

# Connaught School Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 18, 2023

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

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

Principal: Kim Simpson; Teacher's Rep: Amanda O'Reilly and Narges Mousavi

Attendance: 7 attendees (in person and virtual attendees).

<i>Agenda Item</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm. The April Agenda and March Minutes were approved after land acknowledgement.	Vice-Chair
<p><b>Principal's Report</b></p> <p>Teacher reps were thanked for attending the meeting and Minou's absence noted. The principal thanked School Council for the buckets, trucks, kinder animals, headphones, splitters, etc. purchased by School Council</p> <p><b>Staffing updates:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nico (temporary chief custodian) has returned to his own school; we welcomed Josh Herrick a couple of weeks ago as our new permanent chief custodian</li><li>• Julie, office assistant is off, replaced by Isabella in the office</li><li>• Welcomed Marie-Eve back this week (gradual return); Helene continues to work afternoons for now</li><li>• Minou is retiring at the end of June!</li><li>• Welcoming back to both Pam Jones and Meghan Smith next year</li></ul> <p><b>Operations updates:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spring Planning continues - teachers/assignments, ECEs, EAs, etc.</li></ul>	Principal

- Website updates - increase perennial nature of the pages
- Health exemptions - Growth and Development Strand
- Dental screening - May 17
- EQAO and IPRCs (Identification, Placement Review Committee) coming up in May
- Watermelon Day is May 18 @ 11:30 to 12:30, raindate is May 19
- Firedrills x 3 in May/June
- Naloxone training for office and custodial staff
- Summer school opportunity (Numeracy/Literacy - grade 6+)
- Summer Programming for students in our Specialized Program Class

Library Learning Commons updates and thank yous:

- Soft seating
- Tech items
- May staff meeting (May 2) - Maker Space presentation

**Q&A**

Q – do we need community specialists in software and hardware to help staff with integration/knowledge?

A – teachers have capacity to learn but need time to digest

**Teachers' Report**

- Kids delivered food to Parkdale Food Center and learned about supporting the community
- Kinders - Ms. Finley's class collaborated with math buddies on Fridays (math game with grade 4s and help the class with recording their thinking process and making sure the younger kids are counting properly. Reading buddies of the grade 4s on Monday mornings for 20 minutes.
- Ms Narges supports Ms. O'Reilly's class and also supports the chess club. Grades 1-3 and 3-6 have separate sections.
- Basketball tournament is being hosted over two days at Connaught.
- Grade 6s are off to MacSkimming this weekend.

Teacher Representative

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Friday is Eid and a Spirit Wear day.</li> </ul>	
<p><b><u>Treasurer's Report</u></b></p> <p>-Fundraising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We are halfway towards our goals on Plantables. Promotion continues.</li> <li>- Mabel's labels needs a refreshed initiative - perhaps at Watermelon Day.</li> <li>- Direct donations from pizza</li> <li>- Last movie night and a couple pizza days. Big fundraisers will be in June (Lawn IT for Connaught).</li> </ul> <p>Committed Spending</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- \$650 to MacSkimming field trip</li> </ul> <p>Purchased Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- School council spent close to \$5000 on headphones, splitters, pails and toy animals for the kinders and some purchases for the chickadees.</li> </ul> <p><u>Summary of Accounts</u></p> <p>\$4800 for pizza and other outgoings.</p> <p>\$26,000 (but will be reduced by a \$17,000 cheque that is going to furnishings for the Learning Commons).</p>	Treasurer
<p><b><u>Fundraising and Events</u></b></p> <p><b>Plantables</b> - Started promoting (including featuring in Jim Leiper's newsletter before other schools). 39 orders so far - just under the threshold for our free school kit.</p> <p><b>Movie Night "May 4th"</b> - Lightyear will be shown - has a Star Wars tie in. 15 volunteers. May need a new popcorn popper. Need ice and butter. Won't buy new stock of snacks. Need another crate of juice boxes. Elizabeth Eagan will donate a crate of Costco juice boxes.</p> <p><b>Easter Sale</b> - went well. Purdys worth doing again - 36 purchases but bought \$2000 worth of chocolate. Coffee may not be worth doing again with Easter given the two systems issue. To consider whether to change things up for next Easter.</p> <p><b>Pints for Connaught.</b> Merry Dairy - didn't raise a lot but is still a nice tie-in with the end of year BBQ.</p>	All

<p><b>Lawn It for Connaught</b> - first meeting was this past Monday. Julie and Andrea attending as needed. Snack a Shack is confirmed for food but might be a smaller menu. May have secured a sponsor already (dentist; Susan Chell). Need a new MC but there are a couple of people in mind or we'll be asked to help find someone. Is a photographer needed? Silent auction will run again. Goal is to replace the Best Buy Grant.</p> <p><b>BBQ</b> - Giant Tiger to be contacted to see about supplying food/drinks, Radio Station to be approached for music again.</p> <p><b>Teacher appreciation lunch</b> - to check with Subway owner and Lusa Bakery again. Community initiative/OCDSB program - work placement catering could be a good option - Kim to provide details. Ottawa Technical School may be an option too.</p> <p><b>Other</b></p> <p>Popcorn could be a good once a month fundraiser but it involves a lot of organization. Could look for a volunteer.</p>	
<p><b><u>AOB</u></b></p> <p><b>Subway</b> - a local owner has offered to provide lunches. St Francois D'Assise - uses the offering. Print-outs of sandwich orders. \$5 for veggie; \$5.50 for meat - which is more expensive than pizza options. A lot more logistics involved including needing to pickup. Staff of school can get a 10% discount independent of the in-school lunch proposal. Decision not to proceed at this time, but to consider Subway as an option on an ad hoc basis.</p> <p><b>School Survey</b> - seeking input on our events to date, events missing from our itinerary, are there barriers to attending meetings etc. Areas of interest for further events (eg. events parents have been at other sites). Julie has drafted and circulated within the executive. Aiming to launch at movie night.</p> <p><b>Spaniel's Tale proposal</b> - The Spaniel's Tale bookshop reached out - they offer a school book week (in store/online special promo code - 20% of sales is in-store credit). Matt may be able to help with continuing the discussion with The Spaniel's Tale.</p>	Chair
<p><b><u>Upcoming Dates</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Next Movie Night – May 5th</li> <li>● Next School Council meeting – April 18th.</li> <li>● BBQ - June 21st</li> <li>● Combined SC May-June meeting - June 6th.</li> </ul>	Chair

The meeting was concluded at 8:12pm.	
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