



Trillium Elementary School Council (TESC)

Minutes

April 26, 2023 @ 7pm - Trillium Elementary School Library and Virtual

Attendance:

School Representation:

Paula McGuirk-Lemay (Principal) ✓

Parent Council:

Kate Woods ✓

Brenda MacLean ✓

Sabine Doebel-Atchison ✓

Michelle Hapuarachchi ✓

Jen Roberts ✓ (virtual)

Ana-Livia Rodriguez ✓

Kevin Fowlow ✓

MP Baird ✓ (virtual)

1. **Approval of March 22 minutes** (approved BM, SD-A) **and of April 26 agenda** (approved A-LR, KF)

2. Student Representative Report

- next week, grade 8 students can sign up for mini enrichment/pathways to learning through Ottawa U and Carleton.

3. Principal/Vice Principal Report (Paula McGuirk-Lemay)

- Staff Changes - Chief Custodian, Rohan McFarlane's last day is Friday. Julia Hutt will be replacing him.
- Will Jamieson, one of our EA is off. Our current afternoon EA, Aline Francois-Fortune, will be replacing him in the morning. Guest EA, Tammy Tuttle, will replace him in the morning. She is very familiar with our school.
- Eric Duguay has been replacing Mr. Prudhomme part time for a month now for M7/8 and

- E6/7. It has been going very smoothly. He will start full time in May.
- Leaving Ceremony - the Board recently received information from the Council of Imams indicating that Eid -al-Adha will most likely be on June 28th or possibly on June 29th therefore we had to change our Leaving Ceremony date to Tuesday, June 27th. The Piper and DJ have been rescheduled.
 - Cathy Ayotte has taken the lead to revamp our “Chill Zone”. This is an area where students can go if they just need a break or a moment to collect themselves. We have new furniture, pictures, plants, fidget tools, puzzles, books, and a bean bag chair. We will be picking the paint colour this week and it should arrive within the next two weeks. I took a before video and pictures. I will do the “after” video and pictures and then share with Council. Cathy would like to thank Council for donating so many books from the Book Fair.
 - We received the initial plans for the Learning Commons/Maker Space. The committee (Marc Lepage, Heather McCabe, Catherine McLean, Paula McGuirk) will meet next week to review the plan and look at what other schools have done.
 - Drama with the Ottawa School of Theatre took place today for the intermediate classes. Students learned the basics of acting and improvisation.
 - Book Fair was a success again; thank you for all the hours everyone put in for the event;
 - Spring concert was great; so nice to see so many families at the event; the art walk was very popular. Thank you, Mme Leah, Ms Carvelho, and Mrs. Ayotte for organizing.
 - EQAO: May 23-June 14: grade 3 and grade 6 classes will do the assessment -4 sections in language; 4 sections in math; each section is about 30-40 minutes in length, each class sets their own time to do the assessment
 - Our second Kindergarten night will be Wednesday, May 17 from 6-7 pm. We would like all new Kinder students to come with their parents to the school for a tour and helpful hints to help their child prepare for school in September.
 - Friday is our next spirit day: silly hair and hat day. There is also a dance from 12-3 for grades 6-8 students
 - Basketball update: Intermediate girls did well; lost in semi finals. Intermediate boys did well; lost in the finals
 - Junior and Intermediate soccer has started for the boys and girls; tournaments are mid May and end of May (if fields will be ready) Thank you, Mr. Romeo and Ms Kenney, for coaching the Junior teams and Mr. Blacker and Mr. Higgins for coaching the Intermediate teams.
 - Track and Field will be the next sporting event and classes have started to work on it in gym classes; Thank you, Mr. Boyer for organizing the Junior team and Mrs. McCabe for organizing the Intermediate team.
 - Intramural Floor Hockey final is tomorrow. The Hearts and the Aces will be battling for the Romeo McMullen Cup. This has been a tradition for many years at Trillium, prior to COVID, so it is very exciting to have it back. Students from Grades 6, 7, and 8 were assigned to teams and played every recess for the last several weeks. It was so nice to see students from different classes working together. Thank you to Mr. Romeo for all of the time he put into this intramural program for our students.

4. Financial Update (Michelle Hapuarachchi)

- Last event (Valentines) was advertised as going towards the maker space. Vote to have funds redirected to teacher start up and scientist in schools (passed, unanimous yes)
- Some classes using scientists in school funding to do workshops at museums. Transport and museum entrance fee will not be subsidized. The funding is for workshop portion only (\$125)
- Need to finalize the numbers for book fair before providing makerspace numbers.
- Teachers wish list items: a speaker has been purchased, yard toys are in the works (both for kinders and intermediate)

5. OCASC Report (Ana-Livia Rodriguez)

- Nothing relevant to Trillium specifically.
- Parent councils are still struggling with parent engagement.

6. Parent Concerns

- Facebook question: The snow melted pretty soon after our last meeting but is there an update we can share regarding the snow removal in the daycare lot for next year?
Answer: Snow removal is done at the board level. The contractors meet our area supervisor and go over the maps. The contractors do not come to the school anymore to talk with the custodian and get to see the yard. Next year, our custodian should submit a new plan indicating where the snow needs to be moved.
- Facebook question: Pokémon card trading, is it allowed at school? Answer: No. Pokémon card trading has been banned in most, if not all, schools. Younger students were getting tricked out of valuable cards by older students, cards were getting stolen, etc. Unfortunately, it created a lot of issues so staff had to make that decision.

7. Chair Report (Kate Woods)

- Website: we now have access to the website so need to update it (resources, minutes for the current year, financials for seven years)
- Movie night: went well, grossed \$53.59
- Bookfair:
 - discussed challenges that arose after the concert
 - Thursday set up worked well for giving teachers the chance to add wishlists. There was a lot more engagement this time compared to last bookfair.
 - Vote for which books to buy, vote passed to buy all for \$140.
 - Vote about how much to take in cash or to put into rewards. Vote passes to take as cash.
 - More grade 7/8 French books received.
- Vendor fair next year: a parent at the bookfair expressed interest. Kate will reach out to see if she is interested in organizing.

- Grad/leaving ceremony: Eid is on June 28/29 so leaving ceremony has been changed to June 27 at 10:30am. Erin Rennie would like to help.

APPENDIX

Appendix I: TESC meeting dates for 2022/2023 school year

- May 17th, June 21

Appendix II: Approved 2022-2023 TESC Funding

- Teacher Start-up: \$60/Educator (\$1800 max)
- Scientists in School: \$125/classroom (\$2500 max)
- Maker Space: \$1100
- Leaving Ceremony: \$244
- Water Bottles for Cross Country: \$583 (exact number to be confirmed)