

DRBS School Council Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2025

Meeting called to order at 6:45 p.m.

Attendees in person: Nick Berdusco; Jamie-Lynn Leci; Evelyne Lamontagne; Kim Howden; Jacqui Lund; Nicole Leung; Natasha Monk; Theresa Phan; Rob Cuculea; Roni Gorrie; Lydia McLeod; Jenn Lowry; Lauren Ling and Chris Kozelj. **Virtual attendees:** Jenny; Abiola; Lisa Tran; Panahi; Andrea Suarez; Miguel Urrutia; Carrie Plesuk; Nicky Palmer; and Diana Lasso.

Kim Howden presented the Land Acknowledgement.

Grade 3 Teacher's Presentation

Math:

- In Grade 3, math is taught using various hands-on activities and manipulatives, including morning math warm-ups, small group work, and digital resources such as Generation Genius.
- There is an emphasis on developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills through "productive struggle" where students work through challenging problems.

Art:

- The art curriculum focuses on studying famous artists and replicating their technique. Students learn about artists' lives and important works, then try to recreate the artists' styles using different mediums like paint, yarn, and paper.
- Students analyze the emotions and meanings conveyed through the artwork by reflecting and critiquing.

Science:

- The science curriculum starts with a focus on matter and the water cycle, with hands-on experiments and activities.
- There is an emphasis on the scientific process, having students make hypotheses and observe results.
- The hands-on experiences help prepare students for assessments, as questions draw directly from the in-class activities.

Motion to approve the previous meeting School Council Minutes made by Jamie-Lynn Leci and seconded by Jacqui. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the agenda for this meeting made by Jamie-Lynn Leci and seconded by Nicole. Motion carried.

Principal's Update

Overall, provided an update on several operational and logistical changes impacting the school community, and the need to adapt to new guidelines and policies. The government has changed how walk zone distances are being measured. This will likely result in more students qualifying for bus transportation.

To accommodate any increased bus needs, the school will be changing bell times, which could shift the start and end of the school day by up to an hour. The bell time changes may impact schedules for parents and students. The school will not know anything more until late spring.

There have been severe parking and traffic issues in the school's parking lot, leading to the suspension of student patrols and parking guards for the month of January. The lower light levels make it more dangerous. Evelyne suggests installing flashing lights to help manage the traffic.

Chair Update

The group discussed ideas for a cybersecurity education session for parents, including potentially involving students and offering virtual options to increase attendance. Tech literacy is a suggested focus. Paul Davis was offered as an option and will be looked into.

The council discussed the limitations on communication and promotion of the parent council, such as not being able to share contact information for council members.

Vice Chair Update

Currently awaiting an email confirmation from the government acknowledging receipt of the submission for annual registrations.

Hug n' Go Coordinator Update

There is a need for more volunteers for the next couple of months, February and March, as some of the regular parents will be away. The volunteer commitment is just 1 day per week, for about 25-30 minutes per day, from 8:10 to 8:30 am.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.