**Northlea School Council | Minutes**

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| Meeting Date: | February 19, 2020 |
| Chair(s): | Arti Panday |
| Note Taker: | Allison Wesley |

**The meeting called to order at 2:30 pm.**

1. **Motion** Natasha Kent seconded Regina Espinosa

Approval of School Council Agenda CARRIED

1. **MOTION** Alison Maselli seconded Natasha Kent

Approval of School Council Minutes CARRIED

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| Agenda #1:  | **Administrator Update - Barbara Sandler, Mike Sanders, Rachel Berger****Link to Presentation:** [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1IS7huTdYr5H4KSNzHT1VPO2KNj32edH2QoheIkyFP6s/edit?usp=sharing](https://apc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fpresentation%2Fd%2F1IS7huTdYr5H4KSNzHT1VPO2KNj32edH2QoheIkyFP6s%2Fedit%3Fusp%3Dsharing&data=02%7C01%7C%7C1a9ea17e69644502feb308d7b606a8f4%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637178012027965163&sdata=FCnIeLYCYOrca0%2B%2BQjA9EvkAAeGE1ns9UNqkJmeNnbI%3D&reserved=0) |
| Discussion: | * Thank you to community it has been a challenging time. Students have been understanding knowing it is hard with the inconsistencies. The community has been very respectful and patient.
* Lucy Calkins Writing – after looking at writing scores particularly in grade three. Staff have been infusing K-5 using the program. We call them writers and students are drafting books. Students are excited about writing and staff is seeing increase in output and enthusiasm. It’s important that at home students are seeing themselves as readers and writers. One focus is capturing “small moments” a snapshot of their day. This allows for differentiation. Students can choose their paper – students can go where they are at (more space or less space for writing).
* Capes for kids – this is our third year participating. Today Holland Bloor view came in to talk about destigmatizing disabilities. The is happening the week of March 2-6
* Grade 8 Trip – Feed back was sent out to students and parents. Consensus was Brock University. It’s a combo between camp and city. Brock will hold reservation for now. We can’t proceed until things are resolved. If things aren’t not resolved in a certain time frame we can look at other options.
* Kindergarten font Yard – Thank you to everyone who has worked to fundraise and helped visit other playgrounds. In partnership with the day care (who donated) we’ve been working with designers. The drawings have been approved and we are in que. Should be starting in June/July – ideally for an August Play date.
* Generation innovations – use of design thinking process. Students work through a process to come up with solution to some kind of challenge. It’s about taking a risk and trying – encourage problem solving. It’s hard because of climate to meet as a team. There is a date in Apri for showcase but we may need to adjust date and look at alternative formats for sharing. This is still a priority in the classroom. <https://blog.futuredesignschool.com/innovating-elementary-school-real-world-problem-solving-and-community-engagement-a6235500efa1>
* Northlea Lets Talk – The successful event from last year continued into this year. A lot of the classrooms did participate on bell lets talk to reduce stigma around mental health. The event was based on resources shared on reducing stigma – and teachers did programs based on information shared and linked it with Bell Let’s Talk.
* We have a Girls Empowerment who went to the Young Women’s on the Move event. They are currently looking at ways to authentically share their learnings.
* Communication Boards – our school’s theme is connections. ISP classrooms would like to have more social experiences within the school. Using Sign Language (or Picture Exchange) on the boards are examples of ways to communicate with students. The goal is to have these throughout the school. Boards show case greetings/getting to know each other/working together. We have a relationship with a school who has students with complex needs, and these are based on some of the programs they have implemented. Northlea also has best buddies and the goal is to deepen these relationships(between grade twos and ISP classes). Boards are developed on what students want to know about each other. Goal is the expand – also just to model a beta version (it doesn’t have to be perfect)
* CPR – All grade 6 students will be trained. This is in partnership with Toronto Cardiac safe City. Will learn CPR and science behind it. Taught that kids can be lifesavers.
* Sports and ski trip – The ski trip has to be cancelled. Admin hasn’t heard anything from TDESSA regarding job action.
* Coronavirus – TSDB has a button for most up to date info. Local measures using best practices for heath and wellbeing (Kleenex, soap, Purell, cleaning products in classrooms). Addressing Discrimination that’s emerging internationally. Listening to what’s happening out in the yard, classroom etc. It’s a place of learning but board is notified to help on a systemic level. Northlea has had a couple of incidents and have worked with student and family to make sure a learning takes place.
* Global Play Day – Feb 5th Students had a lot of outdoor time. Highlighting ideas around opal.
* Flexible Seating – each teacher based on community fundraising efforts selected flexible seating. Kids have enjoyed learning with these options.
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| Questions/Feeback | * Is writing program in French too? Yes. Some teachers are more familiar, some have done a deep dive and some in more subtle. Every staff member volunteered to participate.
* Grade 8 – Was there are actual vote? Yes. Went to each class to talk about all the options. Day trip/camp/Brock University. Students and parents shared feedback.
* How are students being introduced to communication boards – Some kids have direct instructions if they are in the best buddy program, some is more casual, teachers are asking for more guidance on how to use the boards.
* In regard to the strike can the end of the year get pushed. Admin had never heard of that happening.
* In terms of Admin communication with teachers are there allowances for any meetings. Emails can only be responded during prep – can’t gather for meetings/staff meetings. Staff has access to emails and still communicating with parents, will still bring forward to admin if needed. Admin have been working closely with union Stewards and have been good partners.
* What is the strategy to complete curriculum? Any that is unnecessary gets put on pause to focus, reduce interruptions, the time they are here the students are in class. Staff have been making sure students are up to date and preparing packages – staff have been going above and beyond. The academic program to the best of the ability is still robust. We aren’t at the point yet were we have lost so many days and feel students can finish.
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**MOTION Regina** Espinosa seconded by Natasha Kent CARRIED

Adjourn

Northlea Home & School | Minutes

**The meeting called to order at 3:15 pm.**

1. **MOTION**  Natasha Kent and Regina Espinosa

Approval of the H&S Association Agenda CARRIED

1. **MOTION** Natasha Kent and Alison Maselli

 Approval of H&S Association Minutes from November 20, 2019 CARRIED

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| **Agenda #1:** | **Fundraising** |
| Discussion: | * Open spots on Home and School Exec are Chess, Kiss and Ride, Chair, Pizza Lunch
* Could we look at Pizza lunch with rotating responsibilities.
* Need to discuss timing for Acorn Cards – Can follow up with Admin. Look how things look in Spring.
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| **Agenda #2:** | **Financials** |
| Discussion: | * Date Knight Profit – $8670
* Cookie Sales – $1912
* Dance a thon - $7500 (still finalizing)
* 18, 000 in fundraising in our fundraising efforts.
* Would like to propose to write a check to the literacy fund - $20,000 – Barbara to chat about whether to get cheque for Literacy.
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| Outcome |  |

**MOTION**  Natasha Kent and Regina Espinosa CARRIED

 to adjourn meeting.

**The meeting adjourned at 3:25 pm.**