

École Varennes Parent and Caregiver Committee Meeting

February 26, 2024

Meeting Notes

This land is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, Ininewak, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and homeland of the Red River Métis Nation. We acknowledge the harms, of both the past and present, that were and are inflicted on Indigenous peoples in Canada by a colonial, exploitative worldview and we, as the Parent and Caregiver Committee, dedicate ourselves to move forward in collaboration with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation.

Attendance: Charlene Sacher, Eileen Mueller, Erin EisBrenner, Jennifer Boudreau-Allen, Goke Amao, Yinka Amao, Bruna Straccini, Folasade Oderinde, Mosope Oderinde, Dolapo Sulaimon, Oladej Sulaimon, Taiwo Oluwadamilola, Jessica Gibson, Kwaku Dankwa, Nadia Ayettey, Jodi Schellenberg, Meika Richmond, Susan McWatt Fitzgerald, Xinfeng Li, Yetunde Omoteso, Ammara Akbar

Call to order (1 min) 6:39 pm

Adoption of minutes (3 min) Erin motion to pass November, 2023 minutes, Jessica to second, passed.

Business arising from minutes (5 min)

- Purchasing Knitting Machine(s) for the school – to be discussed at April meeting. Students could make their own winter hats. PCC could purchase the machines and yarn for students to make their own hats, make hats to be donated to shelters, hung on the tree in December with other winter wear. Takes about half an hour to make a hat.
- Coach volunteers in the staff appreciation – Amy mentioned that LRSD does a banquet for coaches to thank them. Charlene mentioned sending out an email to the coaches/volunteers to invite them to the staff appreciation event. Amy will compile a list of the volunteers/coaches so we know how much food we will need when we organize the next staff appreciation day.

Reports

Chair (5 min) –

- Attended Board Meeting to ask about status of school – in conversation. No decisions have been made by the new government yet. LRSD is in conversations with the current education minister.
- Attended kindergarten information night.
- Board Meeting Item: Federal letter to request National Nutrition Program – discussed and decision made to write a letter to Federal and Provincial levels of government.
 - Charlene & Jennifer to coordinate the writing of the letter.
- There are grants currently that provide food for the students – there is a shortage of volunteers to prep the food. They are looking for people who are able to consistently volunteer to prepare food.
- Attending LRSD Budget Meeting tomorrow in person

Treasurer (5 min)- Erin EisBrenner

PARENT AND CAREGIVER COMMITTEE 2023 BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES		
ITEM	EXPECTED COST	ACTUAL COST

Truth and Reconciliation Books	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 629.43
CJS Scholarship	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Retirement Gifts	\$ 100.00	\$ -
Staff Appreciation	\$ 100.00	\$ -
Grade 8 Farewell - USB sticks	\$ 200.00	\$ -
Field Trips (Bus)	\$ 2,600.00	\$ -
Gardening	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Family Nights	\$ 600.00	\$ -
Recess Equipment	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Bison Stew and Bannock for Festival week for students	\$ 800.00	\$ -
Babysitting (PCC Meetings and Family Nights)	\$ 450.00	\$ 120.00
Replenish Craft Stash and Incidentals for Babysitting for PCC Meetings	\$ 40.00	\$ -
Hot Lunch for Everyone*	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 458.68
Totals	\$ 8,390.00	\$ 1,208.11

Balance of funds (Nov. 6, 2023)	\$ 5,150.63
Current balance of funds (Feb 14 2024)	\$6,721.94

Note:
*Only to be funded if funds available after the remainder of the budget is met.

Incoming funds pending:	
December Healthy Hunger	\$521.11
January Hot Lunch	\$7.75

Current Balance \$6721.94 by the end of next week, the balance will likely be closer to \$7250.00.

The Festival performer was not able to attend so the funds will be reallocated to assist with the cost of the Bison Stew and Bannock that was provided to all students during Festival week.

Administration (10 min)

- As a school we have been working on developing and aligning our multiyear strategic plan goals with the divisional MYSP. We are well on our way to meeting our short term goals for the year. The outline that you have been provided is in lieu of the grid that you have received in previous years. This plan illustrates how our school goals for the next four years align with the divisional priorities.

- By the end of the 2026-2027 school year, our students will demonstrate a sustained commitment to speaking French and enjoying Francophone culture at school.
- By the end of the 2026-2027 school year, we will have adopted a portfolio-based assessment model that is developed in professional collaboration to implement a personalized learning approach.
- By the end of the 2026-2027 school year, École Varennes will increase the equitable and active participation of our families in their children's school experience to create a sense of belonging for our entire community.
- Bric a Brac event in December was a big success. The kids raised \$782.85. The school is using the money raised on winter and spring clothing for students and families in need within our school community.
- FOS concert on December 11 at College Jean Sauve was well attended and the students from the grade 7 & 8 band did a great job at the winter concert.
- Everyone had a restful winter break and return rejuvenated.
- F&ST program started for the second year for the k/1's on January 23, 2024. There are 9 families registered and is running on Tuesday evenings from 4:45 – 6:45pm. This has been going well and families are enjoying it.
- Jan 26 was Max Bell day for the 5/6. This was a great day for everyone and because of our students democratic voice last year the event saw many changes to making it more inclusive.
- Mobile vision clinic occurred on January 29 – The clinic was well attended, of the 125 students tested, 17 students required glasses.
- Kindergarten registration night was well attended.
- Mémère Jacinte is joining our team here at École Varennes. She is a French speaking knowledge keeper and came for her first visit on January 30th. She will be working with our 3-4 team on a special project with M. Hardman, Mme. Jenn, and Veronique Reynolds who is a member of the indigenous perspectives divisional team. You may have seen her this evening. We are very grateful to have her here and are honored to learn from her experience and stories.
- Request for funds for Community Garden: The PCC has already budgeted \$500 for the community garden, which is what Suzanne was requesting. Suzanne Simpson described how the community garden has been running over the last year and suggested “paying” some grade 7 students to water and maintain the garden which will go towards credits to their camp fees for Grade 8. If you would like to be involved in the garden, please contact Suzanne Simpson. (suzanne.simpson@lrsd.com).

Fundraising (10 min) - Eileen

Mabel's Labels: Eileen to put something in the weekly bulletin for coming back after spring break.

Peak of the Market:

- Current income - \$1657.50
- Next year planning – Farm to School 2024 Registration Opens May 1. Attendees would like to have EV participate again. Eileen to sign up and will coordinate again this year.

Pizza: Dominos – Charlene to follow up with Dominos to see if there is any time that EV could participate.

Fundraising letter – For September: prepare in advance so that it's ready to be sent in September. Eileen and Charlene to meet to discuss and arrange for the letter to be ready. Charlene to prepare letter.

Discussed sending out the fundraising letter now and again in September. Attendees

decided to send out the letter now and again in September.

We should plan in advance the fundraising activities we'd like to participate in for the next school year and decide what we are fundraising for. (EX: Sponsoring a mini Folklorama to learn about the different cultural groups that are within EV school community; a welcome back to school or year-end BBQ etc.)

Hot Lunch

Restaurant	Funds Collected	Expenses	PCC Profits/Loss
Papa Johns (October)	365.87	81.34 (chips/juice)	Profit: 284.53
KFC (November)	521.11	134.29	Profit: 284.10
Pita Pit (January)	404.25	71.75 (paid for peak volunteers lunches) 13.50 (school to reimburse for these lunches-has this been done?) \$\$\$\$ (chips and juice)	

New Business (15 min)

Upcoming Events

- Staff Appreciation – Jodi has indicated that she would like to assist. Charlene will set up the Sign Up Genius sheets.
- Discussed creating a mini committee that could run sort of a mini Folklorama to learn about the different cultural groups that are within EV school community, potentially in conjunction with Family Nights, with the PCC potentially sponsoring the costs for any food items. To be further discussed at the next PCC meeting.

Next PCC Meeting:

- April 29, 2024
- June 3, 2024

Adjournment (1 min) 7:42 pm

Next meeting: April 29, 2024