

Dr. Plaxton Elementary Council Meeting

1. Call to order:

Day: October 20, 2021

Time: 6:31pm

Location: Dr.Plaxton Elementary Office and over Microsoft Teams

Regular meeting was called to order b Jan Davies (Chair).

2. Welcome and Introductions: Jan Davies (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made by saying name, position and children attending school.

3. Approval of Agenda: Motion: Brook Oviatt Second: Hallie Leavitt
*Additions made? None

4. Approval of Minutes: Motion: Brooke Oviatt Second: Hallie Leavitt
*Changes made? None

5. Principal's Report: Erin Hurkett

Staff Update- Changes made due to large grade 3 class. New teacher Gemma Oxley

- E-learning teacher for grade 2 Nicole Fuller
- Educational Assistant Emily Smith

Information Update- Discussed new Covid protocols

- Staff vaccines required or Negative Covid testing
- 3 cases per class- Exclusion for 10 days

Volunteers- Allowed, but teachers cautious

- Follow Vaccine protocol or negative test
- Volunteer registration form needed (Andy will send out link)
- No criminal record check needed if working in classroom with teachers present
- Teachers will communicate with families about volunteering needs

Extracurricular- Not allowed division wide, but allowed within our own school

- No travelling or mixing with other schools
- Plaxton considering- would need parent volunteers

Intramurals- Don't have a lot of open gym time. Lots of overlap of classes

- Still considering
- Parents welcome to volunteer

Nutrition breaks- Reasons:

1. Covid reasons- Easier to stagger and keep cohorts
2. Teachers need full 30 minute breaks (these are legislated breaks)
3. Provide a longer break for the kids

There are a lot of positives

Parent Question: Hallie Leavitt

Is mindful eating school wide?

Erin Hurkett: Yes, teachers discuss expectations before the break and then they listen to quiet music or sit and eat quietly for about 5 minutes with no talking. They focus on eating. Some parents prefer this over the teachers turning on a movie.

Discussion:

- *Shouldn't be militant because the children need to socialize. Especially after losing so much socialization through Covid*

- Agree that it helps the kids to focus on their food

Erin Hurkett: Will talk to teachers and make sure it isn't too militant

School Website- School Council tab

Meeting dates, Minutes, Information for parents

Melissa Herbst (Grade 2 teacher)- Informed council about teacher Professional Learning Day

- Learned Fountas and Pinnell literacy program
- phonics/word study/spelling program
- Guest speaker/ creator came in
- Every grade participating...just at different levels

Andy Tyslau (Vice Principal)- Discussed the Learning Commons and the Maker Space Vision

- Used for designing, building, science projects, virtual reality, 3D printing
- Enhance and support learning, creativity
- Each class has had 2 visit, and free thought

School Wide Events- Terry Fox Run/Walk

- Pajama Day
- Parent/ Teacher interviews

Upcoming: Halloween Festival Nov 29th

- Remembrance Day ceremony Nov 10th
- No School Nov 11, 12th
- Kindergarten P/T interviews Nov 15th, 16th (No School for Kindergarten)

Feedback- 2 Stars and 1 Wish

Stars: - Great teachers

- Teachers and Admin listen to parents...Parents feel heard
- Maker space
- P/T interviews went well on Microsoft Teams. Teachers were on time and so nice to see faces.
- Good school energy
- Admin and teachers greet parents and students outside in the morning and after school and make great effort to communicate well.

Wish: - Outdoor activities and gear are limited. Wish for more options for kids when they go out for recess.

- Erin Hurkett response: The plan is to have basketball hoops and 4 square lines painted and more outdoor games to come. Not sure when yet.

- Wondering best form of communication with teachers? Email? Remind? Call office?

- Erin Hurkett response: Office is most direct, or use email. All communication with teachers needs to be through division emails or through the office. This is a division supported decision as communication with parents should be on secure platforms which maintain professionalism of teachers. Teachers will use the Remind App

but parents will need to email back. My Blueprint Platform will be used after Christmas.

- Kindergarten pickup concerns discussed. Can be a little chaotic

- Parking drop off zone would be nice

Plaxton Vision-school expectations **TABLED**

Motion: Brook Oviatt Second: Hallie Leavitt

6. Committee Report: Difference/ purpose between school council and fundraising society discussed by Jan Davies (Chair)
- They are separate committees
 - We will need a fundraising committee for a better playground
 - School council can raise funds through hot lunch but for larger amounts of money (Casino, etc.) we need a society.

District School Council Report- Jaime Walburger

- Had 1st meeting
- Election and called new Chair
- Final meeting with outgoing Trustees
- Calendar feedback welcome
- Discussed new curriculum start K-6 pilot
- Haveyoursay Alberta.ca
- Consider ASCA info sessions \$500 per school
- Email jamie_walburger@hotmail.com with suggestions/ideas for ASCA information sessions
- Email leanne.tedder@lethsd.ab.ca for suggestions/ideas for future parents learning sessions
- Email Edna at edjokoto@shaw.ca to offer suggestions/ideas about resources you can use to support wellness in the home
- Next meeting Nov 8th at 6:30 All welcome!

7. Financial/ Treasurer's Report: Hallie Leavitt

- Nothing to report
- Money needs to be used on what it was planned for initially
- Two accounts - Fundraising
 - School council

8. Old Business: None

9. New Business: Hot Lunch

- Vaccinated volunteers can come in school
- Need to decide how often
- Need details on kitchen use
- Consider nutrition breaks and splitting up hot lunch into 2 days
- Hot lunch committee to plan a meeting

10. Attendees:

Dr. Plaxton office:
Erin Hurkett
Andy Tyslau

Jan Davies
Jennifer Gordon
Jaclyn Dekens
Brook Oviatt
Hallie Leavitt
Paige Olson
Caylee Low

Microsoft Teams:

11. Future Meeting Date: November 17th

12. Meeting was adjourned at 7:53pm

Motion: Brook Oviatt Second: Hallie Leavitt

Notes prepared by Caylee Low (Secretary)

Minutes Approved by _____  _____