

# Kanata Highlands Public School School Council Meeting

## Minutes

November 2, 2021 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Virtually via Google Meet

### Attendance

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Pauline McKenna - Principal  
Shawn Hocking – Vice Principal  
Jamie Moss – Teacher Representative

### Council Members Present

Anthony Rumsey	Sally Bidal
Bushra Fazal	Shivani Kaushik
Dorothy Vernon Thaka	Stephanie Desjardins
Emilie Williams	Suyog Motghare
Gemma Forsyth	Taylor Hutter
Lindsay Lee	

### Regrets

Trina Simmonds  
Zehra Haider

### Non-Members Present

Catherine Birch	Mac Pham
C Y	Nikkie Tep
Hasan Yavuz	Roula Osman
Lei Shi	Sunny Huang

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

Meeting called to order at 7:03 by Stephanie Desjardins.

### 2. **Welcome and Introductions** (Stephanie Desjardins)

Stephanie welcomed everyone, everyone introduced themselves and reviewed the meeting “rules”

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

***Stephanie Desjardins moved to approve the agenda as presented: Stephanie Desjardins, seconded by Sally Bidal.***

**4. Approval of October 5, 2021 Minutes (Stephanie Desjardins)**

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Clarification was sought with regards to points 8 & 9 of the school report. Point 8 was recommended for deletion as it contradicted point 9. Pauline clarified as follows: Add “If anyone in the family has symptoms, parents can drop by at the school. Call the office and come by to pick up the test kit. “

Point 11 of the school report was asked to be amended as follows:

“If there is a positive case, the entire class will be at home until day 11; with *testing recommended on day 7. Children with no symptoms can return on day 11 - ...”*

***Stephanie Desjardins moved to approve the October minutes as amended, seconded by Sally Bidal.***

**5. Election of Council Members for 2021-2022 (Stephanie Desjardins)**

Stephanie stated final executive members list to the council and their roles

Chair: Stephanie Desardins

Vice Chair: Sally Bidal

Secretary: Lindsay Lee

Treasurer: Dorthy Vernon Thaka

Communications: Anthony Rumsey

Fundraising: Emilie Williams

**6. Principal’s Update and Q & A (Pauline McKenna)**

Welcome to November! Thanks for all your support with Halloween! Our school was full of excitement and joy on Friday! We appreciate your support with continuing to provide healthy lunches for active learning brains!

**School Budget** - 2021-2022 allocation for the school year is \$37,877. These funds are used to support student learning for the full year.

**Progress Reports** - Pauline asked for parental input on their understanding of progress reports. She asked for questions and or comments through a jamboard, or post questions in chat or shared orally.

Parents shared their questions and comments via jamboard, and they were addressed by Pauline. A meaningful discussion took place focused around upcoming progress reports, how students can be supported at home, as well as resources.

## 7. Teacher's Update and Q & A

### Our Makerspace is back at KHPS!

#### What is a makerspace?

Jamie Moss provided an overview of the Makerspace, noting that a makerspace is a collaborative workspace (in our school) that is designed for making, creating, designing, learning, exploring and sharing. It is a place where we can explore something new (such as technology) or a space to create something out of nothing (with odds and ends). The idea is that students are OPEN and CURIOUS about the materials and stations available to them, and they use their imaginations while being creative. Pictures of students collaborating and working in the Makerspace were also shared.

#### Examples of activities that can be done in our makerspace:

- STEAM challenges (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math)
- Building, constructing, creating with a variety of materials
- Lego challenges and activities with loose parts
- Guided crafts and hands on manipulatives

#### How does the Makerspace work?

- Each homeroom class teacher has signed their class up for a specific time slot throughout the week.
- Classes come once every 2 weeks
- Tables are sanitized between classes
- Students sanitize their hands upon entering and exiting the makerspace
- Classes are spaced out to allow for this process
- Teachers decide on a focus for their time in the makerspace as needed (ex: creating robots for descriptive writing tasks)

#### How is all this possible?

Our fabulous Jaime Waroway makes this happen for us! She is our qualified teacher and makerspace technician. Jaime keeps us well stocked with resources, materials and ideas. She is also taking care of sanitizing the tables between classes.

Thank you Jaime!

## 8. Equity, Diversity, Inclusion (Bushra Fazal)

Bushra first showed the need to show by our actions and the respect that we really need to give to First Nations people.

Bushra introduced the book **The Proudest Blue**, by Hajj Mohammed. She is a 2017 Olympic medalist in fencing. Suggested to take some time to read and share the story with our

children. We need to be **OPEN** to the culture, **CURIOUS** to learn more about others, and need to be **KIND** to others.

We are starting a group of parents focused on some objectives and building some objectives for the school year. If you are interested in helping to support or sharing some ideas, send an email to the school council email address.

#### 9. **Communications Update** (Anthony Rumsey)

We are communicating more effectively to reach the community this year: Facebook, Twitter, and Email from Pauline

Facebook update: The requirements of approval are removed. Posts can be posted by anyone. **[AP to Anthony] update Facebook for posting rules section appear.**

If any specific questions need to be answered by the school, please contact the school directly.

#### 10. **Fundraising Update** (Emilie Williams)

##### **November Fundraisers**

##### **JoJo's Pizza Night Nov 3**

All Locations

Call in or Online Ordering

Pick up or Delivery

25% of Sales go to KHPS

##### **Purdy's Chocolate Fundraiser**

November 10 - 24

46 Items Available in Catalogue

Earn 25% profit of \$1000 in sales

Pick up logistics TBD (around Dec 13)

We'll be following covid rules for distributing.

(Volunteered for helping distribution: Taylor, Gemma, Chris, Suyog)

##### **Upcoming Fundraisers**

Options Include:

- McDonald's Night
- Housed Decorating Contest
- Yoga Night
- Recipe Book

- Other Restaurant Nights

### **Fundraising Committee**

We are looking for volunteers to help

Be a part of the team deciding, planning, and executing fundraising

Any time you have helps!

Please send fundraising ideas

and suggestions to: [emiliedwilliams@gmail.com](mailto:emiliedwilliams@gmail.com)

### **11. Treasurer's Report (Dorothy Vernon Thaka)**

No transaction since last meeting

Account balance is \$86,914.45

We continue to hold Playground allocation of 75,000

Yearly maintenance of the website needed (due December or January)

### **12. School Yard Development Project Update (Pauline McKenna)**

We've raised \$85,000 with such low attendance (school started with 240 students).

Council has raised \$85,000; board is willing to commit \$25,000. In total \$110,000 which is very close.

Estimated cost for project: \$110-120,000(quoted before COVID)

We will get a more updated budget. Pushing to go ahead in July to get the development started.

Tree grant: Stephanie, Shawn and Pauline met with the City of Ottawa representative last week. Trees are free, but maintenance and the upkeep are the responsibility of the school council. Expected next May June.

We got a generous offer from one of our families willing to match funds raised via any fundraising events.

### **13. New Business and Round Table (All)**

This is for overall concerns questions and comments or things to look forward to.

Propose to postpone approving for next month's meeting. Please share your emails.

Please bring your friends for the next council meeting.

14. **Adjournment and next meeting** (Stephani Desjardins)

Stephanie thanked everyone for joining and asked that all the members as well as anyone else who would like to be included in Council emails to send their email address to: [khpschoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:khpschoolcouncil@gmail.com)

*Stephanie moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:59, seconded by Sally Bidal.*

**Next meeting:** December 7, 2021

ACTION ITEMS

	ITEM	RESPONSIBLE	STATUS
1	School Council Priorities	Stephanie	In progress
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			