$430 in profit from the latest spiritwear sale which is less than anticipated but still a decent result. Will consider whether to skip next year. Stickers for \$2 will be available for sale at the next movie night/</li> <li>- <b>Pizza day</b> - we are not running any major fundraisers this month but continuing with pizza days. Expected to net closer to \$10,000 rather than the original anticipated \$8000.</li> <li>- <b>Purdy's chocolates</b> – nearly \$770 raised (going to Grade 6 graduation and overnight trip and other school initiatives).</li> </ul> <p><u>Committed Spending</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● \$360 - Document cameras</li> <li>● \$12,000 - soft seating for tech area of learning commons (16 week lead time)</li> <li>● \$5,000 - complementary soft seating to supplement the core set.</li> </ul> <p><u>Purchased Items</u></p> <p>A number of items have been purchased with major items including skates and new helmets.</p> <p><u>Summary of Accounts</u> – for December - we have a good amount in the bank. Considering delivery for the wreath fundraiser (ie. option to deliver to peoples' doors). Overall spending - there was a lot of movement in and out with largest outgoings being for the learning commons. Following the</p>	<p>Treasurer</p>

<p>mandate to spend as much as possible which has been raised in the year in question.</p>	
<p><b>Fundraising and Events</b></p> <p>Quick recap of initiatives from first half of 2022-23 year.</p> <p>All event-venue bookings have been approved.</p> <p>Next big event is March movie night (March 3rd date - Friday - is booked) and intention is to have a movie in the big gym and a dance party in the small gym. Hoping for disco lights and a speaker set up for small gym dance party. For food - will look into pizza for variety and perhaps can get a discount from Pizza Pizza for cheese pizza and pepperoni pizza. This movie night we will implement some new processes for ensuring equity in the ticket sales.</p> <p>Have decided not to do the pancake breakfast and no volunteers this year to support running this event. Will revisit in future years. Hasn't been run since 2019.</p> <p>Easter fundraiser - should we proceed with maple syrup - we made \$670 - each year the amount netted has been lower year on year. The seller, Wheelers requires a \$1000 minimum and is a 1.5 hour drive away. Decision made to couple Purdys easter chocolates and coffee instead of syrup this year..</p> <p>Next movie night will be May the 4th but on the 5th (Star Wars theme). Will have a 'danchelet' room for this one if the March 3rd event is successful..</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Skates.</b> Dana Guy (parent volunteer) and Julie inspected all school skates and helmets assessed for usability. All of the helmets (bar 3) had expired so new helmets were needed and purchased (cageless) and skates marked with size and sharpened. Discounted sharpening at Dulude skate shop (\$300 for 47 pairs of skates). The sharpening should last 3 or 4 years. Skate guards were searched for at all Dollaramas in the City but they were still not enough. Canadian Tire put some on sale so roughly 30 skate guards were purchased to extend the longevity of the sharpening and to aid transportation. 14 helmets were purchased. Will consider purchasing more next year based on school feedback.</li> </ul>	<p>Chair</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Water bottles</b> - had been suggested as a spirit wear item for purchase. Water bottles with Tuck Gear required a minimum order of 100. Only two were purchased by school council exec members. So order was canceled and a selection of water bottles were purchased by school council from Dollarama and Giant Tiger and branded with stickers. Bottles will be given on an 'as needed' basis for kids who need them.</li>   <li>- <b>Best Buy grant</b> - announcements will now be made in January. If we don't get the grant it will limit our ability to buy tech this year.</li>   <li>- <b>Learning Commons</b> - update from Liz Eagen on the various phases of the learning commons project. Most items should have arrived before end of the year. Discussed possibility of a tour of the learning commons to showcase it? Could also wait until next school year (eg. bookfair). No food to be permitted. Discussed whether the teacher's lounge needs any refurbishment if new furniture can be sourced at a fair price.</li> </ul>	
<p><b><u>Upcoming Dates</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Kinder info night is Feb 6th</li> <li>● School council next meeting February 21st</li> <li>● Next movie night March 3rd</li> </ul>	Chair
<p>The meeting was concluded at 8:21pm.</p>	