

École Bellewood - Parent Involvement Committee

MEETING MINUTES -- Tuesday October 5th, 2021



ATTENDANCE

Voting Members – *Lisa Packwood, Yasmine Joheir, Stefanie Neale, Megan Smith, Nia Khuong, Dr. Zhengzhong Ma, Joann McLean, Shandy Ng*

Attendees – *Karlyn Tse, Mrs. Jiang, Toni Lauzon*

Staff Representation – *Bruno Pallotto, Gerry Dufour, Tania Verro-Matos*

Regrets – *none*

Call to Order – 6:02pm

Elections

- Chair – Lisa Packwood (acclaimed)
- Treasurer – Yasmine Joheir (nominated)
- Secretary – Stefanie Neale (acclaimed)
- Council Members (7) – Joanne McLean, Megan Smith, Dr. Zhengzhong Ma, Shereen Zia, Susmita Paul, Shandy Ng, Nia Khuong

Principal's Report

- Personal Introduction - Thank you for the warm welcome by students, staff, parents and larger Bellewood community. Dedicated staff, engaged and respectful students, supportive parents.
- Kids are excited to be back in the class!
- 34 homeroom classes at the beginning of the year. 34 classes maintained after the reorg, however some class sizes changed and split classes removed/added to relieve the larger classes in primary grades. 0.5 prep position eliminated (Teacher shared classroom in grade 6).
- Always, if parents have questions, please feel free to contact the office, or members of council.
- Covid safety protocols
 - Daily Screening from school board is going well, thank you to parents for taking the time during busy morning schedules
 - All students, teachers, staff who enter the building are required to submit a screening survey
 - Layers of safety implemented at Bellewood – air quality, procedures, mask wearing, social distancing, washroom/recess/class/staggered dismissal cohorts.
 - **Focus is on keeping students safe, staff safe, and keeping the school open.**
 - Virtual learning will occur if cohort dismissed by WECHU. Parents will be directly contacted if child was a high risk exposure. Community notified via memo.
 - Extracurricular activities and fields trips are still on pause for the time being. Many virtual opportunities are happening to enrich the learning experience
 - Essential visitors only permitted in schools.
 - Mobile Immunization Clinic – Last Friday (Oct 1st) Students 12 and older and staff members. **Parents were required to provide consent in order for the students to partake in this opportunity.** No child is immunized without parent consent.
 - Targeted covid rapid screening – the health unit has issued a news release regarding upcoming rapid testing (voluntary at home testing). Selected schools will be chosen for this. More info to come if Bellewood is a part of this activity.
 - **Question:** what determines a class dismissal or student dismissal in the event of a positive case in the class?
A: The health unit makes the determination. Classes are dismissed if there is a positive test in the class/teacher. Conversely, children/teachers can isolate based on a number of factors/severity of exposure, not all of which are shared with the school by the health unit.

- Communication: The main method of communication to Bellewood families is via email and Edsby. If you are not receiving the emails from Bellewood/M. Pallotto, please contact the office and have your correct email address added to the system, or if you need assistance accessing Edsby.
- Student Learning Focus: Bellewood is partaking in a literacy program that is equitable, inclusive and comprehensive. Teachers in primary grades attending sessions on the program that is based on the science of reading research and that utilizes assessments and instructional practices to ensure every student has the fundamental right to learn to read.
- Progress Reports were supposed to go home on Monday Nov 8th. The school reorg day delay has pushed the progress report out to Monday Nov 15th. Parent Teacher Conferences will be Thursday Nov 18th, 2021
- PA day remains Friday, Nov 12th, 2021

Vice Principal's Report

- The First 10 Days and Beyond - Mental health impacts to children being back in school. With kids going through differing experiences through the pandemic, the first weeks of school focussed on children becoming reacclimatized to the classroom and getting settled.
- A pause last year from the Character Education Program (Respect Kindness Perseverance). Mme. Morris has taken the lead on reintroducing this program.
 - Survey question: should we continue with the same 3 items from before OR do we change traits to Empathy and Resilience?
- Celebrations:
 - Terry Fox fundraiser was a success, and brought ~\$1630 to contribute to the charity.
 - Every Child Matters/Orange Shirt Day was a day for learning and coming together to honour residential school children.
 - Cereal Box Challenge is coming up! Nov 1st - 17th
- PRO (Parents Reaching Out) grant is available again this year. Ideas needed for submission.

Teacher's representation

- Everyone is happy to be back, and children are being so diligent about the protocols (masks and hand washing).
- Celebrating and team building activities were the focus of the beginning days/weeks.
- Thank you for teacher gift cards from last year!

Treasurer's Report

- \$4151.25 Food Days
- \$3244.19 Fundraising
- \$43.70 Grants
- \$7439.14 Total

Classroom Allotment

- Each teacher is allocated \$120 to spend on classroom supplies, experiences, etc
- *Motion to allocate \$120 per teacher with case by case approval from M. Pallotto*
- *Motion – Lisa*
- *2nd – Dr. Ma*
- *All in favor, none opposed*

PIC Lunches

- Green Heart Lunch Club and Harvest Fresh are the planned vendors

Bulletin Board

- *Motion to allocate \$100 to support the bulletin board seasonal/promotional decor*
- *Motion – Lisa*
- *2nd – Joanne*
- *All in favor, none opposed*

Fundraising Ideas

- Parents are encouraged to bring ideas to the group to figure out feasibility
- Boxes of Greeting Cards
- Cookie Dough
- Popcorn
- Gift Cards

New Business

- Parent Involvement Committee meetings are **open to any parent any time**. Please feel welcome to join us to learn more about Bellewood activities and bring your fresh opinions.
- If families have any questions regarding Covid Guidelines or school protocols, please contact the office (M. Pallotto or M. Dufour) or the Windsor Essex County Health Unit (wechu.org) or the public school board website (publicboard.ca)

Meeting Adjourned 7:38pm

Next Meeting – Monday Nov 8th @ 6pm

PIC Chair Contact Info:

Lisa Packwood - BellewoodParents@gmail.com

GO BISON!

