

Molly Brant School Advisory Council

Monday November 7 2022

Meeting called to order by Amber Ewart at 5:50pm

Introduction around the table

Scott Morency, Lindsey Pilon, Nik Lemieux, Joanna Anderson, Colin Skinner, Jennifer Kehoe, Nicola Dillard, Crystal Sitoski, Cathleen Getchell, Amber Ewart, Karen Gilbert, Jodie Radolfi, Jennifer Bocking,

Regrets: Eric Hakim

October Minutes & Agenda Approval

October amendments

- The word cliché to glitch when referring to the communication delay for notice of the SAC elections.
- The section of the minutes where the word “our vision “ is not reflective of the conversation regarding Indigenous content in our school. The vision that was brought to the table without any consultation is a vision of a teacher. The minutes should reflect that and not knowledge is power but rather nothing about us without us is more an accurate description of the conversation that took place.

Motion to Approval was made by Lindsey Pilon, and seconded by Nik Lemieux

November Agenda approval was motioned by Nik Lemieux and seconded by Cathleen Getchell

Indigenous Report - Lindsey Pilon

- Eric has expressed his regrets about not being here this evening. Since October, we have connected with Scott & Liv Rondo, regarding his vision he talked about in October. The indigenous communities need to have opportunities to gather to meet and establish trusted relationships. We have talked about potentially having an Indigenous family evening here at Molly Brant, hopefully to use the kitchen, maybe do some workshops on Food, it's a practical skill which brings empowerment and gets people talking. I'd love to know if anyone wants to connect with me on any ideas. Please reach out to me.
 - There is a great opportunity to apply for a parent outreach grant through the parent involvement committee for funding, connect with me and we can chat some more - Jenn
- Helen is working on a youth program, two groups of 8 to 12 and 12 to 17 for indigenous youth. The program will be starting up in December and into the new year.
- I understand that there is a form that families can self identify, I am not sure on the privacy boundaries, but if there is a way to send out invitations to connect that would be helpful.

Principals Report - Scott Morency

- My report has changed in the last couple hours. If you have not received the EMail. School is back in session tomorrow, this is wonderful news. Since school is back on tomorrow, we don't need the plan on remote learning, synchronous on devices to be handed out to the students
- Process Reports will be going home on November 18th, plus photo retake day
- There have been changes within the Lifetouch Photographers, and with the pandemic, they have had some difficulty meeting some deadlines not only with our school but others. Some local companies have approached the school, and we would like to take a look at the offers. Right now, we are in a contract with Lifetouch for this year, however, if anyone would like to discuss at a later date, please reach out to me
 - ❖ When will the proofs be sent home to view since retake day is already set on the 18th of November. - Amber
 - It is believed a box was delivered today from Lifetouch, once it is organized, pictures will be sent home. - Skinner
- I did get an answer from the city in regards to a lunch crossing guard. There is NO need for a crossing guard during lunch break - Only before/after school.
- For those of you that were on council last year, you may remember we had a conversation around changing up the lunchtime policy at Molly Brant. We have made the decision to cut down to one day a week from 5. We chose Thursdays.
 - ❖ Is there not going to be a crossing guard on Thursdays - Nik
 - NO the decision that we made last year was made from the volume of kids going out to lunch, from the insights from store owners, and complaints from the community
 - ❖ Students are still able to go home for lunch - It is at the will of the parent to give permission for the child to go get "Pizza" on a Monday, Thursday is just a recommendation from the school. - Jenn
 - ❖ When does the newsletter go out? - Nik
 - Usually within the first week of the month and updates when need be.

Teachers Report - Jennifer Bocking

- For those of you that are new, I was the staff representative two years ago when most of the meetings were virtual, last year I wasn't and Now I am back. So thanks for having me I teach Grade one and this is my third year here at Molly Brant
- Thanks Lindsay for your report, that really is interesting and I'd be happy to help in any way when things do start to happen, as Scott said Count me in.
- We do recognize that it's national treaties week and tomorrow is Indigenous veterans day and Indigenous education month. The board has provided us with a lot of new resources. There is going to be a lot of learning and exploring.
- Since Covid restrictions have been lifted, lots of clubs and activities have started up again
 - Since classes are reconnecting, reading buddies have started up again.
 - Assemblies are being planned

- Lots of field trips like Gould lake, kindergarten went to the pumpkin patch
- Spirit club is back in action, choir, and cross country
- Couple amazing EAs Miss Been and Mrs R have been talking a small group of students out of class on Fridays, to focus on basic life skills, there have been couple field trips to the grocery store, basic cooking. Learning money management.
- If the council will be doing another Wishlist for the teachers this year I would like to be a liaison between the teacher and the Advisory council. Mr.Alcock sent a couple letters from his 7/8 class in regards to teacher wishlist. Let me read a little bit - I hope everyone is having a nice evening. I am writing a short introduction. The class and I are working on improving our formal writing skills and in an effort to make our first experience as meaningful as possible, we decided to write emails to the Advisory Council to request new items for Molly Brant from funds raised at the BooBash. Couple emails where shared with items like headphones, gym equipment
 - If we could acknowledge the request that Miss Bocking had on behalf of the teachers- A lot of teachers are not aware the council does events that the money is predetermined and allocated before the event is held. We do have money in our account that we could definitely look at a teachers wish list just not the Boo Bash money. - Jenn

Treasure Report - Nik Lemieux

- I have cleaned up the report to basically an account balance summary, to make it a little easier to read. The accounts on screen are the balances as of today's date.
 - Transfer of \$424.83 from account #8533 to account #8500 to correct "paint night funds" erroneously deposit to account #8533
 - BooBash raised \$1,169.80 - allocated to account #8534/approved disbursement paid out to Jennifer Kehoe of \$227.83.
 - Clarification - Council did agreed to \$200 being spent and I was paid back \$227.83 because I was under \$200, however, during the Boobash we sold out of drinks and I had to submit \$38
- Would the council be hosting a monthly hot lunch for the students? - Bocking
 - There has not been a formal hot lunch program from council in the past, mostly the Grade 8's to raise money for graduation. Maybe connect with an intermediate teacher to see if the students are interested.
 - When we hosted hot lunch it was approx. \$340, with either Hot dogs or grilled cheese. I believe we can probably host 2 lunches

BooBash Update - Jennifer Kehoe

- As you just heard, we raised \$1,169.80.
- Not sure on the exact number of families, I'd say approximately 90 families from the raffle tickets, which started off at 250 in the roll. Maybe 3rd of our school attended. The Gym was packed.
 - The children talked about this event for days. It was amazing. At least 500 attended and that is remarkable Well Done and Thank you - Morcey

- Special thanks to KSS high school students, who volunteered to help out with our event about 22 high school students. They enjoyed being in the space, they helped with cupcake decorating, and danced with the kids.
- The costume drive was a success, I was unsure if it was gonna go over very well, but it was very popular. We have left over donated costumes that are stored for future use. - Amber
- Should we shorten the Boobash in future years, can still be just as fun with less time - Skinner
 - At first Boobash was an hour and a half, one time it took over half hour just to get everyone in, so we started with two hours, however, the volunteers looked exhausted at the end of the night. Let's note this in the minutes for next year's discussion. - Joanne
- Since the Boobash was such a great hit - is there a way to have a photo in the next newsletter? - Nik
 - Some parents choose not to have photos of children shared. - Morcey
 - Our Facebook page has many photos, with parents permission, many parents did share photos for us to post for the community to view - Jenn/Amber

Sensory room Update - Joanne Anderson

- The intention was to have Suzanne Leigh and Lindsey Bean provide us a written report or have someone present at our meeting and give us a little bit more detail. With the strike this had to be on hold.
- I am planning a lending library and was hoping that the Rotary Grant can be applied to the lending library. I do not have the conditions on the grant and how the money is to be spent
 - I applied for the Rotary Club Grant for the sensory room. The grant is for parameters within the school for support to keep kids regulated in our school environment not to take home. Sue Leggett was involved in this sensory room and is now at Welbourne School. We discussed items like lava lamps or those lamps with toy fish and bubbles for those who are into visuals. It is very sparse up there and we have even at one point turned the culinary lab into a sensory room on the main floor. So in the spirit of what it was written for, I think everything else in our space, it's so busy to be responsible to take that stuff back - Jennifer Kehoe
- Is there a possibility of getting a list of items that would be in the sensory room so that we would have it in the event that there were an opportunities for donation - Nik
 - Yes, I will be meeting with the staff tomorrow to go over what is being identified. I will send it to the council. I do have a list of 7 items for the team that can be used in the sensory room, like slant boards that are used for fine motor skills. Weighted lap pads are useful for students who have difficulty sitting, stationary bikes, rocking chairs for the old students,

as well as egg chairs for students who like to sit and have the environment to be closer - Scott Morency

Santa Parade – Jennifer Kehoe

- There was a typo on the notice about the parade. It will not be Wednesday November 17th but Saturday November 19th, previous years we needed to be at the staging area by 4pm.
- Our request in the past, for my uncle in full transparency, is the one who has been building the float every year. This will be his fourth year building it and we have provided him with a Molly Brant sweater in the past and would like to donate another sweater - Maybe in the color Navy Blue per request
 - **Karen Gilbert has approved the motion and seconded by Amber Ewart**
- Mike Villeneuve is his name and is a welder in trade. This year's theme is Cinderella and the kids are going to be riding in style with a carriage.
- I have a friend who is going to bake five dozen gingerbread cookies for the kids. We have in the past been donated Hot Chocolate for Jame Braden Ford, I have not reached out yet this year.
 - Discussion took place on cost and how the money will be taken out of general account
 - Scott Morency will be donated the hot chocolate for the Santa Parade
- Downtown Kingston does not have a host site for us to gather with, so that information will have to come out after everybody submits their expression of interest, and then by the consent forms and we'll know who we have to communicate that information directly with, because the Novellus site is currently under construction. I believe that the last conversation that I had with downtown Kingston is that Bath Rd is going to be shut down for the parade to come to Portsmouth all the way down Princess. I will share the update once information is sent.
 - How is Liability sorted out from the school for an off-premises event like that? - Nik
 - We are covered with additional riders' insurance, but everyone will fill out a liability release just like they would if they were participating in a field trip or an extracurricular activity, there is a risk element associated with the form. The float operator nor the school is responsible for an injury that should occur during the time of participation of the Santa Claus parade. - Jennifer Kehoe
 - Scott to confirm that money did not come from our SAC, that the funds were covered from discretionary funds because it has always been covered for JF Simcoe, Rideau Heights and Molly Brant, that it is not an expense that the SAC absorbs - Jennifer Kehoe
 - Yes, the board is covering the insurance - Scott Morncey
 - Cathleen are you able to make the parade as you are one of our spirits that is the life of the parade - Jenn
 - I will have to check my schedule and get back to you Jenn - Cathleen

HOT LUNCH - Amber Ewart

- Discussion took place in regards to when to host the pancake breakfast.
 - The spirit of pancake breakfast comes from traditions for both schools. First Ave & Frontenac Public hosted a Turkey dinner which we noticed wasted a lot of food. So being as we are now in a new school and space, and many do have food insecurity. We thought of gathering for the holiday spirit in PJS and having pancakes without any worries. If we do change to January, it would be a different outlook and will receive many questions from parent on why Not the Christmas Breakfast
- Nik Lemieux will be doing a vote through email to council members to pick a date for our annual pancake breakfast, as the meeting has run its course in time, and we have lost a couple members on the table. Stay tuned for December meeting for an update

Jennifer Kehoe gave a run down and meanings on all the events council has hosted in previous years that the students enjoy, such as, BooBash, Pancake Breakfast, Spaghetti Dinner, Dessert Bingo. It is very much encouraged to keep these events

Amber Ewart - We will adjourn our meeting tonight and defer rest of the November Agenda to December minutes

Meeting was adjourned at 7:19pm report written by Jodie Radolfi