

Port Weller School Advisory Council Agenda

May 28th, 2024

Introductions

Attendance: Stephanie Y, Steph B, Jen, Robin C, Nancy F, Amy P, Jodi F, Carrie B, Kevin D, Elizabeth M, Melora B, Heather G, Patti

1. **Principal Update**– Melora Brewster

- Brad Howie Visit – went well, learned about different environments
- Evening of Arts – went well, supported students, staff and local businesses
- Primary– Earth Week Book
- Heritage Fair– Gr. 7/8 , several moved onto DSBN meet and won there as well
- Intermediate Rugby lead by Ms. Alton– finished in 2nd place, Badminton, Skipping, Track and Field – regional meet was today, 3–pitch **students are representing sportsmanship well at DSBN meets, very proud of our PW students
- Gr. 3 and Gr. 6 EQAO – ongoing – will finish June 12
- Gr. 8 Transition Meetings
- Staffing and class lists – update coming up the end of the week with changes
- Playground Updates
 - Junior/Intermediate playgrounds will be converted with new barriers and new woodchips, some small support repairs will be done at the same time.
 - The structure is “Belair” – purchased in 2005. Should be able to get a couple more years out of this – will need replacement in approx 3–4 years. New ideas for replacement: gaga ball pit, climbing ropes, natural

- playground, outdoor education space, exercise area, musical instruments, parkour equipment
- Primary playground: All of it needs attention, the play structure we might be able to 3-4 more years from the structure. The substraight and the swings need repair. Approx \$2000 to repair the swings, \$5000 to re-do the substraight. New ideas for the future: balance beams, sensory path, sandbox, musical instruments, mud kitchen, outdoor classroom, sitting areas, flower boxes, obstacle course. Structure was installed in 2005
 - Play structures typically seem to last approximately 15-20 years
 - Steps to take:
 - What's our plan right now?
 - Start to design the primary play space
 - What is our plan for the future?
 - Remove Belair structures and purchase new
 - How to raise the funds - fundraising/loans/saving
 - Build community support for our play space
 - Planning to do the substraight repairs and remove the swings, devise a 5 year plan on replacing everything going forward
 - Plan to meet with staff and talk with students first before devising a definitive replacement plan
 - PC Fundraising effort all to go towards playground repairs/replacements in the coming years
 - PC/Administration to look into alternate financing potential and opportunities

2. **Treasurer Update:** Stephanie Y:

Sept 1, 2023 Opening Balance: \$10,780.26

Current Balance at May 27, 2024: \$19,224.93

Plant Sale Total: \$2,048.20 - Still need to pay NC

Dance-a-Thon: Total Raised \$7,223 (after prizes)

Other contributions: Malcolmson Eco-Park Guided Walk, Arts Night Prizes
Total Funds Raised by Council this year: \$13,216
Total Contributions made to School this year: \$4,507

3. Chair Updates: Elizabeth

Fundraisers:

- Spring:
 - Mother's Day Flowers & Dance-a-thon feedback (see above)
TO DO: Gift card for DJ Grant
 - Niagara Fresh Markets: First month for each order 10% goes to the school, after the first month it is 5%.
<https://niagarafresh.ca/pages/fundraising>
Going out in June

Events:

- Evening for the Arts: Feedback(see above) Shaw play dates coming for summer viewings

4. Initiatives Updates:

- Indigenous Book Purchase Update – put on pause for now, look at doing this next year
- Staff Appreciation: Thursday June 13 – potluck for staff supported by PC – for 1 p.m. break

2023/2024 Council Recap!

Events/Initiatives	Fundraisers	Purchases
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Open House● Winter Wonderland● Ice Dogs Game● Evening for the Arts● Summer Shaw Performance: Secret Garden	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Chocolate Bars● Poinsettias● Spring Flowers● Dance-a-thon	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● \$500 to library● Continued \$150 per classroom support.● Landscaping and mulch front of school● Funds to support garden club● Funds to support Arts night● Brad Howie Land-based walks for Junior Grades● DSBN Funds: new camera purchased, daycare during meetings

Items to consider for 2024:

- Council Involvement in Open House
- Grants and community partners for playground fundraising
- Possible Fundraisers: chocolate bars – February? Around family day/valentines day, professional photographs –November? In time for Christmas, host vendor fair, Krispy Kreme fundraiser, summer carnival – bouncy castle/bbq style, basket raffle, Niagara College flowers

Adjournment: Next meeting September 17, 2024

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

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/Mulching and landscaping off the front gardens

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