

PALMERSTON AVENUE PS SCHOOL COUNCIL 2021-2022

Virtual Meeting #6
Thursday, April 28, 2022

Virtual meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Attendees: Rory Sullivan, principal; Laura Health-Potter, Jen Heimpel, Nancy Sarnoff, Beth Janson, Jennifer, Jesse Zuker, Laura SB, Honeybea, Jaclyn Chapel, Khaleen Little, Larisa Star, Laura SB, Liz Addison, Mark, Meggen Janes, Reed Thomas, Sasha Manes, SW, Jason

Meeting called to order and general welcome.

Agenda review and motion to approve.

Principal's update: Mr. Sullivan and Ms. Davidson

- Thanks to the parents who have launched and volunteered Swing into Spring and Pizza Lunch.
- We need volunteer help in the library. Please let us know if you're able to support.
- Many staffing changes as some teachers are on leaves. Thanks to all who are new and those staying on with us.
- Only eight weeks of school left and teachers are hard at work. Grade 3 and 6 teachers are starting to get ready for EQAO, which is back virtually.
- Ms McNeil is busy with glee and choir. She's prepping for a concert day, tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, June 22. The day would include a morning show with kindergarten, afternoon for primary school and an evening glee concert.
- Band is up and running. Still waiting for a strings teacher.
- We're planning a junior dance workshop.
- Sports are back! Grade 6s went to a soccer tournament at Forest Hill.
- Extracurriculars are up and running: glee, choir poetry, BSA, GSA, eco team and OPAL.
- New Chromebook learning lab is up and running.
- We've purchased new reading resources and putting in new order for French immersion, math manipulatives and going to library fair to for equity resources.
- Grade 6 grad is being planned for Tuesday, June 28.
- School has been allocated 19.5 teachers next year — down a teacher and a half because our enrollments are down. All across city enrolments are down: 10k in all. Probably a result of people moving out due to cost of living.

Review of draft Master Plan for revitalization of the front and back of Palmerston school yard:
Mr. Sullivan, Jesse, Laura

- We've prioritized feedback from stakeholders (teachers, students, community members) and Jesse has compiled the information into the draft master plan.
- Jesse presents slides the draft master plan, discussing improving the waiting area where parents drop off their kids for the first time and all the different zones (outdoor learning classrooms, basketball court, potential gate relocation, alternates for Ranger Joe and monkey bar areas, baseball diamond), potential graphic painted pathways in green and gold that leads people throughout the grounds, etc.

Discussion/Comments/Suggestions and concerns from group:

- Garden space/Vegetable garden location.
- Basketball nets and monkey bars (repair).
- South wall could be a future mural (board is developing procedures around murals, maybe by sometime next year).
- There are grants and other ways to add unique, artistic elements to the school.
- Opportunities to engage the indigenous community.

Committee updates:

Master plan funding/fundraising update (Sasha and Jesse)

- We want to plan to share the master plan to the community at large at Mayfest. Maybe printing large scale boards to walk people through the design intent.

Mayfest (Nancy, Meggen)

- We have a Google spreadsheet up and running where people can sign up to volunteer the day of Mayfest.
- Meggen is planning a silent “community” auction for parents and community members to donate their skills and/or items, and an online auction that would involve families donating items to be sold on an auction platform. We’re asking families to bring their items to the school by May 16.
- We have volunteers who are helping with a basket raffle where each classroom will get a theme and families will be asked to donate items that are then turned into baskets we raffle off.
- And we’ll also be asking for gently used books as well for the book sale.
- We’d like to be able to take debit card payments to sell tickets at Mayfest this year.
- Laura has a chip reader she will let us use. Otherwise, we’ll take cheques and cash.

MAYFEST VOLUNTEER SIGN UP: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1BLKDMa-iP2SzaRYcnGUy23McohsPiC8dybDoaFmW6Yk/edit#gid=0>

SILENT AUCTION SIGN UP (with ideas!):

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1vIwVHnYdUlvV492ksEAfmUX1C6V2BwWo4kz5IyrYrWl/edit#gid=0>

- Rory will reach out to TDSB schools to let Palmerston grads know about Mayfest. We can do a step and repeat and offer the grads a free hot dog.

Community outreach (Sasha/Laura)

- There’s a spring poster contest ending May 13. If classrooms want to start making posters now. We could have them on display at Mayfest.
- Ukraine
- Chanie Wenjak Foundation.
- June is Indigenous Heritage Month.
- We have funding allocated for an indigenous artist.

Arts committee (Robin/Jacki)

- We won't be using some of the money so it could go to an indigenous art project.

Council fundraising/pizza lunch (Laura)

- Panago has been a great vendor to work with.
- We're discussing reusable containers.
- Carrots and maybe cookies for the last pizza lunch.
- Thanks to Amanda for all her coordination on this effort.

Yearbook (Laura)

- We still need a design leader who can art direct the yearbook. Or if anyone just wants to help gather photos, etc.

Budget (Beth)

- Our cost for hosting the website is going up, so we should probably move to WordPress and move Spirit Wear and payments to that site in order to have just one site to work with. It's not possible for Rory and Amanda to update Wix. Laura SB had offered to help with design.
- Last year we paid 544 for Wix, but price is going up at the end of May and it's not TDSB approved.
- WordPress is having a deal for \$800 a year for two years. It would include a payment option.
- Rory says we can look into sharing the cost.
- We'll circle back on an admin level.
- Looking at a way to presell tickets for Mayfest online.

Teacher appreciation (Jen)

- Potluck is OK again.

Spirit Wear (Kelly)

- Launch new pieces before Mayfest.

New business:

- The band teacher needs new cases for wind and brass instruments. Rory will talk to band teacher for possibly getting this done in the future.
- We could perhaps slide money from the arts committee into this effort.

Next meeting: 6:30 on Thursday, May 25, 2022

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.