

Briargreen Public School Council Meeting 18 October 2022

Note: On 20 Sep this fall's first School Council meeting was held. However, none of the positions had yet been identified (including the extremely important Council Secretary). Key items from that session:

1. The Ad Hoc Council agreed to allow Elissa Burrows (the educators' representative) to spend no more than \$250 to purchase playground toys.
2. The Ad Hoc Council agreed to allow Elissa to spend no more than \$1000 on two open tents to provide shelter for outside events (such as the upcoming cross country meet).

Start Time: Principal Cynthia Willman brought the Council to order at 18:30

Location: Briargreen Public School Library

Sequence of Events:

1. Principal Willman asked the Ad Hoc Council to decide who would fill the following roles; Council Chair, Council Treasurer, Council Secretary and Council Members at Large. Behold, the formal formation of the Council:
 - a. Council Chair: Heather Horne
 - b. Council Treasurer: Dale Jamieson
 - c. Council Secretary: Jeffery Joyce
 - d. Council Co-Secretary: Farbod Karimi
 - e. The remainder of attendees (and those who submitted forms but were not present) were accepted as Council Members at Large.
2. Principal's report:
 - a. 7 Oct PD Day:
 - i. Conditions for learning in school. Teachers will focus on reading and literacy for the children.
 - ii. Requesting a change in teaching and parenting expectations. We are all coming back to full time school after two years of COVID disruptions. Many children found learning from home difficult and as a result may be behind where the curriculum would normally expect them to be. However, the curriculum was not adjusted in any way to account for COVID related disruptions. Teachers and parents are being asked to adjust their thinking and language with regard to a child's reading and literacy status. They are not behind, they are where they are. We must all work together to maintain a positive outlook to increase their reading and literacy skills.
 - iii. The school is using a new data management program called Aspen. Parents and teachers can expect the occasional "hiccups" during the initial periods of use (e.g. report cards). Everyone's patience is requested.
2. Educator's report:
 - a. The 'Meet the Educator' event on 22 Sep was a resounding success. The same BBQ food truck has been booked for next year. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and attended.

- b. The playground toys were purchased and some were put into action today (big bouncy balls).
 - c. The open tents were purchased, awaiting delivery.
 - d. Halloween discussion:
 - i. Parade. On the 31st any students who are wearing costumes will take turns (by class) to walk around the school, allowing all the other classes to see their awesome costumes.
 - ii. Safety. Teachers will remind their students that costume masks are not allowed. Toy weapons are also not allowed.
 - iii. Classroom activity. Each classroom will have an optional Halloween activity. There will also be a non-Halloween activity for those students who do not celebrate all Hallows' Eve.
 - e. Remembrance Day:
 - i. The ceremony will take place in the gym. An email will be sent out inviting military members to attend the ceremony. The families of students are welcome to attend, however, there will be limited seating available.
 - ii. Special consideration and compassion is requested from everyone, some Briargreen families have been or are being affected by the illegal invasion of Ukraine by Russia.
 - f. Cross Country Event 27 Oct:
 - i. Parents, please ensure that the digital permission forms are sent in ahead of time.
 - ii. This is a large event, therefore the more volunteers the better!
 - iii. Two open tents will be set up ahead of time. A few parent volunteers are requested.
 - iv. Any students not participating will remain at the school under the supervision of an appropriate number of educators.
 - v. This will be the first big open event since March 2020, let's have some fun!
3. Council Items:
- a. Pita Pit:
 - i. So far it has gone extremely well. The online ordering, packaging and delivery methods Pita Pit uses are excellent. The Council intends to keep this monthly event going for the time being.
 - b. Pizza Day:
 - i. Topper's Pizza was of excellent quality. The ordering mechanism needs some refinement, however, the Council intends to keep this monthly event going for the time being.
 - c. Popcorn Day:
 - i. Put forth for consideration by the Council Chair. The Council was receptive, however, more research was requested surrounding food allergy considerations.
 - ii. Rather than do an online order form, the Council would prefer a cash-based solution.

- iii. The Council views Popcorn Day as a good opportunity for students to help with the logistics, including delivery and collection of payment.
 - d. Scholastic Book Fair 7th and 9th November (not the 8th):
 - i. Requesting volunteers.
 - ii. On both days the book fair will be open after hours from 15:45 to 16:15. Parents are welcome to enter the school with their children during these times.
4. The School Council meeting was adjourned at 19:05.

Attendance:

Cynthia Willman
Heather Horne
Farbod Karimi
Tashi Lhamo
Jeffery Joyce
Inok Lee
Dale Jamieson
Elissa Burrows
Alia Klein
Eli McGowan
Stacey Holmes