

Heritage Public School School Council Meeting Minutes

November 21st, 2018

Positions:	Parents:	Parents (Who have attended before)	
<p>Maria Hill (Chair)</p> <p>Christina Vezina (Co-Chair)</p> <p>Jessica Lalande Communications)</p> <p>Chris O'Neil (Secretary)</p> <p>Jill Cashman (Co-Secretary)</p> <p>Jamie Janekovic (Treasurer)</p> <p>Trish Bennett (Events Coordinator)</p> <p>Keith Penny (Trustee)</p> <p>School Representatives:</p> <p>Marie Finnerty (Principal)</p> <p>Trent Clarke (Vice Principal)</p> <p>Kathy Waghorn (Teacher Rep)</p> <p>Gillian Bartlett (Teacher)</p> <p>Marlene Dobson (Library Technician)</p> <p>Gillian Bartlett (Teacher)</p> <p>Community Representatives:</p> <p>Danielle for Robin McGrath (Children's Village)</p>	<p>Alicia Kam (1, 4 EFI)</p> <p>Chris O'Neil (1,4 EFI)</p> <p>Maria Hill (JK, 2 EFI)</p> <p>Virginia Lowe (8 EFI)</p> <p>Jamie Janekovic (JK, 1 EFI)</p> <p>Jill Cashman (JK)</p> <p>Christina Vezina (SK, 1 EFI)</p>	<p>Khula (JK)</p> <p>Melanie Vetter (5 EFI)</p> <p>Angela Counter (5)</p> <p>Kristin Schaub Cornelius (1)</p> <p>Kathy Nault</p> <p>Jodi Madden-Safruk</p> <p>Liz Renwick</p> <p>Danielle Griffin</p> <p>Rob Moran</p> <p>Liz Hay (SK, 3 EFI)</p> <p>Cheryle Houle (1)</p> <p>Jamie Carmichael (JK, 1 EFI)</p> <p>Sandra Pilon (2,JK)</p> <p>Jessica Lalande (1,3 EFI)</p> <p>Christie</p> <p>Kelly Valliere (3 EFI,5 Eng)</p> <p>Trish Bennett (8,5,sk) EFI</p> <p>Karine Huneault (3) EFI</p> <p>Jen Biondi (1, 3)</p>	<p>Carla Ala-Kantti (8)</p> <p>Cheryl Edwards (4Eng,7EFI)</p> <p>Nicole Lalande</p> <p>Mike Thompson(4,7)</p> <p>Tracey Schreiber</p> <p>Kim Bourgeois</p> <p>Kristy McWilliams</p> <p>Sonja Leadbetter-Deluco</p> <p>Angela MacCaskill</p> <p>Jackie Bacile (jk,jk)</p> <p>Crystal Choquette (1,4)</p>

References A. [OCDSB School Council Information](#)

B. OCDSB updated this year a new [School Council Resource Guide](#)

C. Ontario Ministry of Education: [School Councils: A Guide for Members](#)

D. [OCDSB School Council Newsletter](#) <subscribe>

E. Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations <http://www.ofhsa.on.ca/>

F. Canadian Home and School Federation <http://www.canadianhomeandschoolfederation.org/>

G. Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/HeritageParentsCouncil>

H. Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/HPSParents>

Purpose of Meeting

“School councils are advisory bodies....School council may advise the school principal and, where appropriate, the school board, on any matter.” “Council members shall maintain a school-wide focus on all issues. Council meetings are not a forum for discussion about individual parents/guardians, students, staff, trustees or other council members.”

1. Meeting Introduction
2. Review Agenda
3. October minutes
 - a. Approved by Consensus
4. Trustee (Keith Penny)
 - a. Municipal elections. There are 12 trustees. 8 returning and 3 are new, one returning again.
 - b. New director of education December 1st. Camile from Durham.
 - c. New Provincial Government making changes to the board
 - d. At the board, policy work is progressing. Cannabis policies.
 - e. Annual student achievement report gives the academic and wellbeing achievements. There are improvements in 8 categories. It looks like measures are starting to work. The board improvement plan for student achievement and well being. Goals to develop better socio-emotional skills in the early years. These goals will be reflected in the learning plan that the principals are working on. Each community makes efforts to localize the plan in concert with the board plan.
 - f. Looking for help developing a new strategic plan for the next 4 years. There will be a thought exchange consultation to collect opinions from all of the parents and stakeholders. The previous

strategic plan that is coming to a close was successful.

- g. The board sent 7 questions that they need responses to. He encouraged us to respond in order to give the best possible results. Links will be sent to the principal to be sent to the parents. Open until December 15th.
 - h. The new government is working hard to cut the deficit. This is likely to come down to effect the school board with reduced budgets, that we need to focus our strategy on.
 - i. Last year financial results shows a small surplus which means that there will be a little bit of flexibility this year, as we anticipate a smaller budget.
 - j. The most important things are that we take care of the vulnerable students, maintain transportation, maintain a sense of well being for the students.
 - k. Are there updates on the pro-grant::: these were postponed. The deputy minister said last week that, it has not been cancelled but it is part of a review of the budget. Trustees indicated that it is crucial for parental engagement. This is different than the PIC grant. Keith will double check. Should expect PRO grant response in February or March.
 - l. EQAO questions from a parent (Catholic Board Teacher) by email: “the overreliance on the nelson text book could be one reason for the poor math scores. Items are just touched on and not mastered. We don’t have them at my school, you end up teaching to the manual and not to the kids in front of you”
 - i. Principal does not think that teacher’s are using this too much. Many are using online resources now. They moved 10 years ago from text books and they are not keeping up. Nelson does different text books for each province.
 - ii. We had some discussion about EQAO and how digging down into the data can show a very different story than the overall status. This is particular relevant when there are special ed classes or absent students. Those students not writing the test are included in the scores.
 - iii. You are encouraged to email Keith directly with any questions at all.
 - m. Cross-Walk
 - i. Keith has no additional information on the cross-walk
 - ii. Maria indicated that a cross-walk in going be be installed in December.
5. Principal Report
- a. Attached
6. Teacher’s Report (Gillian Bartlett)
- a. see attached.
 - b. We discussed WE day for quite a while. This went really well, children reported that is made a difference in their view on life; but a part of the day was missed. It might be useful to stay the whole day rather than return for the bus.
7. Toy and Bake Sale
- a. Request help with the raffle and prizes. If you know anyone or if you can go ask for some donations for prizes. A requesting letter is attached to these minutes.
 - b. 14 December. Collecting donations the night before.
 - c. Lots of toys have already come in.
 - d. Raffle prizes have been donated.
 - e. All is going smoothly.
8. Boston Pizza
- a. \$116 earned this week.
9. Fall Fest
- a. This last year was the 10th anniversary for fall fest. This is a community event that typically makes a little money. It is free, but that ask for donations. They decided to donate to the school \$1000 of their extra money to go towards students in need to pay for field trips, food, etc at the

discretion of the staff.

10. Mural painting in school – update (Maria)
 - a. 1 response from the newsletter of an excited parent. Propose to prepare an email or message to be sent to the teachers or student council.
11. Forest of Reading - Library Reading Program (Maria)
 - a. The school went ahead and got this. This is covered, but it might be very helpful to allocate \$300 for library purchases. Every recess when the librarian is here, the library is open and kids spend time here.
 - b. Maria motions that we approve this. This is two Boston Pizza nights
 - i. passed by consensus
12. Staff Wish List (Maria)
13. EQAO scores – math (Maria)
14. Student Departures – exit interviews (Maria)
 - a. Some parents don't notify when they leave. Some kids leave because the grass is greener on the other side, and some kids come back. Some have legitimate concerns and reasons, (social, staff, shrinking English program), nothing stands out as the reason. The K-8 Model is not a popular school model. Lots of grade 7s make the decisions for their families. Start time could even be a reason, the difference is 8am and 9:15am.
15. Cross-walk update (Maria)
16. Anti-Bullying presentations (Maria)
 - a. These are all very expensive. \$400-\$600, but don't really seem worth that.
 - b. Project Soundcheck is for the older kids. Could be specialized for the younger kids.
 - c. Ask high school club to come to elementary school.
17. Razkids and reading a-z (Jill)
18. School Functions and Allergies (Christina)
 - a. Ensure that there is an option to provide something to children with allergies. The only option that was available at a recent event was a sucker.
 - b. Perhaps non-food items for those with allergies.
19. Snack/Breakfast Program (Christina)
 - a. These are made available directly to the younger grades. We can accept food or gift card donations. The student decides to visit the snack program. The only time they are sent back is if they come too close to the end of the lunch.
 - b. Maria suggests posting "dig you know..." on Facebook to increase awareness.
20. Trees
 - a. all survived so far and have changed colours nicely. We need to write a report and then talk about the next 10 trees and where we will put them. Could put more trees on the fence line along colonial. Plant extra trees in between the poplars because the poplars will have to come down eventually.
21. Picnic tables in the yard have been a huge hit. There are always kids at the tables every recess. There could be another placed in the Junior yard area.
22. Balls
 - a. Karine mentioned there is a shortage of balls in the yard. Ask for some soccer ball, basketball and football donations. No superballs.
23. Lifetouch Photography
 - a. There is an option to give a feedback survey, we should send that out.
24. Dress Code
 - a. Waiting for the board to revise their dress code.
25. PRO Grant and Fundraising goal

26. Round Table
27. Notes to the minutes
28. Upcoming Dates
29. Meeting Adjourned at 20:46pm

Next meetings

- December 19th
- January 16th

Attachments

- Teacher's Report (enclosed)
- Treasurer's Report (enclosed)
- Principals Report (enclosed)

Other dates

- [Ottawa-Carleton Assembly of School Councils](#)
- [Parent Involvement Committee \(PIC\) Meeting](#)

a.

Awaiting Response from Principal

30. N/A

Open Discussions (for future meetings)

31. Robotics Program
32. Lego Mindstorms
33. Gaga Ball
34. School Website
35. Collect information – Parent Survey
36. Education Resources Sharing
37. Time Management and Organization
38. School Council Constitution
 - a. 2016 Chair Recommendations and notes
 - i. Amend to add position for Communications (Facebook/Twitter etc)
 - ii. Amend to reconcile 30 or 35 days between Article IV Para 10 and Article VII Para 1.b.
 - iii. Note: Student Council Representative not reflected on constitution.
 - iv. Note: A Member and an attendee are not equivalent....Article V describes election of Members, Article VI describes election of officers. Only Members can vote at Council meetings. However all parents in attendance can vote at General Meetings.
39. [Health and Physical Education Curriculum](#) (Sex Ed.)
40. [School Council Promotion](#)