



Conestogo Public School – Council Minutes: Tuesday, May 18, 2021

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UPCOMING COUNCIL EVENTS

2020-21 Event Dates:

- Next Council Meeting: Thursday, June 10
- Proposed Council Meeting dates for 2020-2021 (the third Thursday of each month with some dates adjusted for events and holidays):
 - Thursday, Dec 17
 - Tuesday, Jan 19
 - Thursday, Feb 18
 - Tuesday, March 23
 - Thursday, April 22
 - Tuesday, May 18
 - Thursday, June 10



WELCOME & GENERAL BUSINESS

Attendance

(P present, N absent/regrets. Parent Members must attend 70% of meetings to maintain voting privileges.)

Role	2020-2021	Nov 19	Dec 17	Jan 19	Feb 18	March 23	April 15	May 18	June 10
Co-Chair	Colleen Heinrichs	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Co-Chair	Rebecca Hallman	P	P	P	P	N	P	P	
Treasurer	Karen Hofbauer	P	P	N	P	P	N	P	
Communications	Jenny Benham	P	N	P	P	P	N	N	
Co-Secretary	Gena Braun	P	P	P	P	N	P	P	
Co-Secretary	Ian Howlett	P	P	P	P	P	N	P	
Principal	Michael Sendrea	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Teacher Reps	Carolee Fox	P	Lori Hillman	Carolee Fox	Carolee Fox & Sarah Barber	Selina Robb	Carolee Fox	Carolee Fox	
Community	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a	
WRAPSC	Jessica Gordon	P	P	N	P	P	P	P	
Parent Members & Volunteers	Stephanie Forte	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
	Christine Sanchez	P	N	N	N	N	N	P	
	Katie Misener	P	N	P	P	N	P	P	
	Marsha Ferguson	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
	Agnes Lehtonen	P	N	N	N	P	P	P	
	Shawna Gingrich	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
	Karen Forsyth	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
	Erin Schmidt	N	P	N	P	N	P	P	
	Jenn Metzloff	N	P	N	N	N	N	N	
	Julianna Oitment	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
	Sandra Clark	P	P	P	P	P	N	P	
	Natalie Edery	P	N	N	N	N	N	N	



Agenda – Review & Approval

Adjustments to Agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	Agenda approval with changes motioned by: 1st: Rebecca 2nd: Colleen
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Minutes, April– Review & Approval

Adjustments to Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	Minutes approval with changes motioned by: 1st: Rebecca 2nd: Colleen

PRESENTATIONS

Teacher’s Report – Mrs. Fox

- Big thanks to the Teacher Assistants (The parents) from the teachers at the school
- Important to continue to stay the course as best we can given the current circumstances
- Kids are starting to get ready for summer
- Teachers are hopeful that we’ll be back to something more normal come September time
- Teachers are looking at all of the materials that are sent through Google Classroom, those are part of the considerations for report cards
- **Question:** How are breakout rooms being used in classrooms?
 - Not being used as a teaching tool (Grade 1) but more for recess
 - Mr. Sendrea sees them used infrequently and mostly in the senior grades
 - Senior grades are often given roles to help supervision and ensure they have some level of order
 - It is providing an opportunity for social connection
 - Smaller groups good for children more comfortable in those environments

Principal’s Report – Mr. Sendrea

- Shutdown is continuing and we have not received an official/unofficial end date
- Students are engaged in asynchronous and synchronous learning (225 minutes a day Grades 1-8)
- We are seeing a drop in attendance over the last few weeks



- Seeing or having any interaction with a child during online learning is considered being present
- For offline learners, it is interacting once a week
- Report cards go home on June 28th
- Teachers are being advised to weight the pre-shutdown learning heavier and use the recent learning to corroborate that information
- Parents now have more time to sign up for In Person Learning (June 2nd)
- If you would like to change your mode of learning you can send an email to the school or call Mr. Sendrea to talk through the options
- Grade 8 graduation is taking place June 22nd
 - Virtual graduation ceremony starting at 6PM
 - If the children are in school we will have a daytime screening
 - It will be a livestreaming event
- Welcome to Kindergarten event starting on June 2nd
 - Bags of stuff were going to be handed out but we are holding off due to the lockdown
 - This will be a virtual event
- There are 12 students currently registered for next year, which means only one class is likely
- Gas smell has been resolved by a repair of the exhaust system
- Grade 9 transition is underway and discussions with EDSS for the incoming students
- **Question:** How can we (as Grade 8 parents) get the enthusiasm up for the students?
 - Some families are getting dressed formally on the day, having a nice meal and trying to celebrate as a family
 - Trying to keep the kids motivated and emphasizing hope in the school environment and encourage them not to miss the opportunity to be part of the Grade 8 graduation despite how different it looks
- The pictures for Graduation has been changed to June 7th

STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

Treasurer's Report – Karen

- Last of the maple syrup sales came in
- Nothing unexpected
- Projecting to have around \$20,000 in the budget at the end of the year



WRAPSC Report – Jessica

- Moving forward most of the restrictions that are in place will remain in place
 - No purchasing items with School Logos
 - No awards
 - These items are being removed in order to make it equitable amongst all students
- Draft calendars for 2021-2022 are up
- Three PD Days leading up to Labour Day, meaning students will start on the Tuesday after Labour Day
- CPS is projected to have diminished enrolment up to 50% over the next ten years
- This is something that does come up every few years given the nature of the school and our area
- **Question:** Are the awards such as honour roll, math award and other awards permanent?
 - The superintendent in charge of that piece is intending this to be equal and permanent but no final decision has been made
 - This is for Waterloo Region
 - Any parents that are concerned can reach out to Trustee Karen Meissner at 519-591-2825 or karen_meissner@wrdsb.ca

Safe, Caring, Inclusive, and Healthy Schools Committee – Mr. Sendrea

- The committee has not had another opportunity to meet

COMMITTEES & EVENTS – STATUS REPORTS

School Ground and Playground Update – Colleen

- Committee met on May 4th to get a status on playground development
- Visiting on site to look at where possible developments could be
- Met with facilities on Monday to discuss the current GagaBall pit as a location and had verbal confirmation
 - Some investigation around the roots on the nearby trees are being looked into
- Committee has done some research on existing structures with various materials and determined that Wooden structures are not likely the best material given the condition of some researched locations in 10 years
- We have a budget internally as well as looking at partnering with outside organizations in the community
- Estimating around \$50,000 as the final cost given the scope of what is being investigated, but that number could change



- Potentially looking at a modular structure that can be added to over the next few years as funding becomes available
- The board may have a selection of options rather than something bespoke to be put in
- Separate line items for excavation and surfacing, which the board will pay for

School Landscaping Proposal – Colleen

- Looking at opportunities for grants to apply for something mid-June
- Still awaiting meetings with third parties to partner with in order to proceed with the work
- Not likely to have all of the items we would need to qualify for the grant given the requirements for community outreach and other components that we do not have the timeline for
- This grant could be worth looking into at some point in the near future
- Looking at trimming back some of the branches on the bigger trees to better expose the front of the school
- The board will also be looking at repairing the brickwork and getting rid of the awning on the front of the school
- New bikeracks on the front of the school
- New locker hardware is coming forward as a result of this initiative, as well
- **Question:** Was the gift-in-kind from the landscaper discussed as part of this?
 - It hasn't been discussed in detail as there are some procurement rules being looked at

OPEN DISCUSSION ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by:

1st: Colleen

2nd: Katie