

Dunwich-Dutton Public School Council / Home & School Association



Meeting

Date: January 13, 2025

Time: 6:00

Location: Staff Room



1) Welcome

In attendance: Sonia, Melissa, Becky, Helen, Brianne, Emily, Sam, Erin, Christa, Nancy, Michelle, Brooke and Christina.

- 2) **Approval of minutes from November 4, 2024 meeting** – Helen D. motioned to accept the minutes and Sonia seconded the motion

School Council

- 3) **Approval of financial report** – will be discussed at our next meeting

4) **Principal Report** – from Erin

- a. FDK registration opens today and runs until January 31 - Sonya to post on facebook page
- b. Climate Survey will start in February - family and staff information to come
- c. Character Assembly on January 24, 2025 – fairness
- d. No staggered start for JK and SK classes September 2025 – Board wide decision due to equity and caregiver issues
- e. Question: what do we want help with, where do we want to go
 - i. Keep up good communication
- f. Grade 8 Graduation: Parent Council supports financially, but otherwise the Grade 8's and Grade 8 teachers do everything else

5) **Teacher Report** – from Nancy

- a. Dynamo Buddies: Grade 2 and 3 students are participating in a buddy program with residents of Caledonia Gardens and Caledonia TWO
- b. Knitting Club: Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Lunn will be offering this club for Grades 4-8. They will start with groups of 10 over the next few weeks and run until Easter.
- c. Mr. Lemon has started band practice with Grad 5-8 on Tuesdays and Thursdays at First Break
 - i. March 29th the Tour Band performs at the Burlington performing arts centre for their annual winter concert. Jeff Thomblinson, director of the band has invited us, however there will be a price (regular cost is around \$40 ea., but we are hoping for a student rate), the band may need some help from Parent Council for this cost.
 - ii. May 24th is the Woodstock Victoria Day Parade: the band will be present for this
 - iii. Jeff Thomblinson has invited our school to participate in their rehearsals and actually play with the band and learn how to march. This is a big deal and a great opportunity for our music and band students. The cost would only be needed for bus transportation.
- d. Mrs. Barber: has updated her classroom to include flexible seating. She has included a futon, moon chair, ikea chairs, standing desks, coffee table, floor cushions, circle table, stools, camping chairs and a gym mat so far. She feels that this is helping her classroom community, the sharing of resources, less desk distractions and more opportunity for learning and seating choice.
- e. Cooking Club: is once a month for Grade 3 students. The last session for the first round is Tuesday, and then next 3 session will start in February and be breakfast themed.
- f. CCAT's: Grade 3s will complete between Feb 18th and March 6th

- g. Strong Start: will begin next week for grade 2 students needing extra support in literacy. Thank you Mrs. Ball.
- h. 3D Printing: 3 classes are working on different projects (bookmarks, and backpack tags). The ornament fundraiser was a success.
- i. Primary Spring Musical: Will be on April 30th with 2 performances (one during school hours and one in the evening). The hope is that parent council will be able to collect donations at the door again to raise money for a few more instruments.
- j. Girls at Bat: will be starting soon. It will run in the gym once per week until the weather is nicer. They plan to apply for a grant through the Blue Jays in the hopes of receiving funds to host an event with the other teams in the TVDSB. The plan would be to book Labatt Park as the venue, and they hope to have some special guests attend (London Majors players, West/Fanshawe players, etc.). This event would be in June sometime.
- k. Forest of Reading: this has started up, and has 43 students signed up.
 - i. Blue Spruce has started for the primary and kindergarten students – and a special thanks to Parent Council for their purchase of the Tale Bots books that will be used.
- l. January 27th is the annual book swap
- m. Book Fair: April 28-May 2
- n. Jaffa: Grade 4 will be attending and participating in snowshoeing. All expenses covered by the Outdoor Environmental Ed program.

Home & School

- 1) **Approval of financial report** – will be discussed at next meeting
- 2) **New/Continuing Business:**
 - a) **Recognition Plaque for playground** – might already be posted on the storage shed. Sonia will double check and get back to us.
 - b) **Meals Days Follow-up**
 - i) **Hot dog days, Subway days, and Pizza Days**
 - 1) School/Bus interruption details:
 - (a) Hot dogs and pizza days move to the next Thursday
 - (b) Pizza Days will move to next non-bus/school cancelled day
 - (c) Subway day gets cancelled and parents are refunded through lunchbox
 - 2) Pancake Tuesday (Shrove): We are looking into running a Shrove Tuesday pancake meal for the kids. It would be on March 4th. There are still some details with volunteers, supplies, etc. that need to be ironed out.
 - 3) All dates are set for the rest of the year: there is a concern over having all 3 fall in one week as we have seen once in the past. Though we are not adjusting any dates at this point in time. New pizza days for the next session will be posted next week.
 - 4) McDonalds, Tito's, Tall Tales, 174 Currie, etc. were discussed as other options for future.
 - c) **Winter Feast – Update**
 - i) Staff and students loved it. One request was that FDK buns need to be delivered separately as some kids didn't like their bun touching other food. There was some discussion on the dessert, as some kids were going up and getting a 2nd or 3rd helping, while others weren't getting any. This issue was because some kids didn't want to grab their dessert while they also got their meal, and then some kids were going back for 2nds before the others could even get their 1st. Next year maybe we serve the dessert right to the table for each kid, or we look at a dessert that doesn't melt and then it can be passed out later.
 - d) **Fundraising Ideas**
 - i) Mitchells Soup Co. out of Aylmer. Campaign will start Feb 3 - Feb 21. The company handles all payments and reports. (Nothing thru school online cash) We will be responsible for sorting orders and pick up dates for families. We make 35% of sales. It

will be set up online, parents set up a page for their kid(s) and they give those page details to their friends and family. We discussed an incentive for the students; the teachers and admin are going to discuss and incentive and get back to us.

e) **Janitorial Services:** General update

i) Everything is cleaned once a day, Greg King (focus is non instructional areas i.e. staff room, gym, etc.) in the daytime, and then there are 2 full-time staff in afternoon/evening (focus is instructional areas i.e. classrooms), highly touched areas are cleaned and then sanitized, and all items/areas are cleaned daily as per TVDSB

1) Greg's day to day looks very different, as he has other tasks that he needs to complete as well. So you may not see him only tackling janitorial tasks, as there are maintenance, grounds work, etc. that is on his to do list as well

f) **Donation Options:** For family, friends and community members that are looking to donate money without making purchases through a fundraiser, they need to see Sarah Field in the office. If they can bring a cheque and explain to Sarah where they would like the funds to go, then Sarah can direct them as to who to make the cheque out to and make sure it is properly processed.

g) **Membership Fee:** There is a yearly membership fee for Home and School, It is \$25 per family that is a part of our Council. We will get further details and discuss this topic more next month.

3) **Next Meeting:** March 3rd, 2025 at 6:00pm in the staff room– babysitter info to come?

4) **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Sonia, and seconded by Helen