Vincent Massey Public School Council Minutes

September 13, 2017

**Attendance:**Anne-Marie Thompson, Christine Dalgleish, Cheryl Khoury, Heather Munro, Jenny Ellis, Charmaine Johnson-Mentlak, Daniil Zhuravel, Saima Aziz, Kate Connolly, Galen Wong, Lisa Hagedorn, Nadia Murisa, Beth Nicholson, Dan Barrington, Jian Bai, Giselle Delgado, Cecile Beaurepaire, Israil Hosain, Jeff Fennely, Josie Sirna and Kerrie Rodier

**Executive:** Truda Baines (Co-chair), Jennifer Blattman (Co-chair), Sabrah Talib (Treasurer)

**VM Staff**: Madame Debbie, Madame Lisa , Kateri Deschenes (Principal), Robin Small (Vice-Principal)

**Call to order**: 6:08 p.m.

**Introductions**: all

**Approval of June minutes**:

* Motion to approve: Christine
* Seconded: Kate Connolly

**Approval of tonight’s agenda**:

* Motion to approve: Charmaine
* Seconded: Cheryl Khoury

**Teachers’ reports**:

**Madame Debbie**:

* New kinder staff (Smith is now FT, Rendell is new to Kinder, Danis to VM immersion Kinder)
* Format has changed a bit – last year was 50/50 program. Half day Eng, half day French. This year is an alternate day format. Less coming and going and disruption for the kids.
* Communication of learning (report cards) – 3 reports: 1st and 2nd years get a progress report November, February and June.
* Process of planning outings to the Perley Hospital to visit with the residents – 5 classes w/ 3 rotations so 3 visits per class. Also will have visits to the Public Library.

**Madame Lisa – primary & junior**:

* Great first week
* New faces – Dongmo in Grade 3, Patricia in ¾ English
* Terry Fox run Oct 5 (not Sept 30th as per newsletter), the running club running laps at recess, Ms. Sparks & Madame Labelle will start knitting club in October.
* X-country starts next week, and soccer tournament.
* If they need wool, Madame Lisa will advise after asking Ms. Sparks. Leadership students are encouraged to come and help. Value Village always has tons of knitting needles.

**No other teachers** – no intermediate representation.

**Principal & Vice-Principal reports**:

**Kateri Deschenes**:

* Feels very fortunate to be appointed Principal of VM.
* 710 students enrolled – class sizes mostly good but a bit high in primary English classes. 710 was close to predictions.
* The board starts to look at our numbers but no changes yet. Take snapshot the 3rd week, and use those numbers to make final decisions re: change in staffing, and any class shuffling before the end September.
* Meet the teacher is Sept 28 – need council support. Always appreciated.

**Robin**: excited to be back, nice to be in the yard, looking forward to the new school year. Friday update will continue, and will include messages from council.

**Meet the teacher**:

* 8 parent volunteers, & 5 teachers that helped
* Had a table set up with baked goods, Robin’s friend made 85 cupcakes. 8 tables in all. Grade 7/8 students helped out also.
* Last year, $$ went through council but Sabrah suggested that it stay w/ the school’s account.
* Cheryl prework volunteer:
* Anne-Marie, Andrew (Kate), Dan, Jen Blattman, Charmaine
* Day of : Andrew (Kate), Jen Blattman, Jennifer Ellis, Jeff & Cecile for clean-up

**OCASC update:**

* Gisele gave an overview. Every third Thursday of the month. Could use help with meeting attendance as she knows she won’t be able to attend all meetings. Membership needs to be renewed for $35. Sabrah said cheque can be written tonight.
* Sabrah: it’s a great forum as other schools attend. Chalk it up is a good session to ask questions, make connections, expand your network w/ other council members, and communication with the board.
* Dates and locations of upcoming OCASC meetings: Truda to get this for me.

**Treasurer’s report**:

* See attached report that Sabrah presented
* Where do Mabels Label’s funds go?
* Can we see what other councils submit in terms of the end of year reporting? Is this a questions for OCASC? They have FB group where it could be asked.

**Elections**: (Truda gave overview of the positions)

**Co-chairs**: Jen Ellis & Kate Connolly

**Treasurer**: Janice Dahms

**Secretary**: Kerrie Rodier

**Accomodation review** is on hold until the province reviews its guidelines.

Cheryl – can teachers be surveyed to see what’s happening in the classroom as some students are bringing everything home each night. Ideally, most things would stay at school in a common area where there are classrooms that have tables and not desks. Dan will share contact info w/ Kateri as he’s a carpenter and can have shelves installed at a low cost.

**Council initiatives**:

* Thanks for the mulch! Great job looking after the gardens over the summer.
* We need to put the gardens to bed in the fall. A date will be chosen later – a Saturday morning. An email will go out with the date sooner than later.
* Movie night: October 13th
* Boot sale – avoid having it the Saturday that language school has a PD day – ensure this isn’t on the 14th.
* Christine is out of town that weekend – happy to organize but won’t be in town that weekend. Anne-Marie can help Friday evening. Looking for more volunteers on Friday evening & Saturday for the boot sale. Please contact Christine D.

**Scholastic book fair**: Beth

* Coincides w/ PD day in November & Parent/teacher interviews.
* Library needs to be booked the Tuesday to Friday – Nov 21 to 25
* Elliott was very involved and helpful last year.
* Teachers come through w/ the kids on the Wednesday (no $) then back on
Thursday w/ $.
* Busy times are Thursday evening & Friday – during the P/T interviews.

Beth: what is the school’s policy around use of cell phones / tablets/ etc at VM?

Kateri: still looking to understand what’s happening at VM. There is a separate form for “use of personal technology at school”.

Pleasant Park School has its own policy – VM could look and see what they’re saying.

Dan to put forth proposal for a used sporting equipment sale. He can be added to the October meeting.

Jen Ellis: is there a way to ask teachers to add their names to the top of the papers that they send home? Gets confusing when more than one student at VM.

Do Nothing Fundraiser – self run. Council puts the letter together. Cheques are made to the school. – Kerrie TBC – timing: November pending Bernadette saying that it works. Vote held and all agree!

Book exchange in February / March – great new format! – Beth

Multicultural dinner is in the spring. – Anne-Marie

8pm – meeting adjourned ☺