

Minutes



January 16, 2019
James Bolton Public School Council

Meeting called by: Dave Atkinson, Chair

Type of meeting: School Council

Meeting chaired by: Dave Atkinson.

Council Secretary: Jackie Fraser

Attendees: Laurie Allison, Isaak Dyck, Jackie Fraser, Jen Coleman, Dave Atkinson, Gillian Swanson, Grace Desousa, Jackie Thornton

Regrets:

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Everyone was welcomed to the meeting.
2. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest:** Dave explained that the potential conflict of interest is if you are a teacher with this Board, you cannot vote on any money related issues. The only teacher present was Gillian Swanson and Jackie Thornton, but since money is handled by Home and School which is separate, there shouldn't be an issue with our group.
3. **Review of Agenda and Minutes of meeting held November 14, 2018:** There were no carry forward items from last meeting.
4. **Role of School Council Members:** There are three components that make up a School Council's Mandate:
 - Promote the best interests of the school
 - Facilitate two-way communication between the school and parents/community
 - Act as an advisory body providing ideas and suggestions to assist the principal, trustee, and superintendent in making decisions on educational issues
5. **School Council Goals for the year**
 - School Yard Clean-up day November 24, postponed until the spring due to weather
 - School presentation on fundamentals of math will be held on May 8
 - School presentation on health & physical education curriculum to be held on March 20, date to be confirmed
6. **Principal's Report:**
 - Staff updated: Melanie Morphet, a TA had surgery and is off until Feb 22. Stephanie Rusak, a TA will go on maternity leave March 4. Hoping that the same supply TA will stay and cover both LTO's.
 - Teacher shortage: happening everywhere, not just peel. Caledon is especially hard to fill jobs due to no public transit and being far from Brampton and Mississauga, so carpooling is hard.

The Admin team have been implementing several strategies to help cover in situations where there is no supply teacher. This includes cancelling planning time coverage and having those teachers cover (Gym, music, library, special education), collapsing classes (have not done this yet) by splitting up and spreading out a class into other classes, using monitors that are not certified teachers. In the past, retired teachers could come back and teach, but this is not allowed any longer. Looking into allowing this again. A hiring blitz is currently underway at the Peel Central Board Office.

- Curriculum: Ontario Focused Intervention Program is being implemented. Its for grade 4's to help support math skills. Its for groups of 6 students at lunch time. Not many schools applied, so we were able to apply for 6 groups of 6 and was successful getting the funding for that, so 36 students will get the support.
- Empowering Modern Learners professional development is upcoming
- Census is completed, no results yet
- PD day of Feb 8 will cover health and safety, and equity. The staff will be reviewing the "We Rise Together" document which discusses black male high school students in 4 main categories: racial separation, academic expectations, stereotypes, and racial profiling. The focus will be on awareness and inclusiveness.
- Co-op students finishing tomorrow, will be a new group for the 2nd semester
- Report cards go home Feb. 6. No formal interview days, but parents or teachers can request one.
- Electives: This year, 4's and 5's will go skiing/snowboarding or to an outdoor education centre. 1's, 2's and 3's will do 1 day on a trip outside of school and do activities at school 1 day. Next year, the 2nd day at school will be a bit lower key, as electives have become very expensive and cost prohibitive.
- Climate: More students are wearing their house colours which is nice to see the school spirit. The family the staff supported over the holidays was very appreciative. The breakfast program was very grateful for our donation to them. The clothing drive was VERY well used.... the clothes were put out for families to take what they needed. Before and after pictures were shared, there was very little left once it was over.
- Concerts were well attended and successful. The Eco club worked to reduce the number of Styrofoam cups used. Last year, 400 were used, this year, 10 were used, we provided 30 mugs, and everyone else brought their own.
- Positive feedback from KG visits.
- Sneak a peak went well, 1 teacher and 1 ECE gave tours
- KG registration this week. Slow so far, but its 1 month earlier then normal, so its expected to pick up

7. **Business/Questions:**

- Question about separating primary and junior ebrea. It is not so much of a "need" just wondered as other schools have done it. Currently, its not needed. Some schools have a large population with a small play space, but we are the opposite. With a small staff, and large space, it would be very difficult/unsafe to supervise the space with 1/2 the staff on duty at a time.
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8. **Adjournment of Council Meeting:** It was unanimous that the meeting be adjourned.

FUTURE MEETING DATES: March 20 2019, and May 15 2019. All meetings are held at 7:00 in the staff room. Babysitting can be provided by contacting the school office.