

Centennial Public School Advisory Council Minutes

Monday November 25, 2024 – 6:30 p.m. at Centennial Public School

Executive Members:

Laura Gillam (Chair), Christina Helmer (Co-Chair), Adam Jeziorski (Treasurer), Emma Barken (Secretary), Rena Petrick (PIC Representative)

Members At Large: Terri Macdonald, Nicole Pitts, Virginia Venditti

Present: Deb Thompson, Tiffany Christian, Christina Helmer, Adam Jeziorski, Emma Barken, Laura Gillam, Johanna Puckrin, Chris Shaw

Regrets: Rena Petrick, Nicole Pitts, Virginia Venditti

1. Call to Order (6:32)

2. Approval of Past Minutes (6:31-6:35)

Motion: To approve the October 15th 2024 meeting minutes.

1. Johanna Puckrin
2. Christina Helmer

Motion: To approve the November 4th 2024 planning meeting minutes.

1. Johanna Puckrin
2. Christina Helmer

3. Information/Standing Items (6:35-7:15)

3.1 Introductions

Thanks to everyone for the movie night!

3.2 Principal's Update

New special education model after a special education review. Came out clearly that parents wanted special education in their home/community schools. A new model came out of the review. The Intensive Support Teacher (IST) role was created, as was Intensive Support classrooms.

3.3 Teacher Representative and Support Staff Update

n/a

3.3.1 Presentation from the school Intensive Support Teaching (IST) Tiffany Christian

All sorts of students are coming to her classroom. Some come for academic support, socialization, and some for regulation reasons. All day the class is open to students who need it. The room is called the WYN classroom-the What You Need classroom. Not a space that children go to if they're escalated, they go there before they're really escalated. It's been a big success so far.

3.4 Trustee Update (as necessary)

n/a

3.5 PIC Information and Update

- PIC meetings so far: Oct 24 & Nov 14th

- Chairs Workshop: Nov 13th -Waiting on the recording. Chairs will be directed to make available to Co Chairs/ Vice Chairs and other council members who may be interested.
- Director Night: Nov 21st - Slides to be shared once available. Director Burra provided a report to PIC reps and answered questions.
- 2024/25 Co Chairs: Crystal Bevins LeBlanc & Virginia Venditti. They are two year terms; Crystal is in her second year, Virginia will continue for the 2024/25 and 2025/26 school years.
- PIC bylaws are under review and chairs are working on ways to increase engagement from schools, as well as working on developing some more education / training workshops.
- Correspondence is being drafted as per multiple PIC discussions proposing the board include “mental health” as an option for absence reporting. Families could then choose this option when they felt it applied and if they felt comfortable.
- November 14th PIC meeting included a presentation from Kingston’s Anti Racism working group. They discussed the role they play in supporting racialized community members and supporting schools. Speaker encouraged councils to look around their tables and reflect on the diversity of their council members compared to their school communities and determine what work can be done to increase engagement. Great presentation that would be beneficial to have at a school council meeting.
- PRO funding sub committee has formed. More information about this year’s funds available, application process and timeline will be made available shortly. Councils are encouraged to start thinking about ideas so they can have a plan for when the applications open for this school year.
- Next PIC meeting is Feb 6th.

3.6 Correspondence

- A concern has come forward via email from a member of the Centennial parent community about not being able to access extended care (BASP), particularly an extended full day kindergarten program. It has been recognized as a system issue that extends beyond our community and school. The parent has been in contact with the school board and the city of Kingston, and would also like to make sure there is some awareness of this concern within the Centennial school council.
- Information was provided at the last PIC meeting (Nov. 14). The minutes and discussion are posted on the board website. Trustee Godkin stated that “we[the Board of Trustees] have received concerns from parents about before and after school care and the availability of that, as a result it is on the [Board of Trustees] agenda, we are going to do a complete review school by school to see ‘where we are at’, discuss this with community partners and a comprehensive discussion about how we can overcome some of these difficulties that people are having because that is a priority for the Board of trustees”. He clarifies that this would occur at EPOC. “We want to take a hard look at what the numbers are, what the capacity is for our community partners. There will be a report so that you will all know the outcome of that report as well. From there, senior staff will present options for us to move forward on”. In response, a request came for a survey of parents’ interest (children K-6). Superintendent McDonnell confirmed from an

operational side there will be a survey in the new year for families of current students and incoming new students, including kindergarten students, to determine need.

3.7 Budget Update

- Current total \$4675.61. \$1014.85 from the Halloween dance.
- Lots of positive response from parents and children about the movie night. Needs to be a little more prominent on the poster that parents must stay with their children for the duration of the event.

4. Discussion Items (7:15-7:40)

4.1 PRO Grant Application

- Meant to be an engagement event for parents and families. Can be an education night for parents. Up to \$1000 in funding available. The criteria changes a little bit every year, so it would be worth looking at this year's criteria.
- Possibly apply for an art night- either a mural, or a more general art night with several stations.
 - Deb to investigate what the process is for decorating the outside of the portables, or other spaces.
- Plans to get security lights on the back of the portables? This request has been made by Deb several times, now it is coming from the SAC as well.

4.2 Set Event Dates and Establish Subcommittees

February Event

- Originally proposed games and craft night. Now considering a caregiver night out event (drop off Centennial children for a snack, movie and craft/activity) fundraiser. This would require sign-up in advance to accommodate the appropriate ratio of adults to children. Adult volunteers would need to have CPIC with vulnerable sector check.
- Council will look to see if there is interest in a drop off /Valentines movie/craft night February 13th (Laura to send out poll to council member volunteers). If not, will look at the original event idea of games and craft night.

Garage Sale

- \$40/hr with a minimum of 3 hours for a custodian on a Saturday. Considered level of planning and work, logistics of storing items and plan to give away items not sold, in addition to engagement of the Centennial community.
- Will now opt to only do a bottle drive in April (date TBD at February meeting).

Art Night (May)

- Laura will connect with Hill Werth about details for art installation; Deborah will ask about installing art on the exterior of the building. Will look at additional options for other art activities for families.
- Laura will connect with Rena and Virginia about PRO Grant parameters to see if aspects of the art night may qualify.

June 10th BBQ/Fun fair: we have booked the Lion's Club for BBQ and tables and chairs

5. Business Arising (7:40-7:50)

5.1 Jingle Bell Walk- might make more sense to go with candy canes. SAC to purchase small candy canes for this event.

→ Emma to purchase candy canes a couple days in advance- nut free/peanut free. Jingle Bell walk is Dec 6th.

5.2 Family Skate

- Wouldn't be inclusive because of location and access to skates and helmets is difficult. School Council will not do a skate night. Considering other options for the winter season.
- Tobogganing after school might be a better idea. School Council would like to coordinate a family tobogganing/sledding event after school one day in the new year (TBD) depending on weather. Will need to bring extra toboggans/sleds.

Summary of New Plan for 2024/25 Events:

- Winter (January/February) Invitation to families to toboggan/sled on hill across from school on Norman Rogers Drive. Will bring extra sleds. No set date as it depends on snow conditions.
- February Caregiver Night Out (drop off Centennial children at school) or Games and Craft Night (February 13th)
- April Bottle Drive (date TBD)
- May Art Night (date TBD)
- June BBQ and Fun Fair (June 10)

5.3 Plan for playground accessibility consultation

- A special education coordinator and coordinator for the accessible playground project may support assessment to see what options might be available for Centennial.
- Possibility of having them come to the meeting in February (Deborah will check availability)
- Smaller fundraising goals - Playground consumables, folding tables (plan to purchase in Spring)

6. Adjournment and Next Meeting (7:50-7:55)

2024/25 Meeting Dates: Feb. 3, April 7, May 12