

# École Dickinsfield School Council

## Meeting Minutes

### September 15, 2021

The École Dickinsfield School Council will work with the administration and staff to create a safe, supportive environment which challenges students to be confident and successful intellectually, socially and emotionally.

We focus on the entire school community at our meetings. We cannot discuss individual issues. Please see the teacher or administration for these items.

#### **Attendance from Executive and Administration/Staff:**

Erin Keca	Jessica Abraham	Raissa Smith
Erika Kennedy	Nicole Arseneau	
Line Landry	Kristen Craig	
Katelyn Sipila	Chantalle Cloutier	
Angela Urchyshyn	Brad St. Denis	

#### **Attendance from parents:**

Spophie Manuel  
Amanada Thomas  
Staci Lemay  
Megan Langpap

#### **1) Call to order at 6:35 pm**

#### **2) Welcome**

- a. Quick introduction of the School Council Executive and Administration in attendance.
- b. Quick introduction of parents in attendance.
- c. Quorum was not met.

#### **3) Reports**

##### **a. Principal:**

- I. Successful start to the school year. Explanation of class #'s and how there has been a small decrease in our French program.
- II. School division mandated masks for students, and staff in common areas, but students do not need to be masked in the classroom.
- III. Water fountains are functioning, but recess is still staggered.
- IV. We borrowed 15 minutes from our lunch hour and added it to our morning recess so students can have snack time and recess time Div 1. Students

stagger times with Div. 2 students. This seems to be going well, as students are happy to share their recess time with their age level friends.

- V. Blue park is currently under renovations and will be changed out with a new park. Adjustments have been made to ensure student safety and optimal supervision.
- VI. We have also continued with our soft entry, so students may enter beginning at 8:40am.
- VII. Bussing has presented some struggles early this year as Sparksman is hiring drivers so they can provide enough buses/drivers without delays. Working with Sparksman to ensure that myschoolbusmonitor.ca is updated regularly when there are delays.
- VIII. Introduction of our FNMI Gathering space. Elder Pollyanna McBain and our journey to learn more about TRC knowledge, learning, and sharing.
- IX. School guests, organizations, and presenters are still on pause while we wait for more information from gov't and data.
- X. Second PLF for staff is this Friday, Division PLF will begin; Staff have chosen learning groups and will be setting goals for learning that will impact classroom teaching/learning in a positive way. All teaching staff attend, Cupe Staff/EA's can opt in or out.

**b. DFFA;** (Dickinsfield Flyers Fundraising Association)

- I. Discussed fundraising today, such as Flipgive (online purchases auto donates fundraising to the school DFFA)
- II. They will be developing a handbook for DFFA to discuss the different roles so they can recruit new members.
- III. Hot lunch cannot run until volunteers are allowed into the school. Nov.-Jan (Covid pending)

**a. Networks;**

- I. No report - We do need someone to attend the network's meetings. Raissa can attend the first one - but if we can have someone sign up, that would also be great!
- II. Next Joint Networks meeting is Oct. 12

Networks is an is our way to communicate what is happening in our School Council in our school to the District at the District level.

**4) New Business**

- A. **Executive Positions to be filled**-Looking to fill a Vice-Chair position, and a secretary position. Vice-Chair - fills in for Chair as needed and assists with the running and prep. For meetings.

- I. **Vice Chair position - Megan Langpop** volunteered for Vice –Chair
- II. **Secretary position - Sophie Manuel** volunteered for Secretary position
- III. Raissa made a motion to accept Megan and Sophie in the above positions, motions were accepted.

**B. Class Changes**

- I. Due to new enrollments and fluctuating student numbers it became necessary to create class changes in order to ensure that class sizes for the very large classes that we had could be reduced in an effort to ensure that all of our students and teachers have opportunities for success this year. The changes impacted all of our students (in some way) from grade 1 to grade 6. The changes collapsed a French Immersion classroom to create another English classroom. As a result Mdme. Arianna has moved from teaching a gr. 4 french class to a gr. 4 english class. Other changes allowed students and class size numbers to change. As a result we went from having two combined classes to having 8 combined classes. Upon consultation with Division Leadership, they advised us to do the change during the school day and communicate to parents at the day's end. The school contained a lot of emotions today, the staff were amazing, and we all did our best to support students with the changes that are also intended to support our students. Making changes after the start of the school year are the last thing that anyone wanted to have happen, but it truly was the best way to move forward in a way that allows the school to support all of the students in the school.

Staci - commented that she believed allowing parents to know of the changes ahead of time would allow them to mitigate any stress students may experience through the transition process.

Erin - accepted the feedback and acknowledged that the students are at the heart of everyone's decisions and regrets if our choices at the school today made students' days more difficult.

**C. Current COVID protocols**

- II. Discussed previously (Mask protocol and Checklist procedure) COVID information is being shared differently this year and will no longer be released/shared as it was last year. Medical information is considered personal information and it is not required for families to share COVID contractions or exposures. However, a school will be declared an outbreak school if 10% or greater of the school's population is absent, and then further measures would be considered/enacted.

Megan - Will the school make their own decision to report to parents, fully aware that this is a board decision?

Erin - We will follow board direction and have been directed to not report COVID exposures, but to share the COVID checklist and ensure that any students and staff experiencing core symptoms stay home/are sent home for 10 days or have a negative COVID test.

**D. Suggestions for presentation topics**

- III. Would be great to get more parents out for the school council.
- IV. Our school cannot run with a school council; it is in the School act.

- V. If you have any ideas for presentation topics that would be of interest for parents and act as a draw please let us know.

**E. Recommended topics:**

- I. Online tools for parents at home.
- II. Chromebook/Google Classroom refresher
- III. FNMI School Initiatives
- IV. French Immersion resources to support parents/students at home (could this help with retention?)
  - a) Canadian Parents for French
  - b) FRAP
  - c) Other French organizations that we could invite?
  - d) Line is a member of the Francophone Association - Opportunities for kids to do soccer in French and other...

**5) Next meeting dates (all at 6:30pm)**

- a) Wednesday, October 20, 2021
- b) Wednesday, November 17, 2021
- c) no December meeting
- d) Wednesday, January 19, 2022
- e) Wednesday, February 16, 2022
- f) Wednesday, March 16, 2022
- g) Wednesday, April 20, 2022
- h) Wednesday, May 18, 2022
- i) Wednesday, June 8, 2022 (**AGM**)

**6) Adjourned at 7:41 pm**

- I. Motion to adjourn the meeting - motion accepted.