

Connaught School Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 6, 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 Reps: Marie-Eve Larocque; Chantale Belleville

Attendance: 10 attendees (in person and virtual attendees).

<i>Agenda Item</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm. A special mention, thank you and well-wishes to Minou given her upcoming retirement. The June Agenda and April Minutes were approved after land acknowledgement.	Vice-Chair
Principal's Report Congratulations to Minou on her upcoming retirement and thanks to the teacher reps for this week. Next Year: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Karen Landheer, incoming VP will no longer be joining us at Connaught; we should learn soon who our new VP will be.● School Office reopens on Monday, August 28● Summer Transition Program at the end of August again this year ● Return to school dates:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Office Administrators/Assistants/Library Techs - Monday, August 28○ RECEs - Thursday, August 31○ EAs and Teachers - Friday, September 1○ Students - Tuesday, September 5 This Year:	Principal

- Staying present; keeping up routines and making room for special events
- Watermelon Day (kinder open house) was a huge success
- Fire Drills x 3 in May/June - well done
- Lockdown practice will be next week
- Naloxone training for Minou and Kim; kit in the AED box
- EQAO wrapping up on June 14

Upcoming Events:

- Luv2groove - this week
- Kinder concert - June 13
- Transition to Grade 6 (Fisher Park visits)
- Field Trips (MacSkimming, Upper Canada Village, Valley View Farms, primary picnic)
- Talent Show - June 23
- Leaving Ceremony - June 27
- Play Day - June 28
- Eid - June 29 (last day of school)

Q&A

Q – how quickly is a replacement for staff roles made (eg. For vice-principal)?

A - depends on how much notice is given of the vacancy and available candidates.

Q - teacher reps for next year? Dedicated or variable?

A - will depend on meeting timing and well as staff availability and variable may be best.

Teachers' Report

- Luv2Groove is underway this week
- Watermelon day was a success - watermelon shared between current kinders and future enrollees.
- Kinders are exploring life cycles (eg. raising painted lady butterflies in the classroom)
- Superhero spirit day was last week and Kinders will have visit to Rosemount library on Thursday.
- Upcoming Kinder concert - tie-dye shirts are being made. June 22nd - end of school trip to Valleyview farm.

Teacher Representative

- Grades 1-2 will be going to Hintonburg park for a picnic last week of school. Community fridge will be stocked by Grade 2
- Grades 3+ - going to Upper Canada Village for field trip.
- Grade 4 & 5 - Children's festival was enjoyed. Grade 4s contributed to Parkdale Food Center indoor community fridge. Had a presentation from the writer Gordon Korman. Science projects, egg protectors and pulley systems were designed.
- Grade 4-6 - 90 participants in track and field. Regional track and field is on June 22 with participants from Connaught.
- Last week for book borrowing
- Grade 6 MacSkimming trip.
- Talent show - June 23rd - internal for school only
- Grade 3s have planted the garden. Hope to plant tulip buds in the Fall so they bloom in the Spring. Bulbs to be bought at the start of next school year. Budget allocation towards purchasing the bulbs for the school garden was approved.

Treasurer's Report

Fundraising totals for May

- LawnitforConnaught is expected to be well-attended with 28 teams of 4. We are hoping to make \$10k.
- \$650 worth of Pizza Pizza gift cards purchased which resulted in \$65 of optimum points which have purchased freezies for the BBQ.
- 20 days of pizza planned for next year.
- Plantables - profit of \$376.94 to date but we also earned a bonus garden kit valued at \$100] when spending \$300 or more.
- Movie night - over the three movie nights we made \$3000.
- The Spaniel's Tale - raised roughly \$100 for the library to acquire books. The promotion was not made in the teacher newsletters which will occur in future years. Will aim to have it being a week after an in-school event. Octopus Books in Spring; Scholastic in November, maybe Spaniel's Tale could be in February or Xmas.

Committed Spending -

- \$650 to be provided for MacSkimming grade 6 trip
- \$400 to support cost of grade 6 graduation (eg. lemonade; cupcakes)
- No grade 6 indoor/on site movie or other activity given the number of events and activities for the grade 6s already.

Summary of Accounts

\$18,000 raised so far for the year.

Treasurer

Fundraising and Events

All

Plantables - various items purchased (eg. trellises; hooks and potatoes) purchased to support school garden and yard.

Pints for Connaught. Merry Dairy/Connaught pints was run last year with pickup during school BBQ however due to the number of action items for the remaining month of the school year, we will not run this fundraiser this year

Lawn It for Connaught - well in progress and incorporation of feedback from last year to extend the game play. Silent auction needs more support but food/beverage and sponsorship is going well.

End of Year BBQ - sales are open until the week before the event - Giant Tiger will be providing donations and sales. Setup is well staffed but we need more support for take down and many stations. Will need 40 people to make the split shifts work. Blurb to be written for staff to be surveyed on support for the first shift. Hot 89.9 is confirmed. Happy Goat may come and sell coffee. Devonshire BBQs for borrowing. Freezies will substitute for Merry Dairy. Jeff Leiper and Suzanne Nash will attend. Simplifying meals by not providing fruits, veggies or garnish.

Teacher Appreciation Lunch - three vendors solicited (Subway; Lusa Bakery; Food Works). Will go with Subway who offered a competitive rate of \$420 vs \$680. June 28th - to be date (PlayDay). May need drinks either leftover from BBQ or Kim/Minou.

Popcorn/Subway - Monique Goit (parent) has offered to explore Subway and popcorn sales. Agreement reached to hold off on popcorn for now, but willingness to allow a trial with Subway to see how it pans out and whether it is manageable timewise. Will this initiative meet the healthy guidelines. Monique to check with Elmdale and Monique will need training on use of Hot Lunches. Could explore popcorn being offered at movie nights or BBQ in future when we need to raise money for 'yard revitalization' (which could cover little' kids gazebo and muddy enclosure; and big kids yard too).

<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>School Survey - 37 independent of school council parents filled out the survey. Most people preferred Kim's emails and Facebook group for school council news.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keep communications simple - Council meeting timing as main challenge to attendance - potential to move to 4:15/4:30-5:30. Easier for staff and most parents. Potential to have combined meet the teacher night with first school council meeting (likely 3rd week of September). Snack at first meeting. Backpack insert with meeting dates. QR code poster for date reminder. - Events - 85% of respondents have attended at least one event. Half expressed an interest in a community potluck. PRO grant - most-favoured format was a guest speaker/info session - decisions need to be made in February. Need to come up with a free event. Art event in auditorium? Open house needed. Could request Heidi and Kimberley Senf to brainstorm an open-house event. - School Directory? May need to be organized at class level. <p>Calendar for 2023-24 - will need to confirm dates for in-school events. Should block off evenings for council meeting too.</p> <p>Late September/early October for ribbon cutting for Learning Commons. To invite sponsors from Lawn it For Connaught.</p> <p>Will look to add 2 more people for executive for 2023-24.</p> <p>OCASC may not be the most valuable forum for obtaining updates.</p>	<p>Chair</p>
<p><u>Upcoming Dates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● BBQ - June 21st ● Next school council meeting - tentative (September 19th) ● August 28th - school office reopens after summer break and staff ● Teachers - September 1st. Students restart on September 5th. 	<p>Chair</p>
<p>The meeting was concluded at 8:45pm.</p>	