

Plympton-Wyoming Public School Council Meeting Minutes

4th Meeting: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 7pm -Virtually through Google Meet.

Attendance: Andy Parnham, Tressa Brown, Cheri Rondeau, Jennifer Richard, Afton Helps, Ashley Armstrong and Theresa Siertsema

Regrets: Sarena Potma, Valerie Riess, Trina Nolan

1. Welcome

2. Additions to the Agenda

3. Approval of Minutes

4. Reports – Principal’s Update

Thank you

Principal Parnham began by thanking all the parents for their hard work in helping their students during online learning.

African Heritage month

February is Black History month. This is not just a one month focus but should be embedded throughout learning all year. Starting in February it is highlighted. The LKDSB is highlighting and supporting the Black lives matter movement.

Narrative writing

Narrative writing is beginning this month for students in grades 1-8 and will continue throughout February and into March and April.

New Kindergarten students for September 2021

There are currently 25 JK students registered for September. That number of students is up from what the school currently has.

Last week on Thursday evening and Friday, the school held KinderStart registration and meets. 23 of the 23 registered students at that time, attended a virtual meet with their parent.

Mrs. Brown and Mr. Parnham were one team and Mrs. Hendra and Ms. Wood were another. They met with the families virtually. Principal Parnham was very thankful for the way the virtual welcome went and expressed his gratitude to Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Hendra and Ms. Wood for the way they volunteered their time to make the new families and students feel valued and welcome.

The school has a healthy number of JK students for September, which is very encouraging.

Kindergarten Communication of Learning and Term 1 Report Cards for Grades 1-8

These will be sent home on Friday, February 19, 2021

Now that schools are back to in person learning, the reports will be going home in an envelope with each student.

If there are any questions regarding the report cards, parents are encouraged to reach out to classroom teachers to ask their questions.

Character Trait

February's character trait is Honesty.

Valentine's Day

Unfortunately, there is some disappointment around Valentine's Day because they cannot be distributed in classes this year because of the current health and safety protocols. Most teachers have other Valentine's Day activities planned.

Family Day

Next Monday, Monday February 15, 2021 is Family Day. There is no school on that day.

Reporting student absences

A call from the LKDSB was sent out today regarding reporting student absences.

The LKDSB is moving away from parents informing the classroom teacher through Seesaw or Google Classroom that a student is going to be absent, late, etc.

There will now be 3 different methods to report student absences.

- Option 1: Call a toll-free number and follow the prompts.
- Option 2: Set up a secure online SchoolMessenger account and login to a website.
- Option 3: Download and set up the SchoolMessenger app (Apple or Android) to a smart phone or tablet.

More details will follow regarding these three methods to report student absences.

At Plympton-Wyoming Public School, you are still able to call the school office to report an absence.

Device collection:

During the pandemic the LKDSB had device rollouts from last March-June. These devices are Board owned and not school owned. The LKDSB would like the devices to be returned at this time.

During the latest break, from the end of the Holiday Break until recently, devices were also lent out and these devices were individual school devices from the classrooms.

Most of the school devices have now been returned to the school.

The devices must sit out for a period of 48 hours before being redistributed around the school. Mrs. Shain is busy taking care of and preparing the devices for redistribution.

-Teacher Representative Update

Mrs. Brown shared that she felt that everyone is doing a great job with online learning.

She shared that not much has happened at the school since we last met because everyone was virtual for most of that time.

House Colours

There were House Colour spirit activities at Halloween and at Remembrance Day (virtual assembly only) and then during the last week of school before Christmas.

In the House Colour point race, there was a huge shake up just before Christmas. The students haven't found out yet, but the standings changed after the last assembly and spirit activities.

Currently: Green team is in 5th, Blue team is in 4th, Red team is in 3rd, Orange team is in 2nd and Yellow team is in 1st place! The Yellow team came from last place to take over 1st place! The Yellow team gained many points when they collected candy canes with the greatest number of points attached to them.

Nothing new has been planned yet. The schools went back to in person learning a bit late to be able to plan something for Valentine's Day, so maybe they will need to plan something for St. Patrick's Day or for another holiday that is coming up.

There might be a secret spirit day on Friday.

As students have only just gone back to in person class, most classrooms are focusing on back to school routines and fun little activities.

Everyone seems to be happy to be back at school and ready to go.

-Treasurer's report

Not much activity since last meeting.

\$4455 was the closing balance.

\$4271.08 is what the account is at now. The teacher appreciation luncheon came out of the account, which is why the account is lower than the last meeting. That is the only activity that has occurred since the last report.

-Fundraising Update

Mrs Armstrong shared that we are using two different Greenhouses for the spring fundraiser.

We are using FlowerBed greenhouses, which is a fundraiser that was done about three years ago.

We are doing their smaller type fundraiser which includes 3 options of a variety of geraniums, geranium planters, and petunias.

FlowerBed will send the school a colour order form to hand out so parents can see what the flowers look like before they order online using School Cash Online.

We are also using Windovers for a small fundraiser where families will have the option of baskets or planters for sun or shade.

The Delivery date from the greenhouses will be May 4th. We are hoping to get the order forms out before March break so that gives families a couple of weeks to place their orders.

Pick up will be similar to how winter pick up went.

We are hopeful that the fundraisers will be able to proceed.

Outdoor learning area

Principal Parnham hasn't heard anything further from building services around the outdoor learning area. It's going slowly.

Mrs. Richards sent some pictures of possible designs for council to consider.

Principal Parnham asked for any more input on the location of the outdoor classroom and there were no new preferred locations.

Mrs. Brown shared that staff had a few pictures of what they had brainstormed as well for the outdoor classroom. She forwarded the pictures to school council through email.

5. New Business

No new business.

6. Adjournment

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 7pm virtually.