



School Council Meeting Minutes

Oct. 27, 2020

Virtual Meeting via Google Meet

Attendees

LeeAnne Andriessen, Caitlin Coverdale, Colleen Bishop, David Cameron, David Linnerth, Elaine Emery, Cathy Lapar, Jennifer Jacques, Maria Gianniotis, Oriana Benevides, Richard Wallace, Sebnem Demir, Sharan Widsten, Navneet Gill, Tracy Scott, Lindsey Taylor, Cissy Wu, Brooke Robinson, Erica Quayle, Sonya McGoey, Tara Lambert, Gagan Gill

Introductions

- All attendees introduced themselves.
- Welcomed new Secretary and Treasurer to the Council.
 - Secretary: Ariana Devries
 - Treasurer: Lindsey Taylor
- Referenced the list of Voting Members.
 - See list below

Gaurav Sharma
Ariana deVries
Lindsey Taylor
Jennifer Jacques
Richard Wallace

Elaine Emery
Cathy Lapar
David Cameron
Sebnem Gun
Cissy Wu
Caitlin Coverdale
Navneet Kaur
Tara Lambert
Oriana Benevides
Maria Gianniotis

Financial Report - LeeAnne Andriessen

- School Funds Revenue \$7816.05
 - Revenue is mostly from the Book Fair
- School Funds Expenses \$7430.63
 - Expenses were to cover the Book Fair and Home Reading
- TOTAL SCHOOL FUNDS BALANCE: \$1208.50
- WEFI TOTAL: \$6442.33
 - Donations accepted for Outdoor Learning Project & for Home Reading

General Updates - LeeAnne Andriessen and Tracy Scott

- School Enrollment - LeeAnne
 - 549 in person + 229 Distance learning = 778 total students
 - The school year is going very well; calm atmosphere in the building. Kids are happy even in spite of the circumstances.
 - No evidence of COVID at the school. Staff and students are following rules very well.
 - HERO school - amazing staff and students.
 - Lost a grade 2 class after reorganizing for the second time. More students moved to distance learning after reorganization.
- IEPs (Individual Education Plans) - LeeAnne
 - Digitally signed and emailed to families. Can also be sent in the mail if parents prefer.

- Will be completed by this Friday, October 29.
- Teachers and parents send in their preferences and needs.

- Plans of Care - Tracy
 - All plans are currently up to date; carried over from last year so students have been covered for the last 8 weeks.
 - Ensures students with medical needs are cared for.

- Report Cards - LeeAnne
 - Unsure if they will be mailed or emailed.
 - Staff are working on report cards currently.
 - If any children have moved classes or are now in distance learning, the teacher who started with each child will be the ones writing the reports.
 - November 15 completion date? (Confirm correct date)
 - No parent teacher meetings this year due to COVID-19.
 - Google Meet meetings can be arranged if parents need to communicate with staff. Parents can email teachers accordingly.
 - November 23rd - PA Day confirmed to be on a Monday

- Fall Fun Day: Oct. 30 - LeeAnne
 - Halloween will be rebranded to be more inclusive and promote a stronger sense of student equity.
 - Google Meet school wide gathering to celebrate.
 - Distance learning students will also be able to join
 - Cahoot, charades, colours of black, orange and purple
 - No food parties or distribution of treats
 - Staff are looking at different learning activities to make it a fun learning experience for the students in class and online.
 - This is a school board wide mandate to rebrand.
 - Question from Brooke Robinson: How will virtual assemblies appeal to Kindies and Grace 7&8s?
 - i. Hoping the various activities will be inclusive and fun for the different grades.
 - ii. Desire to provide a sense of family
 - iii. It is a first attempt at a school wide online assembly, so we're unsure of how it will turn out.

- Chicopee Charger Clothing - LeeAnne
 - We are uncertain about ordering spirit wear anytime in the near future.

- The company used last year was not fantastic (confusion with delivery and customer service). Plus, due to COVID we are unsure about how purchasing and distributing would be effectively carried out.
- Could spirit wear be purchased online and then delivered directly to homes?

- Remembrance Day - LeeAnne
 - Distance Learning classes will be invited
 - Age appropriate for all grades
 - 10:30-11:10am
 - Theme: Liberation of Holland
 - Contributions from students
 - May record the assembly to post for the community to view

- Distance Learning - Tracy
 - 5 Chicopee staff members moved to distance classes
 - 2 different teachers have joined the school for class space. They are now a part of the Chicopee staff.
 - Support staff are still available for all Distance Learning students from Chicopee.
 - Running smoothly; children are doing well.
 - Is there a chance our kids could find their classes collapsed again?
 - i. Yes, there is a chance once reorganization happens again on February 3-4
 - ii. Close to 50 students left the school to do Distance Learning, but only 1 teacher. This is because the students were spread over numerous grades.
 - iii. January 15th is the date to change learning location
 - iv. If there is a large influx of students that could also cause movement in class arrangement.
 - How is it fair to students to be reshuffled all the time?
 - i. Due to parent requests, the November reorganization date was bumped up to eliminate the need for shuffling classes again and to allocate for the students who were in limbo. No further shuffling should need to happen before February.

- Traffic - Tracy
 - Calm and quiet due to the lower number of students and the new bus loading location.

- Number of dangerous instances have been greatly reduced because of the two kiss and ride drop off locations.
- Staff ensure students, especially Kindergarten age, are safe while being dropped off.
- Pinch point is being looked at on Fairway - hoping some sort of barrier can be put in to help provide more safety for those walking.
- Question from Elaine Emery: Will the pathway that was proposed be put in from Country Clair Street to the school be confirmed? What is the state of that project?
 - i. The pathway project is being reopened to provide more safety for those walking to school; also to help with the pinch point on Fairway.
 - ii. It will be close to 1 million dollars to install; hence much of the hesitation in going ahead with the project. However, with the safety of families in mind, we are hoping to find a way to go ahead with it. (Confirm comment)
- Home Reading - LeeAnne
 - Many books did not come home due to COVID.
 - PM Benchmarks - ebooks through Nelson
 - i. Introduced by Mrs. Dobb; staff member at Chicopee Hills
 - Invest in licensing for JK-grade 3 = \$1,600
 - Licenses will be shared with families
 - Home reading books are currently not being used. Ideas on what to do with them would be beneficial.
 - i. They will be saved to potentially use for next year.
 - In the past, home reading was sponsored by the Parent Council. Where are these funds coming from now?
 - i. School budget
 - ii. Fundraising

NEW Role of School Council - LeeAnne

- Fundraising - LeeAnne
 - Many previous types of fundraising were very hands on and won't be permitted with COVID restrictions.
 - Scholastic is offering school book fairs. Is this something we should look into for School Council?
 - i. Yes, we should look into if we can make it happen.
 - ii. It would need to be passed by the Board first.

- Projects on Hold - LeeAnne
 - Outdoor learning project is on hold due to COVID and labor disagreements
 - i. Funding needs to be addressed

- WRAPSC (Waterloo Region Assembly of Public School Councils) - LeeAnne
 - Increased focus on connection to the community and families

- Committees - LeeAnne
 - Goodwill Committee - great way to connect with the community and families
 - i. Discussed how the committee will look different this year and what needs to be changed due to COVID restrictions.
 - ii. Comment from Brooke Robinson: COVID has been catastrophic for people. We have no idea how many families have been affected by it this year. It is unreasonable to expect the same level of contribution as we had last year. It would be a good idea to find ways for families to donate and be a part of things in a way they can manage; financially, physically and mentally.
 - iii. 12 families in the past received support from the committee; this year potentially 8-10

 - Traffic Committee - Tracy
 - i. Stuck in a “wait and see” situation
 - ii. Unsure of when meetings will happen or what the level of interest is
 - iii. Potential to leave a comment on the school website if there are concerns. Colleen Bishop to clarify
 - iv. Comment by David Linnerth: It might be worth having a letter sent on behalf of the traffic committee and school administration in support of barriers along the sidewalk on Fairway Rd. as well as the path to the Pebble Creek neighbourhood. The traffic committee has been an important voice in the past to encourage movement on projects at both the city and regional levels. It might be good to put this together ASAP if decisions are being made.

- Week of Giving - LeeAnne
 - 4 days during the week of giving - confirm date?
 - Donated items will be collected and distributed appropriately.
 - Gift card donations from Walmart to support families.

- Support from parents for the week of giving would be beneficial.
 - i. Suggestions on how this could work with restrictions:
 - ii. Gift card drive is an option instead of purchasing physical products.
 - iii. Focus primarily on the food drive rather than product. Turkey drive would be online.
 - iv. E-gift cards or e-fundraiser
 - v. Sonya McGoey does all the porch deliveries due to confidentiality. Deliveries to the Food Bank or other such locations are what we need parents to do. Purchasing for Sonya is another helpful way to assist.
 - vi. Several parents came forward saying they would be willing to make deliveries and do purchasing if necessary.
- Concerns from Brooke Robinson:
 - i. It takes a lot of work to purchase items and this is made even more difficult because of COVID. It would be wise to limit the number of trips made to the store.
 - ii. Will Distance Learning students still contribute to Goodwill and the week of giving if they are not physically entering the building?
 - iii. Can we send an appeal through School Day to give people the opportunity to sponsor a family, or partner with other families; a one time message to Chicopee families to see what people are capable of this year?
 - iv. Sponsoring a family also allows for keeping personal bubbles small and makes for easier shopping with safety precautions.
 - v. All of these concerns were acknowledged and taken into consideration as we figure out how to safely and effectively move forward with ensuring families are taken care of this year.
- Topics for Learning (Connecting to Families) - LeeAnne
 - Equity and Inclusion: A New Lens for Celebrations
 - Trauma based Approach to Education
 - Building a HERO-GEM Family
 - i. Question from Brooke Robinson: How is the school being affected by Plasticity being dissolved? How are we still implementing HERO GEM? What value are we losing if Plasticity isn't doing analytics anymore?
 - 1. WRDSB was able to keep all the materials and Chicopee Hills has access to all the materials. We are partnered with other schools to enhance this program.

2. There are ways to get analytics without Plasticity - through surveys led by the school board and the individual schools are an option.
- ii. How is HERO-GEM still beneficial for our school?
 1. HERO-GEM provided a structure we can use as a school to have these traits as part of our vocabulary to provide greater understanding and communication.
 2. It helps in terms of discipline. The content and meaning of the traits are just as meaningful as the analytics.
 - We are connected...how do we help our community connect?
 - Kids and Social Media - Social Dilemma

Monday, November 23rd - PD Day

- Safety training for staff
- Work with staff on equity and inclusion

Friday, December 18th - Last Day of School before holidays

Membership & Elections

Added as Voting Members

Sonya McGoey

Erica Quayle

David Linnerth

Gagan Gill for Vice Chair

- Role of Chair and Vice Chair was reviewed via the School Council bi-law document and discussed.
 - Experience being on council and a part of the school is beneficial.
- Question from Brooke Robinson: How will these roles look different this year because of COVID?
 - More about meeting planning and helping to foster a sense of community within school council and the community.
- Will people considering this role have the support of executive members?
- Motions made to approve executive positions
- Secretary motioned by Caitlin Coverdale, seconded by Erica Quayle
 - Passed and carried
- Treasurer motioned by Elaine Emery, seconded by Cathy Lapar
 - Passed and carried
- Vice Chair motioned by Lindsey Taylor, seconded by David Linnerth.

- Passed and carried
- Chair position election was postponed to a future date; will be decided by the Executive school council members.
- Voting memberships passed and carried

Transition to New Principal

November 30th retirement date

- Unsure of who the new principle will be.
- Transition should happen in the next 2-3 weeks
- Closing comments from LeeAnne

Meeting ended at 8:40pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 6:30 PM