

## Leslieville School Council

### Meeting Minutes

November 2020



27 attendees

Item	Notes
<b>Agenda and Minutes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Land Acknowledgement</li><li>• Agenda was circulated electronically via Mr. Yee.</li><li>• Minutes were approved</li></ul>
<b>Principal's Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Remembrance Day celebration went very well</li><li>• <u>Report Cards</u>: Today (Nov 17) progress reports were sent home from the school. The parent teacher interviews are being conducted on Thursday November 19<sup>th</sup> or Friday November 20<sup>th</sup> either over the phone or virtually.</li><li>• <u>Curriculum night</u>: This was supposed to happen next week but the school is cancelling it. The teachers will provide alternative ways of communicating with the parents at this time and considering interviews are coming up, this was deemed not to be needed.</li><li>• <u>School Budget</u>: we have fewer students in school so the budget has been reduced. \$40,405 total budget.</li><li>• \$20 per student is allocated to each of the teacher's.</li><li>• Phys. Ed, Music and French also receive an allocation.</li><li>• No money has been allocated for technology in the overall TDSB budget, as a lot of money was allocated for Chrome books and iPads for kids who needed it. There is currently a backlog on iPads, but Chrome books have been distributed to children who need it in our school community.</li><li>• Discussion around what technology the classrooms have available (i.e. data projectors) and whether there are any other technology needs. Ms. Cremer noted that iPads are in very short supply and are needed and data projectors don't necessarily work in each classroom.</li><li>• Parent question as to why national anthem is no longer being played in the morning. This is because a number of classes are outside in the morning and singing is not promoted by public health for COVID reasons. Some teachers are doing it inside their</li></ul>

	<p>classrooms.</p> <p><b>Indigenous Month (November)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Virtual speakers will be doing presentations for the school</li> <li>- Teachers will be doing a number of activities in the classroom</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Dates - Winter Break</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Starts December 19<sup>th</sup> and ends Jan 3<sup>rd</sup></li> <li>- Return is planned for January 4<sup>th</sup>, but may be changed depending on COVID</li> </ul>
<p><b>Teacher Report</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One teacher would like to receive a microphone for their class. One teacher did buy a microphone right before school started and is requesting reimbursement – Council decision last meeting was to pay for this.</li> <li>• Recess bags – most teachers are feeling that they need some more equipment. Ms. Cremer will provide some suggestions from the teachers as to what they think might be the most useful this year (i.e. sidewalk chalk). Mr. Yee to also ask Ms. Lee for suggestions. Council has some additional funds allocated from recess bags from last year, so will use that money to replenish. If more money is needed, then Council approval will be sought for the increased funds.</li> <li>• Ms. Jacobs outlined her use of technology in the classroom – the most common technology used for the senior grades are Chrome books. The iPads are less useful at this level as the Google apps do not work very well on them. The Chrome book is really good with Google classroom, making slides, creating documents, etc. Her class also doesn't have access to music, so they are using virtual piano app and accessing different music resources. Technology is not really used for “playing” even during indoor recess.</li> </ul>
<p><b>School Statement of Needs</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-Chairs have made updates to this document from last year (i.e. to address items that we feel are important for a principal of our school and our school community more broadly, as well as to address COVID-19 and those who have opted for virtual school). Amy to circulate to those who provide their email for any comments by Friday, as it then needs to be provided to Mr. Yee.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Committees</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Literacy Committee Update</u>: Erin outlined that the committee will be doing a literacy BINGO activity for the school community in January. It will be done online so that virtual school members can also participate. They have created a BINGO card with a number of literacy related activities (not just reading) for kids to complete</li> </ul>

and parents can initial. Prize allocation has not yet been determined, but may be done by the class with the most squares completed, etc.

- Parent engagement committee: Adrian outlined the hat, mitten and gloves drive that is currently running. Mr. Yee stated that there are a lot of donations coming in. They have not had to hand them out yet, because it hasn't been too cold, but will likely start to be used in the coming weeks. Request was to let the Council know if the supply is running low.
- The Committee is also putting together an initiative for families and children to re-draw the Leslieville Lions logo and put them up in their windows at home for the school community to walk by and see them at each house. There will also be a sign under the canopy for students to write how many different signs they saw on their walks. They will also post some on social media for all to see.
- In December – looking at a virtual parent's social night – maybe by class? Perhaps to support local restaurants – each class could choose one to suggest for ordering take out. Still looking at the details.
- In the spring – outdoor family dance is being considered.
- Any other ideas are welcomed.
- COVID Committee: Hanna outlined that the Slack channel has about 50 participants but isn't being used very much as we haven't had any new cases and there is a number of public health resources that have been shared with the community. Hanna is ready if/when we need this committee to do more.
- Slack channel can be access at:  
[https://join.slack.com/t/leslievillejp-0cx1048/shared\\_invite/zt-j7xcnixh-AWbjsR\\_3hxSosEOVG28odA](https://join.slack.com/t/leslievillejp-0cx1048/shared_invite/zt-j7xcnixh-AWbjsR_3hxSosEOVG28odA)
- Diversity and inclusion committee: Lindsey outlined that they met this month. They will be meeting with Ms. Jacobs to gather information on where they can have the greatest impact. They are looking to outline their mandate as well as developing a decision-making framework for Council, as we do not have full representation at the meetings. This would hopefully make our decisions more inclusive. They will be looking into any TDSB resources on this point. Goal for the next meeting is to bring back a draft mandate and a few options for the framework. Committee

	<p>will also look at TDSB resources/speakers who can come to a Council meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Advocacy Committee</u>: No members present – update to be given next meeting.</li> </ul>
<b>Covid Update</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stephanie Tat, public health nurse, Toronto Public Health (TPH) spoke about COVID tips and resources:</li> <li>• Outlined role of TPH and COVID response within the school setting as well as outlined various resources for mental health and well-being (presentation to be circulated to school community).</li> <li>• Any individual can call 211 to access mental health support services offered by the City. There are also a number of online resources and support services available on the TPH website.</li> <li>• Parent question around the 13 cases at a high school, but Stephanie did not have any information to provide on these incidents.</li> <li>• Stephanie outlined advice for teachers in the classroom: do your best to ensure social distancing and not sharing items in the classroom. Parent question as to whether there is any recommendation to tailor social distancing advice by age (i.e. younger students are less likely to remember this and how much this may affect their mental health by being told all the time), but Stephanie said that the younger students tend to be quite good at doing it and will think more about what to do if children are exhibiting impacts to their mental health.</li> <li>• Lunchtime recommendation: keep children 2 feet apart and sitting quietly at their desk for eating.</li> </ul>
<b>Treasurers Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Winston and Sumiko were not present at the meeting – full report to be presented at the next meeting.</li> <li>• The only real change to highlight since last month is spending with respect to microphones.</li> </ul>
<b>Roundtable – Q&amp;A</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blake has approached us to partner with them to get a speaker from Black Lives Matters via Zoom – Freedom School. December 10<sup>th</sup> is the first one, but there are 4 sessions proposed. We could participate in any number but looking to cost share the speakers’ fees among a few different schools. It would be about \$300 per school if they can get a number of schools to partner. Parent requested that the sessions begin around 7:30-8pm to allow parents to join after work/bedtime.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Julie moved a motion to support the Council spending for this initiative. Shannon seconded. Motion passed.</li> <li>• Book Fair: Question was asked whether there will be one this year. Scholastic is still happening, but no book fair is currently planned.</li> <li>• Teacher appreciation potluck: obviously can't happen this year, due to COVID. General issue is that the Council can't spend money on teachers directly. Jenn to reach out to Duke to ask how they collected money from parents to pay for appreciation gifts (i.e. individual coffee, baked good delivery) for the teachers.</li> <li>• Class photos (proposed to be outside) have been put on hold.</li> <li>• Kindergarten chalkboard: the parents raised the money to pay for this. Wray has it, and it will be put up shortly.</li> </ul>
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**Decisions**

	<p>Motion was made by Julie to approve Council funds to pay for Freedom School speaker series in connection with Blake and other schools. Shannon seconded. Motion passed.</p>
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**Actions**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Yee to receive and provide for circulation the deck presented by Stephanie Tat</li> <li>• Ms. Cremer/Mr. Yee/Ms. Lee to advise on suggestions from teacher's regarding items for the recess bags</li> <li>• Amy to reach out to Blake Council regarding speaker series</li> <li>• Jenn to reach out to Duke Council to determine how they collected and distributed teacher appreciation gifts</li> </ul>
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**Future Agenda Items**

<p>1. Diversity and Inclusion mandate and framework for Council decision-making</p>
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**Future Meeting Schedule**

<p>2020-21</p>	<p>The proposed meeting schedule is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• December 15, 2020</li> <li>• January 19, 2021</li> <li>• February 16, 2021</li> <li>• March 16, 2021</li> <li>• April 20, 2021</li> <li>• May 18, 2021</li> <li>• June 15, 2021</li> </ul>
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