

**Alexander's Public School
School Council Meeting**

Date: April 12, 2022

Time: 7 pm

Location: Virtual via Google Meet

Meeting Attendance:

- Melissa Jamieson: Chair
- Danielle MacDonald: Principal
- Kerrie Stoehr: Vice Principal
- Karie Hanson: Teacher representative
- Lisa Mitches: Treasurer
- Sangeetha Menon: Secretary
- Katie Voisin Singer
- Tammi Pozzobon

1. Melissa Jamieson, Chair called the meeting to order, and Sangeetha Menon read the land acknowledgement
2. Principal/Vice Principal Update:
 - a. Two Black graduation coaches have been recently hired as part of the Board's initiatives to create change across the system where groups face systemic barriers to achievement
 - b. Other initiatives include removing suspensions in lower grades and reviewing hiring practices
 - c. X movement has been engaged to organize an outdoor play day for the entire school on June 3, with a backup rain date. In addition, looking to see if it possible to have X movement come in for another date as well.
 - d. This will address concerns parents highlighted around the need for resources/activities to help kids through social situations as they missed a lot of social interactions
 - e. Camp Couchiching based in Orillia have been booked to bring some camp activities to school. Currently have them scheduled for Grade 5/6, Grade 6, and Grade 6 FI. Reviewing to see if there is a possibility to bring them in for intermediate students, however, availability is limited. Parent Council can fund if necessary.
 - f. Discussion around whether it would be better to combine the Moveathon/Food Drive that council was planning to coincide with the play day with X-movement. Danielle and Kerrie will take back to discuss.
 - g. EQAO provincial testing is back this year for Grade 3 and Grade 6, with option to do the test online. This year for Grade 3 FI, the Math portion of the test will be in French. Dates: June 7,8,9 for Grade 6 and June 14,15,16 for Grade 3.

3. Teacher's report

- a. Clubs and sports are starting to come back – Relay for Grades 3 to 8 and Intramural basketball is starting
- b. A chess club and a coding club are operating with some chess tournaments coming up
- c. The student well being team met on April 8. Students from the well being team will be joining a 3 day virtual Headstrong summit. Themes are:
 - i. Be Brave - Introduces HEADSTRONG, the mental health continuum, and supporting mental health in your school and community
 - ii. Reach out - Looks at the effects of stigma and how to make positive changes
 - iii. Speak Up - Fosters planning mental health activities and the importance of youth leadership
- d. Staff continue to work through the Response and Rebuild Guide and are currently looking at what can be implemented within their own classrooms. Created groups for primary, junior and intermediate and each group is choosing specific activities
- e. Discussion around what opportunities exist to educate students on why certain words or terms are derogatory, the history of the terms and why they are harmful. Currently students may know certain terms should not be used, but they may not be aware of the history behind the word. Agreement that this is a good goal to work towards and may be appropriate to start the conversation with grades 7 and 8, and use those learnings to have the conversation with younger grades

4. Treasurer's Report

- a. Council funds stand at \$9397.92
- b. Revenue from Cookie sales was \$5448, expenses still need to be deducted. Popcorn sales amount still needs to be calculated
- c. PIC funds need to be spent by end of year. Conversation will be held over email on how to best utilize the \$500 grant

5. Fundraising

- a. Popcorn sales are now open for April, May and June. Once order report is available, Katie will be able to plan distribution
- b. Logistics for FlipGive have been set up. The app can be used to buy gift cards or shop online, and portion of the funds will go to the school automatically.
- c. Registration for Fresh from the Farm will open in June
- d. Next meeting, parent council will take some time to talk about what worked and did not and plan for what we want to continue through next year
- e. Burlington Teen Tour Band Boosters reached out to Tammi to see if there was any interest in engaging the for a year end event. Coordinated an event a couple of years ago and it was a success with minimal effort on our end. Potential opportunity to review if we want to bring them back for either graduation, a year end event or a welcome back event in the fall.

6. Next meeting: May 31, 2022 will be our last meeting for this school year and will continue to be virtual