

Haysboro School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 2025-11-21 @ 6:30 pm

Hybrid Meeting:

- In school - in the Learning Commons
- Online via MS Teams

Attendees:

Kendra B.; *Chair*, Julie C.; *Co-Chair*, Annette K.; *Recording Secretary*, Anna G.; *Casino Chairperson and Volunteer Coordinator*, Ashley Z.; *Fundraiser Coordinator*, Erin B.; *Principal*, Andrea W.; *Assistant Principal*

Teacher Presenter:

Mireille K.; *Grade 1 & 2 Teacher*

Attending Parents:

Abby M.

- 1. Call to Order:** at 6:33 by Julie
- 2. Land Acknowledgment** by Kendra and Julie
- 3. Welcome and Introductions**
- 4. Approval of Minutes from the Last Meeting**
 - 4.1. Virtual Meeting 2024-10-17:** Approved by Julie, seconded by Kendra, and all in favour
- 5. Staff Updates**
 - 5.1. Teacher Presentation:** Ms. Mireille Kerr; *Grade 1 & 2 Teacher*
 - Literacy
 - Using chunking words and rhyming from the Hergerty Oral Language Program. Also using UFLI, a phonics program.
 - We learn together as a group, talking about how the mouth is formed, sounds the letters make together, heart words (words they need to know by heart), and reading and rolling.
 - The class is working on the short "a" sound this week.
 - The different grades have different words and all the kids learn one or two skills per week.
 - Writing
 - Personal writing with a sentence starter and bubblegum printing (stretching out your sounds)
 - The kids are enjoying the literacy centers and guided reading groups.
 - Math
 - Working on graphing, representing numbers, and using patterns.

- Pumpkin Math activities include comparing two pumpkins with measurements, counting seeds, etc.
- Next week the class will be learning shapes.
- Playing math games, making patterns with musical instruments, and creating patterns to communicate different messages from one group to another.
- Gym
 - Curling, cooperative games, relays and target games.
 - The students had to gradually get into the equipment after they worked on safety and listening in the gym.
- Learning with Tale Bots using circuits in the Learning Commons
- The class was able to spend two days outside with Elder Shirley.

5.2. Administrative Messages: Erin and Andrea

- Focus Fridays Update
 - The first rotation has been completed. The students have had a chance to go into different classrooms and interact with different age groups. Some options were doing a special interest project, storytelling with puppets, coding in the Learning Commons and a language learning group. We will be organizing a new rotation and new groups after the next PD day. We received good feedback from the kids and parents. The students have been excited to do different things and the little kids were eager to work with the older kids.
- Field Trip and Residencies
 - Thanks to School Council for the quick response to get the Grade 3 and 4 students to The Confluence for Social Studies
 - The Kindergarten class is interested in doing a wet felting program in the classroom. Field trips for Kindergarten students are tricky due to time constraints within the half-day schedule and the time it takes to bus the class to a different location. However, we are open the ideas and make something work.
 - We would like to look into residencies that focus on production, music, and dance. This will be ideal for a parent community event.
- Logo Update
 - We have found the final design for the new Haysboro School logo. The students wanted the emphasis on the hill to signify the large hill by the playground. We have gotten in touch with the online store and will organize the selling with them.
 - How can we cover the funding for students who don't buy one?
 - There should be an option to purchase one for donation to pay it forward.
 - There is also a bin of about 20 old T-shirts. We can give them away at a school event, or give them to the Grade 6 class to sign.
- Garden Update

- We have a service provider that can blow out the lines. It's not something that CBE does anymore and doesn't allow building of the inline sprinklers. They come do it and bill the council directly. We are starting to talk about building an annual budget for the garden; which can be written into the bylaws.
- General Update
 - There is a new land acknowledgment released by the CBE that includes more traditional names, and protocols surrounding the use of the land acknowledgement. Staff and students are learning the names, it is a big part of identity. Kids are learning to build their land acknowledgement, and understanding words that come from different cultural groups.

6. Business Items

6.1. School Council General

- Council Communication; The Monday app is charged after the trial period with no free option. Annette will try out Asana as it is very similar.

6.2. Events and Initiatives

- Fall Costume Dance
 - We sent out a shout-out to everyone who helped out with the dance. There was \$721 raised, and about \$100 still to come through on Square.
 - There was feedback received from Maple Roots concerning kids getting behind the curtain. Kids were dancing up on the stage, which led to kids going into the Maple Roots space. Next time we will have to block off the stairs and not allow anyone up on the stage.
 - Older siblings were letting their friends in through the other doors and little kids were often found outside in the dark as well. This may require door people to supervise who comes in and out next time. It needs to be better communicated to families that this is a parent-supervised event and not babysitting.
 - Perhaps a spring dance will be better as there will be more light, maybe even a farewell to summer event with a beach theme.
 - Despite the lessons learned, it was still a lot of fun, there seemed to be more activity on the dance floor, and older kids from the junior high enjoyed the craft.
- Garden Update
 - Megan is not in attendance today. We are curious about the feedback from teachers about whether the rock garden or the picnic tables would be more desirable. Staff administration stated that the rock circle would probably be the top pick. But haven't gotten feedback yet. There will be a need for a good funding source. The rock circle is an opportunity to engage with an elder to come in and talk about the significance of it.

- The grounds people also still need to be part of the process. Currently waiting for more information.
- Purdy's Chocolate Fundraiser
 - The numbers are looking alright so far. We will need a volunteer to help with distribution from 3:30 to 6:00 pm. Abby and her son can help. Every organization seems to do a Purdy's Fundraiser, and there is even an Easter one we can do in the spring.
- Candygrams Fundraiser
 - There isn't enough time to do the holiday Candygrams, so we can make it for Valentine's. We will make sure that everyone gets one. It might be good if we hold off until February as we are doing Purdy's and asking for donations for two separate causes at the moment.
- Charity Donations
 - The donation dates are from December 2 - 15. Annette and her husband volunteer to pick up pet donations from the school and drop them off at the SPCA.
 - For the gift cards, they can be any denomination. Students can bring gift cards to the office.
- Idea of Farm to School Fundraiser during the fall where families can purchase a vegetable bundle.
- Danielle has the go-ahead to organize Candygrams for Valentine's.
- We are booked for the pie day and have ordered four savoury and four sweet pies for our selection. There will be more details on dates in December. We will need more volunteers.

7. General/Addition Discussion

7.1. Holidays for Different Cultures

- Last year some students who do not celebrate Christmas mentioned the lack of acknowledgement of other celebrations in their or other cultures.
 - The school is trying to widen the scope of the various winter celebrations.
 - We can make the decorations more winter-themed rather than Christmas-themed.

Send follow-up questions & comments to HaysboroParentCouncil@gmail.com

8. Upcoming Meeting Dates

- December 12th
- January 16th
- February 20th
- March 13th
- April 17th
- May 15th
- June 12th

Dates may be subject to change

9. Adjournment by 7:38 pm by Julie