

Port Weller Parent Council Meeting – September

September 26, 2023

Attendees: Melora (PW), Elizabeth, Stephanie Y, Stephanie B, Anna, Jodi, Natalie (PW), Sarah, Heather, Robyn, Carrie, Amy, Kristy, Emily, Kerri, Kevin (PW), Tony, Jason (V), Julie (V), Sarah (V), Kamal (V), Holly & Greg (V)

*PW = Port Weller Staff; V = Virtual Attendee

Next Meeting: October 24th, 2023

AGENDA:

- **Welcome & Introductions!**

Welcome to all new and past parents!

Welcome to new Principal Melora Brewster, joining us after being VP at Crossroads!

- **Principal Update- Melora Brewster**

September Wrap up

- Port Weller Open House – Huge success, most attended in years according to Mrs. Lyle;
 - people enjoyed the Pizza, popcorn (care of the Parent Council!) & ice cream
- Gate at the back – latch gate was installed at the back of the property, similar to the one in the front drop-off zone
- The snack program is up and running with Mrs. Lyle & volunteers each day as part of the Niagara Nutrition Program (NNC)
 - Mrs. Lyle is planning for Cobbs Bread fundraiser for the NNC
- Rowan's Law- Wednesday, Sept. 27th- Wear purple
- National Day For Truth and Reconciliation on Sept 30
 - Will acknowledge it on school on Friday, students wear Orange
- Jamie Groat- DSBN Indigenous Education Consultant
 - Met with staff today
 - Will be in again next Tuesday working with each class to share with students at a level they can understand
 - Goal is for school to have Ancestral Land Acknowledgement Mondays

Team Sports

- Cross country: 40 Students participating, Mrs. Venneri and Mrs. McCann are coaching
- Junior soccer: Great soccer and amazing stories, Mr. Lew was the coach
- Intermediate soccer: Coming up next week, Mr. Murphy & Mr. Reimer are coaching
- Junior triple balls and intermediate volleyball: coming soon!

Intramurals/Clubs

- Junior Soccer Intramural: Organized and refereed by intermediates students and Mr. Dyck
- Flower Club Gr. 6-8: Intermediates creating and sharing arrangements with Ms. Wood
- Recycling team
- Snack team: Everyday setting up classrooms with snacks for the day organized by Mrs. Lyle

School Lunches

- Sub-Day from Submission Subs
 - Pizza from Pete's Pizza (Pleasant Ave)
 - Pitas from Pita Pit
 - Pasta from Antipastos
- **Financial Report (Stephanie Y) – 2023/2024 Opening Balance: \$10,930.40**

Port Weller Public School - School Council 2022-2023

Treasurer's Summary

OPENING BALANCE - Sept 1, 2022	\$6,785.22
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Council Initiatives

Initiative	Money In	Money Out	NET
Potted Mum	\$1,430.80	\$915.00	\$515.80
Chocolate	\$10,702.95	\$6,834.60	\$3,868.35
Poinsettia	\$1,283.80	\$655.00	\$628.80
Winter Wonderland	\$2,936.60	\$2,124.67	\$811.93
Ice Dogs	\$2,504.00	\$2,592.00	-\$88.00
Movie Night	\$447.85	\$239.88	\$207.97
Danceathon	\$7,015.15	\$295.17	\$6,719.98
Gerber Daisy	\$524.30		\$524.30 *Unpaid
Prince Caspian	\$1,389.85	\$1,378.60	\$11.25
TOTAL	\$28,235.30	\$15,034.92	\$13,200.38

Contributions to School

Item	Amount
Kinder Trikes (from last year)	\$551.85
Blue tooth speaker	\$288.14
Kindness Cart	\$135.00
Literacy Night	\$562.01
Grad/Greenscreen/Backdrop	\$209.28
Tent	\$2,712.00
School Trips	\$3,110.00
Spike Kits	\$1,129.98
TOTAL	\$8,698.26

BALANCE at June 30, 2023	\$10,930.40
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Committed to but not paid out:

- Volleyball Poles*
- Drawing Tablets*
- Money for Rankin Run Lunch*
- \$500 to Library for inclusive books*

- **Chair Updates**

Last Year Council Year in Review

- **Community Events:** Winter Wonderland, Ice Dogs Game, Family Literacy Night, Movie Night
- **Fundraising:** Chocolate Bar Fundraiser, Mum's, Poinsettias, Dance-a-thon, Spring Flowers
- **Purchases/Contributions:** Tents*, Lego Spike Kits, Grinch antipastos luncheon, green screen and photo backdrop, \$10 per student towards bussing for field trips, volleyball poles, portable speaker for the gym, money towards Rankin Run lunch, \$500 towards library books with a focus on inclusion and equity, drawing tablets

* Updates from Kevin Dyck (PW) on purchases:

Tents: the quality, structure and price of the new tents are great, BUT the design & print were not accurate, working to get them fixed

Lego Spike Kits: School board discontinued the kits we use, so our funds really helped!

Drawing Tablets: Has two in his class and they are very useful!

Initiatives for this year discussed in May:

- Outdoor Initiatives: painted lines(done), wood chips, garden, outdoor equipment
- Wood chips for play structure to be looked into
 - Melora noted that we are getting a playground inspection soon from the board
 - This will get recommendations and then we can tender out the work
- Garden Club:
 - Teacher Ms. Woods & parent Christine (who is a landscaper by trade) are looking for funds for the school front gardens & pollinator areas
 - they provided thorough proposal for Mulch, Landscape Fabric & Landscape Staples at discounted rates for \$1,386.14
 - Jason noted that city used to have free mulch from cut trees, we couldn't use for the play areas, but maybe for the garden
 - Elizabeth will see if we can still get free mulch from the city, if not, council approved to cover full amount
- Money per program/teacher (to be offered at the beginning of the year)
 - 24 on staff \$150 approved
 - Ideally all claimed by the end of October
 - Melora will remind the Staff
- Spike Lego kits – purchased last year!
- Decodable Readers/Curriculum support - teachers to discuss
- Fundraisers:
 - Chocolate Bars: Patti leading; chocolates will be arriving to the school and added to school cash next week
 - Winter Wonderland: Stephanie B.
 - Flowers – our contact was not responding to emails for final payment for last year or to set up this year; Heather, new parent on council, works at Niagara College, Welland Campus, and will try to help us find a new contact!
- Brainstorm possible ideas for new year
 - Amy – suggestion for Wine Fundraiser at Henry of Pelham; will send info to Elizabeth to share
 - Robyn – pumpkin pickup fundraiser, any farms in the area?
 - FlipGive – if you purchase through the app at various stores, a % goes back to the school; very little traction last year but Stephanie B. will check on our status
 - Elizabeth – adding and Indigenous Mural to the library
 - Kerri – suggested an Indigenous Water Walk, perhaps around Earth Day
 - Tony – suggested a family Karaoke night
 - Robyn – reminded us that there is a Community Care Fridge at the church across the street that does so much for the school; perhaps we can do a fundraiser/food drive for them; another parent's brother in law works at the church and ill ask them for a needs list

Parent Advisory Council Initiatives (last 5 years):

- Community Events: Open House, Trivia Night, Leader in Me Night, Math Night, Movie Nights, Literacy Night, Winter Wonderland, Ice Dogs Night
- Fundraisers: Chocolate Bars, Mums, Poinsettias, Trivia Night, Bulbs, Dance-a-thon, Pizza Night, Pumpkinville
- \$200 per classroom/LRT in 2020
- \$150 per classroom/LRT in 2023

Purchases Sorted by Area of Need:

Technology

- Chromebooks for LRT
- iPads for Kindergarten Classrooms
- Computer Lab
- Traveling Chromebook cart
- Sound system
- School Sign
- Bluetooth Speaker for the gym
- ***Uniforms***
- Volleyball
- Gymnastics
- Basketball
- ***Science***
- Microscopes
- Scientists in the Classroom

Math

- Manipulatives
- Outdoor math bags for kindergarten

Building Wide Initiatives

- Wood chips
- Painting tarmac
- Chairs by the Front Entrance
- Popcorn Machine
- Front Door Design/All doors painted
- Library Renovation: contribution towards cupboards
- Picnic Tables
- Branded Tent for School Events
- Author Visit: Michael Jacques
- Outdoor Volleyball Nets
- \$10/ student for transportation for school trips 2023
- Backdrop/greenscreen
- funded Grinch Antipastos lunch and subsidized Rankin Run lunch
- Funded Kindness Cart Kindergarten Project- flowers to seniors
- Funding for Garden Club

Physical Education

- Gymnastics Mats
- Tricycles for Kindergarten
- Outdoor Volleyball nets

Literacy

- \$3000 for primary readers (Grades 1-3)
- \$1500 to top up higher level readers
- Funded 2023 Literacy Night and author visit
- \$500 each year to the library for books focused on equity and inclusion

Arts

- Funded transportation for school-wide play to Matilda
- 5 drawing tablets

Charitable Donations

Past Donations made to Community Care and Niagara Nutrition Partners

- **Elections:**
 - Elizabeth Murray-Semple re-elected as Chair
 - Stephanie Yantsis re-elected as Treasurer
 - No Nominations for Secretary (Stephanie Y took minutes this time) – please volunteer!

- **Adjournment: NEXT MEETING: October 24**

