

Donald Young School Council Meeting Minutes

January 30, 2024

Attending: Heidi Loney, Stevie-Lee Kaemingh, Hope Mosbeck, Tiffany Veldhuisen, Cheryl Foster, Benita Retief, Trevor Martin, Beryl Loveday (Support Staff Representative), Kim Bolen (Teacher Representative), Melanie Williams (Vice-Principal), Serena Maharaj (Principal)

1. Welcome
 - a. Call to order 6:14pm
2. Review and Approval of Agenda
 - a. First – Stevie-Lee. Second – Tiffany.
3. Review and Approval of Previous Minutes
 - a. First – Tiffany. Second – Stevie-Lee.
4. Fundraising Updates
 - a. Bake sale went very well. \$876 raised.
 - i. Good idea to make it annual. If people expect it that could make it even better.
 - ii. Set up location was ideal to let people buy on the way out.
 - iii. Students volunteering worked well – perhaps student council could take this responsibility?
 - iv. Fundraising \$ need to be counted that night by two people with signatures and sealed in an envelope. Other money that comes later requires same process.
 - b. Present financial situation
 - i. Pink shirts should be covered with some money left over.
 - ii. Some money could go towards jerseys, however Melanie applied with the health unit for a grant for jerseys. Waiting to hear back.
 - c. Other fundraising ideas?
 - i. Funds could go towards end of the year BBQ.
 - ii. Outdoor musical equipment.
 1. This is very expensive – quote was around \$30,000.
 2. Hope planned to look into a possible grant opportunity towards this.
 - d. Miscellaneous note re: clothing sales
 - i. Not many clothing orders this year. Maybe waiting a year or two might increase demand.
5. Family Fun Day
 - a. Pancake breakfast
 - i. Did not happen prior to Christmas.
 - ii. Nice to have it sooner and not wait until May.
 - iii. March 6 proposed date – Wednesday prior to March Break.
 1. Wednesday works better to not conflict with hot lunch.
 - iv. If we intend to have community involved, it's likely to draw a lot of people. Bigger event will require teacher help. Serena and Melanie to inquire at staff meeting.
6. Year End BBQ
 - a. Community event, but nice if some funds can be raised.
 - b. Should simplify from last year.
 - i. Taco in a bag? Charcuterie?
 - ii. More supervision for games and activities.

c. Scheduling

- i. Good date can encourage staff participation.
- ii. Serena and Melanie to ask staff for suggested dates.

7. Activities for Education Week (May 6, 2024)

- a. Speech contest, community readers, community clean up have happened previously.
- b. Talent show?
 - i. Timing is after festival, but it would be good to broaden it to others.
 - ii. Need to have some vetting process and teacher buy-in.
 - iii. Maybe have some sort of high-tea? Some history of having a tea with musical performances.
 - iv. Serena and Melanie to talk about this at staff meeting.

8. PIC Representative Update

- a. Most of the conversation was regarding the bomb threat at the high school.
- b. Concern about mass communication, and consistent messaging from different parties.

9. Proposed start and end times for 2024-2025

- a. Proposing 8:40 start (instead of 8:50) and 3:00 end (instead of 3:20)
 - i. Eliminate two 5 minute transition times – these were introduced during COVID and most other schools have scrapped them.
 - ii. Lots of signing kids out happens at the end of the day. This fits with appointments better.
 - iii. Also eliminates chaotic “recess” time before school begins.
 - iv. General agreement that it is a good idea.

10. COVID Signage

- a. Can the signs come down since they are not in force?
 - i. Concern that kids are learning to ignore signs instead of respecting the message.
 - ii. Signs can come down with some planning to clean up/paint where they were.

11. Morning Announcements

- a. When did the land acknowledgement get updated and expanded? Who is involved in that decision?
 - i. It is ongoing and not finalized. The updated one is not yet being read in the morning.
 - ii. Comes from the Board – it is a policy change. Policy committee includes trustees and community members such as FNMI (First Nations, Metis, Inuit Education advisory committee).
 - iii. Policy changes can often be seen at the School Board website.

12. Principal's Report

- a. Hot Lunch program is up and running. Well-received. Jessica Marissen doing it. \$3.50-5.
- b. Extra Curricular Activities - Mr. Dalseg coaching basketball. Archery also happening.
- c. EQAO Math Resources – New resources being introduced to help prep for EQAO.
- d. Report Cards – due in the office this week. Come out Feb 12.
- e. Grad Photos happening Feb 7. (Composite class pictures coming soon).
- f. Next Meeting Date – April 9 @6pm

13. Adjournment – 7:36pm