

Ecole Regent Park Parent Community Council Meeting

Minutes of January 2021

Attendance: Lucia Grande, Chris Coppinger, Jennifer Matthewson, Jennifer Richter, Corinne Wyatt, Gisele Cox, Paula Vosper, Rebecca Clarke, Lindsey Acheson

January 25, 2021

1. Call to Order and Welcome: 6:32 PM

2. Review of November 2020 minutes

3. Principals Report:

Continued thanks to staff, students and community members who have and continue to follow PH directives (hand washing, masks, staying home when sick or symptomatic, letting us know when a student or a member of the family is being tested). The well-being of all staff and students is very present and we appreciate everyone working together to ensure we continue to be safe at school. We support and respect the communication with the school so we are all aware and can support students wherever they are learning.

Highlights at ERP

- We continue our monthly virtual assemblies around (Participation, Service, Responsibility and Respect) based on the Circle of Courage.

- School Resource Officer- Constable Chapko came to speak to each grade 5 and 6 classroom around safety online. He will also visit grade 7 and 8 students to discuss safety online plus drug awareness. Feb. 5th and 8th

- Professional Development Days- No school. Staff will be diving into Inquiry based Learning (Trevor Mackenzie) through a guided book study and grade level teams will have the opportunity to collaborate to develop Inquiry projects.

- We will be celebrating Festival du Voyageur at our school on Feb. 18th and 19th with cultural activities, sports, music etc. to encourage Francophonie!

- March 4th is our French Immersion Round Table meeting. We will have a better indication of how many grades and teachers hired for the 2021-22 school year.

- We are excited to embark on our own Applied Arts courses at our school for the 2021-22 school year. We will be further exploring these courses: Game Design and Coding, Graphic Arts and Digital Media, Short Film animation, Outdoor ed., Life Skills-Career exploration, MakerSpace (STEAM), Hand Sewing and Choreography and technology. Courses will be offered in grade 6,7 and 8 based on need.

- March 17th evening ERP EXPO- Virtual conferences once again.....with a twist. We will have breakout rooms and students celebrating their learning with their peers and their families. More information to follow.

- March 22nd in the afternoon, report cards for term 2 will be up on the Parent Portal.

- GREAT NEWS!!! We decided to put in a grant for our PHASE 4 or our greening project.

The Planning, Property and Development Delegated Authority in consultation with Councillor Nason approved Land Dedication Reserve funding in the amount of \$7,000.00, from the East Kildonan-Transcona Community Committee (Transcona Ward allocation) to Ecole Regent Park to assist with the cost of the Ecole Regent Park Greening Project - Phase 4.

This means that in April, we will be placing a walking trail around the back yard of our school. We also applied for another grant (EFM) for the purchase of materials to place in a Story Talk. Every 20 feet or so, another page of the story will be displayed behind plexiglass and students plus the community will have an opportunity to integrate physical activity with literacy. Stories can be changed as needed. We will know by March if we get this grant, however it looks very favourable.

Construction

Construction begins this week in our front foyer as we move towards having one central location for our student services department. The boys and Girls changing rooms in the Gym are getting a much-needed renovation. The old library will begin with renovations to be used as an early year's space and windows will be placed on the North wall of the school.

4. Upcoming Events:

Dates to remember:

- No school- Feb. 5th, Feb. 8th and March 19th.
- Spring Break- March 26th last day of school until April 5th.

5. Fundraising Report:

- \$1000 for flower boxes for northeast side of school has been put aside in our greening fund.
- \$325.68 was spent on new coffee maker for staff in December.
- Our balance currently sits at \$3637.61
- Are we still purchasing benches for greening? We have set-aside money and will wait and see. Benches will not take long once ordered, and we will likely order in the spring.
- Jen M will look into the forest enhancement program through MB Hydro for potential trees.
- Alliance Tree Care Company has donated mulch in the past. Will touch base with them again.
- Does anyone have a connection with a rock company? If so, we could look into getting additional rocks for our exterior.

Wish lists:

Requests:

- Nothing at this time

6. New Business

- Before and after school program space may now need to be used as a classroom. We are in the process of finding them a new space.

- If our school goes K-8, will we get a playground for our school? Still not sure. May not have money allotted to us for a play structure. Looking at other ways to play in a new and nontraditional way with our greening initiatives.

- Our cap for students is 625. We are currently at 430 students.

- Number of students participating in in school vs remote learning? After our winter holidays some families have returned to school. Less than 20% of our students are doing remote learning at this time (mostly grades 7-8).

- Is it possible to schedule any field trips at all? Unfortunately we cannot leave the school grounds at all while in code orange.

- Trying to organize a virtual talent show, as it cannot take place with all students in the gym.

- Staff appreciation typically takes place the week before spring break. This year staff appreciation will take place on March 17. We will do a luncheon this year. Food ordered in has to be individually wrapped or served. This is not an issue as Lucia and Chris can serve.

- Qdoba accommodates all allergies and dietary restrictions. As a result we will look to order from them again.

- Approximately 40 staff. Our budget will be \$400-\$500.

- We still have beach balls from last year's original staff appreciation concept. Students will write messages to their teachers on the beach balls. Lucia and Chris will distribute.

Motion: Spend up to \$500 for staff appreciation luncheon on March 17.

Motion Accepted: 1st Corrine Wyatt 2nd Rebecca Clarke

7:17 PM meeting adjourned

Upcoming Meetings:

March 8, 2021 @ 6:30pm

May 10, 2021 @ 6:30pm