

**Vista Hills Public School
School Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, Nov 13, 2024 at 6:30 pm
VH Library**

Agenda Items

Welcome
October Minutes Approval
Vista Hills Updates
Financial Update - Muthu
Scholastic Book Fair - Update
Q and A

Attendees

Penny Miller, Heidi Schrier, Diana Clipsham, Sadaf Matinkhoo, Muthu Msam, Danielle MacDonald, Melissa Haslam, Ann Koenig, Deepa Sanjeev, Marilou Seeger, Natasha Ferreira

May Daily Affirmation

We have empathy.
We imagine walking in someone else's shoes.
We show we care by listening.
We show empathy by helping those in need.

Vista Hills Updates

- Strong Start - we have some volunteers who come in weekly. Started the last couple of weeks. We have had great success.
- Grade 8- Parent Information Night - happened last week, great turnout from parents, and went over different programs. Usually very informative if this is your first child going into high school.
- Kindies at Herrle's - great fun.
- Kindies/Grade 1 Classes - Centre In The Square concert.
- Remembrance Day Ceremony - No parent attendance due to capacity limitations.
- Oktoberfest Parade - Vista Hills was in the news.
- Poinsettia and House Plants Fundraiser for Nutrition for Learning - program that helps feed hungry kids and government
 - Are there other ways to donate if we forgot to buy the plants?
 - Email Penny.
- Cooking Club - Grade 5 wanted to do this. Made a permission form, announcements, recruited teacher helpers. They planned and cooked pizza in two sessions. There will be more sessions in the future.

- October 31 - Flagpole Gathering - Talked about gratitude and had a buddy activity and a scavenger hunt around the school. We'll probably have one in December to talk about empathy.
- Picture Retake Day - done in the library on Monday.
- Christmas Parade Kitchener/Cambridge - This Saturday.
- Choir Performances at Kitchener Rangers and KW Titans Games - one of them is on New Year's day.
- Fundraising incentive for the Terry Fox run: Lionel the Llama at the event.

Theme Family Fun Night

- Staff wanted to have this in Spring similar to last time.
 - free-flowing, curriculum-themed activities
 - art displays
 - performances by music groups
 - food trucks - school council
 - Natasha will look into options.
 - Scholastic Book Fair - school council , still needs to be booked
 - Penny will email Michelle to book this.
 - Tentative date: April 16, 2025

Student and traffic safety

- Ladyslipper drive is dangerous. People stop in prohibited places.
- City has been very involved, creating bike lanes to help eliminate parking. The city came to the school council meeting last year and gave a map of appropriate parking spaces.
- If someone stops at the school bus lane, you can send a photo to the city and get them fined \$500.
- Great project for some parents to take on to make the area safer.
- Can we have something similar to bus patrollers to take smaller kids and walk them to the gate?
- We need a separate group to brainstorm ideas and drive this.
- Diana will reach out to Royce and Penny to talk to the city.
- Update the map and send out communication.

Financial update

- Account balances up to date
 - School Council a/c# 850 - \$22,398.08
 - WEFI a/c for online payments - \$4,480.98 - used for the kindies play area.
 - Accounts maintained at board level and statements available from the school office.

- Spending discretion lies with school management.
- Sep 2024 Meet the teachers night food truck revenue - \$235
 - Much less than the family fun night.
 - You really want at least 4 food trucks and 2 treat trucks for the amount of people who came.
- Sep 2024 lost and found - \$96.05
- Board was swift to update all three accounts.
- Cheque that was sent to Cedarbrae will come next month.

Book Fair

- Officially started today. Schedule is confirmed.
- Will be open tomorrow until 6pm .
- We need a wishlist from teachers.
- Can we shorten the number of days?
 - Everybody needs to get library time.

Science Fair

- Pick a month when there is not much going on.
- February might be a good time.
- We need a planning meeting.
- The sooner we know, the sooner we can bring in the tables from the school board.
- We only need a rough date for this.
- We might have a theme.

2024/2025 School Council Meetings

- Second Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm
 - November 13
 - January 8 - online
 - February 12 - online
 - April 9 - in person
 - May 14
 - June - Volunteer Appreciation

Q&A

- Are there any other schools that do science fair?
 - Laurelwood does one.

Next Council meeting

- Jan 8, online (google meet)
 - Aim to finalize the science fair by then.

Minutes Approval (Oct 2024)

- Motion - Natasha
- Second - Muthu
- All in favour

Meeting adjourned