

OLA Parent School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: January 11, 2023 @ 6:30pm

Attendance:

In person:

Mrs. Yuzdepski

Andrea Turenne

Jennifer Maldonado

Candace Dealy

Amy Miskolzie

Al Stewart

Amber Eastman

Emily Skippen

Virtual :

Terra Slabey

Meeting called to order at 6:31pm

Approval of Agenda 1st Amber Eastman 2nd Amy Miskolzie

School Council Teacher Report for January 2023 - Ms. Skippen

Celebrations:

Thank you for your donations to the VIP fundraiser at our Advent Concert. Our donations contributed to raising \$16,119.55 for Lurana Shelter in our division, so far!

Classroom Updates:

ECS

Welcome to Ms. McMahon who is in for Mrs. MacLean til the middle of Feb.

Grade 1S - In January, we have a penguins unit. We have started learning all about penguins and doing activities all about penguins. We will have a black and white day at the end of the month where the students wear black and white and create life size penguins.

Grade 1&2P - Welcome back to Mrs. Perry.

Grade 2SK/D - In math we are continuing to work on Patterns. We are learning how to write pattern rules for repeating patterns. We will be starting to add and subtract numbers within 100 and are carrying on with our work on number concepts to 1000. In science, we are continuing our exploration into our Hot and Cold. This has been a fun unit to work through.

2TK- We are back from our Christmas break and are settling back into our classroom routines nicely. We mailed in our letters to Santa and were so lucky to hear back from him before we left for break. Everyone was on Santa's "Nice" list as Mrs. Kucy had predicted! In Religion, the

students completed activities for Advent as well as the Nativity. In Science, we are continuing to learn about Hot and Cold. For Social Studies, we started our unit on Meteghan and are learning more about this region. In Math, we finished learning more about time, subtracting 2 digit numbers as well as completed some Christmas activities with addition.

Grade 3T

Our Grade 3 class was happy to return from Christmas break as we are starting many new units of study. We will continue exploring structure, materials and design in Science and have begun our Math study of addition and subtraction. We welcome Miss Rae in to our room two afternoons a week to teach social, art and phys ed while Ms Tichkowsky works with small groups of students on Numeracy and Literacy Intervention.

Grade 4C

This month 4C continues their Simple Machines science unit, creating a fair test with constant variables and racing the cars they made, then making pulley systems. The children are working hard on their digital tourism project on the regions of Alberta in Social. Working with number patterns and multiplication in Math and persuasive writing in Language Arts.

Grade 3&4B

This month in Math we will begin our unit on addition and subtraction up to 4 digits. We will review basic formulas and learn a couple of new strategies to expand our understanding. In Language Arts we have already set new year's resolutions, and we are just about to begin a New Year's readers theatre unit in which we learn about New Year's traditions around the world. We will be writing a poem from the perspective of a snowflake falling from the sky.

Intervention

We have been lucky enough to receive funding to focus on Numeracy and Literacy Intervention with some of our Grade 2-4 students. Ms Tichkowsky will be working Tuesday and Friday afternoons in the library with an evolving group of students focusing on small group instruction in the areas of phonemic awareness, reading comprehension and number sense and familiarity.

Literacy intervention programming will support students through small-group sessions that focus on targeted reading strategies, including, but not limited to, phonemic awareness, phonics instruction, vocabulary development, comprehension strategies and fluency skills. Literacy data will be used to plan structured explicit small-group instruction focused on the areas the teacher has determined as areas of concern.

Numeracy intervention programming will support students through small-group sessions that focus on instruction targeting number sense and basic fact fluency. Fact fluency will include fundamental learning around accuracy, efficiency, flexibility and strategy selection.

Student learning profiles will identify areas of need and target instruction.

["Notes" from the Music room:](#)

January will see grade 3 and 4 starting to play recorders. The kids are very excited to be learning about them. Kindergarten will continue working on beat and high/medium/low sounds, while also learning a few penguin songs. Grade 1 is discovering how music can tell a story using Peter and the Wolf (ask your child about the instruments that demonstrate Peter and the different animals). Grade 2 is working on continuing to learn about the Pitch Hill friends while learning to sing with sol-feg, and being introduced to names of musical instruments.

Library/Learning Commons Update:

Students continue to embrace the Library Learning Commons activities. They have learned that some resources (primarily the magna-tiles) are limited, so they collaborate and negotiate to create together - it is great to see their problem-solving in action. Although the space is small the flexible seating accommodates the students who chose to curl up to read rather than build.

Many new titles have been added to our collection - some from Book Fair revenue, and many from the funds provided by the OLA School Council - thank you!

Upcoming Events:

- Jan. 12 - 6:00-7:30 Sacrament of Reconciliation class #1 at OLA parish for students in Gr. 2 (and any Gr. 3's who haven't received).
- Jan. 16 - 12:30 - 1:30 Dallas Arcand will be performing a hoop dance and cultural show
- Feb. 1 - World Read Aloud Day
- Feb. 1 - Early Dismissal/ Staff mtg
- Feb. 3 - Report Cards shared with families

Thank-you...

Helping with the Christmas Concert
Your continued support by volunteering for activities

OLA School Leadership Report for School Council January 11, 2023 – Ms. Yuzdepski

1. Draft Calendar - There is a draft calendar out for 2023-24. Please give us any feedback so that we can share this before it is finalised and approved.
2. Saffron - There will be some presentations in February for the students on how to begin the conversation on healthy boundaries.
3. Police - We are having Cst. Boulton come to the school for some presentations and events. They would like to be a part of the school.
4. Yearbook - Several parents have come forward and are willing to help with the yearbook. I have asked parents in the s'more to let us know if they are interested in purchasing one.

5. Interruption Grant for Intervention - Information was sent out to families. There is information about this in the teacher's report also.
6. Kindergarten Registration starts on Feb. 1, 2023
7. Kindergarten Open House is Thursday, Feb. 16th. Open House for school is April. Test drive Kindergarten dates will be coming.
8. Report Cards are shared with parents on Friday, Feb. 3 by email.
9. Feb. 1st is World Read Aloud Day. Students are encouraged to dress as their favourite book character.
10. Arctic games will be Feb. 3rd. These games are meant to show athletic abilities based on traditional activities and skills. Our school community will celebrate the OLA Arctic Winter Games on Friday, February 3. Each week we will share with you some games for you to practice with their teacher in Phys. Ed class and during recess.

Parental concerns/suggestions

- School assembly always in morning, request to change time as the best time for learning is in the morning. Concern that students may lose time in literacy and math when assembly is in the morning.
- Grade 3 concerns
 - School to receive additional funds from government. Plan is to have Ms. Tichkowsky work with the intervention group two afternoons per week, and substitute teacher fill in for grade 3's. Email went out today to inform parents.
 - Some grade 3 students would have 3 teachers in a day. Parents voiced concerns that this is disruptive to student's learning having to change teachers/classrooms and having multiple teachers. Kids that would benefit from the intervention seem to be at a disadvantage.
 - Some grade 3 students already have 2 teachers and have to move classrooms. Unintended consequences of them changing classrooms, i.e. kids not being able to bring all their supplies, water intake, etc. Parents noted that split class is having a negative impact on students. Students have had disrupted learning with Mrs. Bennett due to disruptions when she is pulled away for administrative responsibilities.

- Placement testing kids at start of the year to see where the students place, no results shared with students or parents.
- Concerns about not completing the full new curriculum this school year
- Parents voicing concerns to follow up with Ms. Yuzdepski and Ms. Tichkowsky directly.

Follow up Business

1. Poinsettia Fundraiser
 - Total in sales \$765.32. Plus extra plants were received and sold. \$915.32 was raised in total. Funds raised should be arriving soon.
2. Purdy's Fundraiser
 - \$1100 in sales. Purdy's contacted regarding Easter sales, to be discussed.
3. Yearbook
 - Parents have expressed interest in helping out with yearbook. School has requested parents to call office to let them know if interested in yearbook, so school can get some rough numbers.

New Business

1. New Fundraiser ideas
 - Funds raised will go to the school needs and any extra can go to the playground.
 - Choco-licious. Chocolate covered licorice. \$15/bag, get \$5 profit on each bag. Takes 2 weeks to get product in after order is placed. To be considered for future fundraisers.
2. Break the Rules
 - Done in May/June closer to the end of year. Good fundraiser, and very popular with the students. Planning to do it again this school year.
3. Read-a-thon / March Madness
 - March madness starts. School wide reading activity. Mrs. Skippen organizing.
 - Read-a-thon fundraiser, to be organized by parent council. Prizes are to be given out. Top reader from each class wins. Draw for small prize for all participants. Pizza party for all classes. To be done March 6-10th, 2023.

4. School Dance

- Popular idea, was a big success. Photo booth with props. Left over candy from last dance. Tentative date would be March 17th, St Patrick's themed dance. To be confirmed.

5. Shrove Tuesday

- Feb 21st Pancake breakfast.
- 9am-1pm. Call out for volunteers: Jen, Amy to help out.
- Call out for bring extra griddles and spatulas, etc

6. Playground updates

- Have met minimum fundraising requirement for government grants, encouraged to continue fundraising to build a better playground.

7. Hot lunch

- Always on a Wednesday. Parent request to have it on Tues/Thurs to accommodate other kindergarten class.
- Hot lunch coordinator available on Wednesdays, but open to offers of other parents to help out and have it on other days. Difficult to find volunteers to help out for hot lunch, making it challenging to run the program. Looking for volunteers to run the program in future years.
- There are funds allocated for families with financial barriers to ordering hot lunch. Ms. Yuzdepski aware.

8. Classroom door prizes

- Funds were allocated for a door decorating contest, and were not used. \$100 for classroom door decoration. Valentines door or Easter door contest suggested.

9. Potential school needs for funds raised

- Outdoor shed to store outdoor items
- Additional soccer balls for recess

Upcoming dates:

Administrative Professional appreciation day – Wednesday, April 26th

Next meeting date/time: Thursday, Feb 23 @6:00pm

Meeting adjourned at: 7:46pm