

**C.R. Marchant School Council Meeting**  
**November 1, 2023**  
**Meeting Minutes**

Co-Chairs: Keith Russell (KR), Courtney Ricci (CR)  
Treasurer : Valerie Groves (VG)  
Secretary: Damon Groves (DG)

Location: C.R. Marchant Library  
Time: 6:30-7:30

Present: Principal Kristine Sitwell (KS), Vice-Principal Bakari Lindsay (BL), Keith Russell (KR), Courtney Ricci (CR), Damon Groves (DG), Valerie Groves (VG), Julie Bisson (JB), Cindy Wongsuna (CW). Present via Zoom: Lana Hazel (LH), Ms. Reid (NR), Anna Maria (AM), Mahaliah Thorpe (MT), Zara (Z), Mukesh (M), Charmaine Miller (CM), Mr. Levy (ML)

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Decision/ Action Taken</b>	<b>Actions/ Responsibilities</b>
<i>Welcome, Introductions, and Land Acknowledgement</i>	KR provides a warm welcome. BL recites land acknowledgement	
<i>Review and approval of September 2023 minutes</i>	<b>LB motions to accept Sept. Minutes, VG seconds. Motion Passed</b>	
<i>Principal's Report (SF)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>School Improvement Plan- We have met with teachers to come up with new SIP. Math scores have been improving, and now we are focused on language. The main goals are supporting student voice</li></ul>	

	<p>(with equity in mind), how to utilize that student voice, and indigenous education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● School Budget- is quite small. Until last year, we were able to carry over from previous years. We cannot carry over more than 12 percent. The school is now in charge of covering costs not previously required to. VG- is model school funding incorporated in this? KS- no, but we find out in December how much we will be funded through model school program. We use that funding for field trips and events.</li> </ul>	
<i>Chair Report (KR, CR)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Community Support Worker (CSW): We still do not have one assigned yet. Ricardo, a member of the community, has volunteered to step in when needed.</li> <li>● Library Representative, TPL – we also do not have a rep from Weston Library tonight. They plan to attend every other meeting</li> <li>● Curriculum Night: The BBQ was a great success. Staff was very happy with the turnout.</li> <li>● School Statement of Needs (SSON); This has been submitted! CR- we reached out to school community, but did not receive any feedback. KR- I think in this case, no news is good news</li> <li>● Innovation Grant: The application was supposed to be submitted yesterday, but the deadline has been extended. MR is going to submit the application. CR- this year's topic is mental health. There are three sessions. First is "Screenager," which relates to teens and screen usage. Second</li> </ul>	

	<p>is by an organization called Boost, which has a variety of topics to select from. And the third could be one focusing on trauma. VG- where did trauma come from? KR- the idea was to diversify topics. Trauma could be very helpful for some. CR- it might be a difficult topic for some. KS- are there any topics that relate to social media? KR- yes, that's the central issue of "Screenager". JB- what other topics are covered by Boost? KR- we should look into all of the options. KS- Trauma could be a useful topic, but the word itself is a trigger, perhaps another title would be better. KS- I would love to organize a multi-cultural potluck. VG- we have \$500 in the budget for Parent Engagement. This would be perfect for that. CR- I think it should go towards food. The grant is \$1,500. Screening of "Screenager" is \$700 alone. Child-minding is \$390. VG- do we know the timing of this? JB- last year, we didn't get grant approval until December. So the timing would be in the spring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pizza Day- is Friday, Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>. We need volunteers. CR, CW, LH all volunteer to assist. NR- what are the numbers like so far, now that we've transitioned to Cash Online? KS- significantly less.</li> <li>● Pancake Breakfast: We will plan to host a pancake breakfast, followed by council meeting on Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>● Future Dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pizza Day, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup></li> <li>- PA Day: Dec 8<sup>th</sup></li> </ul> </li> <li>- Parent Liaison/Health and Safety:</li> </ul>	
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	<p>CR- There is a great focus on mental health recently. Students are doing another survey this year. We will get feedback from these surveys as to where we are lacking in terms of student safety. Will have more info next meeting.</p>																									
<p>Treasurer Report (VG)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Below is our projected budget for the year. We will use all proceeds of bake sale towards expenses for Pancake Breakfast.</li></ul> <table><tr><td></td><td>Budget</td></tr><tr><td>Starting Balance</td><td>1777.12</td></tr><tr><td>BBQ</td><td>-225.42</td></tr><tr><td>Assemblies</td><td>-400</td></tr><tr><td>Dance</td><td>-500</td></tr><tr><td>Movie Night</td><td>-300</td></tr><tr><td>Graduation</td><td>-300</td></tr><tr><td>Remaining Balance</td><td>51.7</td></tr><tr><td>Bake Sales</td><td>600</td></tr><tr><td>Pizza Day</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Community Breakfast</td><td>-400</td></tr><tr><td>Ending Balance</td><td>303.4</td></tr></table> <p><b>KR calls for motions to accept 2023-2024 budget. JB motions, CR seconds. Budget passed</b></p>		Budget	Starting Balance	1777.12	BBQ	-225.42	Assemblies	-400	Dance	-500	Movie Night	-300	Graduation	-300	Remaining Balance	51.7	Bake Sales	600	Pizza Day	0	Community Breakfast	-400	Ending Balance	303.4	
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<p>Roundtable Discussion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>LH- What about a staff vs student basketball game? The kids would love that.</li><li>KS- we would need some referees (preferably parents so they are not partial).</li><li>DG- I would be happy to ref a game.</li><li>CW- perhaps we could get a suggestion box or use Google Forms for suggestions- get info from parents and students</li><li>NR- I think we should sell food at assemblies, not provide for free</li><li>JB- CR and KR should send email to ask for bake sale donations for interview night</li><li>NR- we have a Remembrance Day Assembly on the 10<sup>th</sup>!</li></ul>																									

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Grade 8 Graduation Trip:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- NR- trips are looking very expensive for Niagara. We hope to start collecting funds in January. VG- it would be great if students could start fundraising plans.</li></ul></li><li>● CR- I like the idea of a bingo night. Perhaps in March or April. JB- we would have to do a lottery licence, which is expensive and very time consuming. VG- A 50/50 draw is easier because of this. JB- or perhaps a student showcase/cultural night.</li><li>● CR- some families have had a hard time figuring out cash online, google classroom, and other computer literacy issues. Some parents need some assistance. How do we support things like this? BL- we are finding the same issues with paper system as we have with cash online now- lots of last minute issues. CR- what about families that don't speak English? BL- I hear about that on the phone. What about a support desk, or drop-in times to assist families with these? VG- perhaps we can assist at interview night with signage? CR- yes, but we need to make it verbal.</li></ul> <p><b>KR asks for motion to end meeting. VG motions, DG seconds. Meeting ends at 7:30</b></p>	
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