



APPROVED
February 9, 2021

Kars on the Rideau School Council Meeting Minutes of November 10, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm. Minutes were taken by Ashleigh Calberry.

Present: Jennifer Barrel-Benoit (Principal), Jen Shipley (Vice Principal), Chris Hiltz (Teacher Representative), Carrie Desormeaux (Co-Chair), Marianne McLeish (Co-Chair), Leslie Pattemore (Treasurer), Ashleigh Calberry (Secretary), Mark Pearson (Web Administrator), Erin Duffin, Ani Sanchez, Vicki Arkinstall

1. Welcome, Introductions, and Co-Chair Updates

Minutes

October – approved as is.

MOTION:

Motion made by Carrie

2nd: Mark

Motion **PASSED**

2. Principal's Report

- IEPs, progress reports are going out
- virtual parent teacher interviews - Nov 26, 3:30-6:00pm
 - will be able to sign up online
- report cards will be through the portal (as in June), reminder will be sent to parents about how to access
- Halloween - no parade and dance party like usual, but a lot of learning and joy, virtual participation
- people are enjoying spirit days
- Remembrance Day tomorrow - video for virtual participation
 - too long for YouTube; trying to figure out how to share with school community
 - OCDSB has put together virtual, live link for community members to also participate
 - students will be paying respects at cenotaph tomorrow, separated by grade with physical distancing
- Christmas at Kars - likely virtual performance shared with community
- looking at adjusting safety procedures based on weather (boots, coats, etc.)
 - have started using gym as overflow classroom (1 week out of 8, each class can use for phys ed, drama, dance)
 - looking at how to share equipment at recess (with OPH and OCDSB)

- some teachers have access virtual presentations (artists, performers, science) in classes
- [VP Jen] lots of reminders to students at recess (no tag, etc.), but kids are being very understanding when reminded
- biggest challenge is probably getting students to physically distance outdoors
- 75 new Chromebooks received from the board last week, will be distributed to classes

Teacher Rep. Update

- nothing to share from staff
- echoing P/VP, really proud of the positive attitudes, and hoping it continues when the snow comes and it gets colder outside

3. Discussion re: PPE/covid

- students very good about wearing masks as required, will discuss need to require masks at recess if it becomes necessary
- staff were all wearing face shields, have transitioned to goggles
- Ruth (office assistant) handling all the difficult conversations well, a lot of follow-up required, more private health information being asked than usual
- no cases so far, will communicate as soon as they have information that there are
- all students who had been on waitlist for virtual have now been placed
 - requests to return to in person from OCV being handed by the school, based on available spaces
 - parents can request to switch, based on need and request may be approved if spaces are available

4. Treasurer's Report (Marianne, while transitioning to Leslie)

- no change in financials from last month

Due to lack of fundraising right now, and unsure situation this year, discussing and voting on whether to hold individual standing motions for this year.

- 1) OCASC membership (has not been paid in the past 2 years)

ACTION: Carrie will look into this

- 2) Chair admin expenses - not needed this year

MOTION: put on hold for this school year

Motion made by Carrie

2nd: Leslie

Motion **PASSED**

- 3) retirement leaving gifts (\$100/teacher)

MOTION: leave on as a standing motion

Motion made by Carrie

2nd: Marianne

Motion **PASSED**

ACTION: Darren Farwell retired in August, not yet acknowledged

- 4) Teacher appreciation luncheon (approx. \$1000 usually)
MOTION: put on hold for now and vote at a later date, when we know what might be allowed
Motion made by Marianne
2nd: Carrie
Motion **PASSED**
 - 5) Greening Committee
MOTION: put on hold for now and vote in spring if needed
Motion made by Marianne
2nd: Mark
Motion **PASSED**
 - 6) Reading and literacy (usually up to \$3000)
MOTION: split amount in half and approve 50% now, vote on second half later in school year if required
Motion made by Carrie
2nd: Mark
Motion **PASSED**
 - 7) Coyote trail/plaques (through Lifetouch)
MOTION: put on hold for now
Motion made by Carrie
2nd: Marianne
Motion **PASSED**
 - 8) teacher consumables (\$100 per FTE staff member, approx \$4500 total)
MOTION: adjust to \$50 for now and vote on remaining \$50 later as needed
Motion made by Marianne
2nd: Carrie
Motion **PASSED**
- ACTION:** Jennifer to get number of staff members

Additional Expenses, not included in Standing Motions (not voted on):

- 1) grade 8 graduation (approx. \$1600)
- 2) bus subsidy for field trips

5. School Spending Requests

- 1) Scientists in Schools: virtual program (\$220/class, requested for 2 classes). Jennifer would like to see how it is virtually before looking into it for more classes later.
MOTION: approve \$440 for now
Motion made by Marianne
2nd: Mark
Motion **PASSED**

6. Current Business

Fundraising

- not allowed to have volunteers in school, no passing out of anything, food, etc., nothing inside a building
- would like to shift to more online fundraisers, but still make it fun for the kids
 - ideas: danceathon, magazines, gift baskets/raffle, Little Caesars, citrus, poinsettias, cookie/muffin dough
 - gift cards (Vista VIP) only get 4% back with over \$5000 sold, may not be enough return
- logistics of arranging pickup safely for any items: drive through pickup, outside
- possible focus on supporting local businesses
- shift to focus on fun for kids rather than focus on raising money
 - ideas: decorate for Christmas, snowman building contest
 - photo contest, design a mask contest

ACTION: Erin is sitting on OCASC Nov. 17 for Manotick Public, and will look into what other school councils are doing

ACTION: Carrie will reach out to Rachel Polite to see if she's interested in Little Caesars fundraiser this year; Jennifer will look into logistics of pickups, etc.

ACTION: Marianne will look into wreaths or plants from local farm

7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:19pm.

The next meeting will take place on January 12, 2021 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm via Google Meet.