

# Kanata Highlands Public School School Council Meeting

## Minutes

March 2, 2020 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Virtually via Google Meet

### Attendance

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Pauline McKenna - Principal

### Council Members Present

Shari Fisher

Stephanie Desjardins

Lindsay Seunghee Lee

Sally Bidal

Catherine Birch

Dorothy Vernon Thaka

Taylor Hutter

Anthony Rumsey

Emilie Williams

Shyla Hunter

Gemma Forsyth

### Regrets

Trina Simmonds

### Non-Members Present

Cláudia Silva

(Nicholas Luchian)

(Lina Shamsadin)

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### 1. **Call to order** (Stephanie Desjardins)

Meeting called to order at 7:04 by Stephanie Desjardins.

Stephanie welcomed everyone and everyone introduced themselves.

### 2. **Approval of March 2, 2021 Agenda** (Stephanie Desjardins)

Agenda amended to delay the Approval of Feb 2, 2021 Minutes due to the technical issue (email account not accessible)

***Stephanie Desjardins moved to approve the agenda as amended: Stephanie Desjardins, seconded by Shyla Hunter***

### 3. Principal's Report (Pauline McKenna)

#### 3.1. Plans for the School Year 2021-2022

We believe that student learning and well-being is best supported through in-person learning. We have heard through your feedback about the importance of schools and the unique benefits of in-person including:

- In-person learning supports mental health and well-being;
- The capacity to support social engagement for children.
- Better meeting the needs of young children, English language learners and vulnerable students.

We also recognize that for some families, the return to in-person learning presents challenges and the Ottawa-Carleton Virtual (OCV) school is an attractive alternative.

#### **Safety First**

We know from experience that with appropriate protocols in place, schools can safely operate with limited evidence of transmission of COVID-19. We plan to continue safety precautions in schools and expect that as vaccine distribution continues, the risk of spread is reduced. Over the course of the 2021-2022 school year, we hope to resume regular operations incrementally and as it is safe to do so, continuing to work closely and be guided by the advice from Ottawa Public Health.

#### **In-Person Elementary**

In-person learning for K - 8 will be modelled on our current practice.

- Students will continue to be cohorted by class, and staff will rotate from class to class as the schedule demands.
- There will be a continued focus on reducing the number of educator contacts who are delivering instruction to each homeroom/cohort.
- The use of learning management systems (such as Google Classroom) will remain in place for each class in order to support a transition to remote learning should the need arise, or where individual students are required to isolate.

#### **Elementary OCV**

Elementary OCV will offer the 50/50 Kindergarten program, the English Program and the Early French Immersion Program. Middle French Immersion and the Alternative Program will not be available in OCV. Similar to this year, we expect OCV classes will be larger than in-person classes and will be more likely to include multi-grade classes. Students in OCV will receive 180 to 225 minutes of synchronous instruction per day. The OCV elementary school day will start at 9:00 a.m. and end at 3:30 p.m. There will be 90 minutes of scheduled nutrition breaks and recesses supervised by families.

#### **Confirming Student Attendance**

To prepare for September 2021, **we are asking all parents to confirm your child's attendance for the entire school year for either 1) in-person learning or 2) virtual learning.**

**On the week of March 1st, parents will receive a form from their child's school. Please complete one form for each one of your children by 11:59 p.m. on March 14, 2021.**

### **3.2. Monthly Assembly - opportunity to bring everyone together to learn and share**

- I read the book "I am Enough"
- Shared slide show about what students are learning about Black and Indigenous cultures - Share slide show about how students are showing kindness
- Assembly all lead by our students - lots of student voice!

Email from board - planning for next year. In-person/virtual.

In-person model will be like this year.

Middle French program will be offered on-line

Virtual class will be 180-225 minutes / 90 nutrition break + recess

**Question:** Studies show that students are several months behind where they should be. Is there a plan to address the gaps? How will the board handle the delay and get through the curriculum?

**Answer:** We don't have any plan to teach faster, it won't work. We will focus on solid acquisition of the bigger concepts, particularly in language and math (e.g. developing reading skills and basic math skills). The new curriculum is more fluid. There's going to be gap and the board is aware about that. We are focusing on the big pieces for now – there may be a more solidified plan in future years but we are not worrying about the small pieces for now.

KHPS has virtual assemblies at the end of each month. Pauline shared the Kindness slideshow shown from assembly instead of teacher's representative.

Examples of how we are kind at KHPS

- Helping each other
- Respecting the forest
- Playing collaboratively
- Give cards to teacher to apologize
- Sweeping up crumbs
- Help their friends learn and building snowmen together
- Keep their mass on to keep everyone healthy
- Being inclusive and kind during phys ed
- Being respectful during presentations
- Passing kind messages to friends
- Smiling and being polite
- Writing kind messages to each other for valentine's

- Writing JT about Indigenous people
- Writing poems of kindness

Follow up from last meeting regarding the translation: getting help from staffs to translate in different languages, twitter postings are getting translated in multiple languages.

#### 4. Treasurer’s Update (Dorothy Vernon Thaka)

##### **Account Balances**

##### **1) TD Account: Major transactions (past 30 days)**

Feb 26, 2021 - Deposit \$ 249.00 Fundraising - Luna and Jojo's

**TD Account Balance: \$ 81,035**

##### **2) School Cash Online Balance:**

Pizza day account: -  
 Movie Night account: -  
 Online donation account: 2,540

**Total Accounts Balance: \$ 83,575**

##### **Commitments/Allocations:**

Playground Allocations 75,000

**Total Commitments/Allocations: \$ 75,000**

**Total Funds available (Acct. Balances - Comm./Allocs.): \$ 8,575**

Operating Expenses \$ 195

[KHPSFINANCE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:KHPSFINANCE@GMAIL.COM)

#### 5. Fundraising Update and other initiatives

##### 5.1. March fundraising schedule and details (Emilie Williams)

##### **February**

Fundraiser Review: \$105 raised (16 ordered were put)

##### **Upcoming Fundraisers**

**March 10<sup>th</sup>** – Domino’s Pizza Night

**March 21<sup>st</sup>** – Recipe Book Deadline

**March 26<sup>th</sup>** - Final Day for Recipe Book Cover Art

**March 24<sup>th</sup>** – Family Virtual Yoga

## **April**

Recipe Book Sales  
Glad “Clean Up the Capital”  
Selling Stanley’s Farm Maple Syrup

## **May**

Mother’s Day Self-Care Yoga, Deluxe Bath Shop and Starbucks Draw

Send fundraising ideas to: [emiliedwilliams@gmail.com](mailto:emiliedwilliams@gmail.com)

### **5.2. PIC grant discussion (Shari Fisher)**

We get \$500 for school council, to engage to school community for workshops or speakers, etc. We have the option to push it off until next year or try to spend it this year. Shari threw it out to the Council whether there was interest or ideas for doing something this year

Ideas:

- Engage the community, i.e., workshop or virtual session
- Drive-in Movie. (Donation: selling popcorn, Location: Corkstown, Time: June evening for the end of year event)

***Action item: Stephanie to look into a drive-in movie option***

### **5.3. St. Isabel Invitation: Happy Parents, Happy Kids (Shari Fisher)**

St. Isabel’s extending invitation to our school – contact them to get the link

## **6. New Business (Stephanie Desjardins)**

Taking teachers snacks and coffee: Wed 10<sup>th</sup> of March. Some baked goods and fruits to recognize what they have done this year.

## **7. Adjournment and next meeting (Stephanie Desjardins)**

Stephanie thanked everyone for joining.

***Stephanie moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:08, seconded by Anthony Rumsey.***

**Next meeting:** April 6, 2021

### ACTION ITEMS

	ITEM	RESPONSIBLE	STATUS
1	Volunteer for Lunch Program Coordinator	Shari Fisher	Done
2	Information re: accounting software	Dorthy Vernon Thaka	Done
3	School Yard Development – seek help on FB coordinating the project	Shari Fisher	Done
4	School Yard Development - reach out to Board	Pauline McKenna	Done
5	City Tree Grant Application	Stephanie Desjardins	Active - Spring
6	Fundraising ideas for 2020-21	<del>Ana Popescu</del> Emilie Williams	Ongoing
7	Share information regarding School Yard Development Project	Shari Fisher Anthony Rumsey	Ongoing
8	PIC Grant – drive-in movie night	Stephanie Desjardins	Active