

Oakenwald Parent Advisory Council (OPAC)

Learning for life in a safe, caring place.

Meeting Minutes - APPROVED

Wednesday, May 18, 2022, 7:00 pm

Location: Oakenwald School - Library

In attendance: Cassandra Acland, Oluwabusola Ajiobola, Anahid Avesikyan, Rai-Ann Fulford Hulme, Shannon Green, Tracy Gumprich, Andrew Isaacs, Kathryn Labiuk, Barry MacKay, Suzanne Millar, Amanda Robinson, Tanis Thiessen

1. **Call to order** - Suzanne called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm
 - a. **Welcome/Introductions - Suzanne** - Sign in sheet for names and email addresses was distributed. Introductions were made.
2. **Adoption of April minutes/ May meeting agenda** - Suzanne made a motion to adopt the previous minutes (April) and May Agenda. Kathryn seconded. Motion passed.
3. **Principal's Report - Tanis presented** -
 - a. Current enrollment 197 students (ongoing new enrollment including this week!)
 - b. Ms. Orelia Anderson has accepted a full-time position at Acadia. Ms. Laura Catellier will be the new Teacher Librarian for 2022-23
 - c. Reviewed staffing for 2022-23. New and returning staff includes Grade 3/4 - Erin Woytko, School Support - Reena Pal, Teacher Librarian - Laura Catellier, Principal - Cam Grier.
 - d. Discussed plans and criteria for the formation of class groupings.
 - e. Discussed today's field trip.
4. **Teacher Representatives - Grades 1/2 Tracy Gumprich & Shannon Green** - Reviewed classroom instructional practices for writing. Discussed the need to build students' confidence as authors by providing authentic experiences for real-life writing, including:
 - a. journal entries;
 - b. weekly letters home to parents;
 - c. yearbooks; and
 - d. non-fiction writing (spiders, groundhogs and owls).

Most recently, students became authors by writing a book entitled All of the Things my Parents Would Never Say, which has been bound as an official library book. Kids are encouraged to keep writing through summer.

5. **Fundraising - Cas presented** - Colibri fundraiser has just ended; \$608.00 has been raised to go towards the playground renovation fund. This was the last fundraiser for this year.
6. **Playground ideas from the students - Suzanne presented** - Discussed playground ideas from the kids. 65 students made suggestions, including swings (42 kids), teeter totters (12 kids), and a rock wall. Suzanne will follow up with Donna and the school division about options and determine next steps. Email Suzanne if you have ideas or questions. Grant money may also be available through the division or through the MLA.
7. **Financial Report - Barry presented** - Balance is \$8902.00. Soon to be added to the total are the Colibri fundraiser (\$608.00) and the most recent Munchalunch proceeds, bringing the new balance to approximately \$9500.
8. **Staff Appreciation Update (May 20th) - Suzanne presented** - Email sent to families to send in staff appreciation (notes, pictures, etc...) for Friday, May 20. Volunteers made a small take home gift for all staff.
9. **End of year something for students; library book donation on behalf of grade 6 class (update); farewell gift for Ms. Thiessen — Suzanne presented** -
 - a. Ms Mitchler sent book suggestions, including The Unexplainable Disappearance of Mars Patel. Suzanne will order the two available books and pre-order the third (released in October). The out-going classes will sign the books.
 - b. End of year for students - Jumbo freezies will be handed out at the end of the year for kids to celebrate the end of the school year and start of summer.
 - c. Gift for Tanis - Discussed the gift options for Tanis' farewell gift. Suzanne made a motion to spend up to \$200 on a farewell gift for Tanis. Andrew seconded the motion. Motion passed.
10. **Other Business** - none was identified.
11. **Future meeting - Wednesday, June 22, in person at Oakenwald School Library - 7:00pm**
12. **Adjournment** - Suzanne made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 PM.