

High Park

School Council Meeting Minutes - November 19, 2024

In attendance – Nicole Marcinkevics (Principal), Melissa Dallinger (Vice Principal), Trustee Paul McCann, Catrin Thomson (Chair), Kimberly Shim (Vice Chair), Lois Radbourne, Korina Parent, Pam Russ, Rebecca Vishloff, Pam Armitage, Shelby Williams, Sarah Klimochko.

1. Call to Order

- a. Meeting called to order at 6:04 PM

2. Approval of Agenda

- a. Korina motions to approve agenda. Kim seconds. Agenda approved.

3. Approval of October 2024 Minutes

- a. Kim motions to approve October Minutes. Korina seconds. Minutes approved.

4. Trustee Report

- a. Trustees have not had a meeting since our last school council meeting. They are meeting next week.
- b. Main focus in November is getting the budget ready for input from the province and completing a summary of the year to submit to the province.
- c. Negotiations with unions are ongoing. CUPE may file a formal application for mediation.

5. Principal's Report

- a. Melissa presented the monthly summary that High Park submits to the school board to highlight what has been going on at the school
- b. Student and Staff Wellness
 - i. The school is working hard on creating a culture of community amongst staff.
 - ii. Have started a buddy check in program where staff are paired up and encouraged to intentionally check in on each other.
 - iii. Staff activity at Activate was a lot of fun
 - iv. High Park is partnering with Meridian Heights English staff for Professional Development which will enable specialized staff to have more access to targeted professional development.

- v. Art display in the library is on loan from the art museum
- c. Equity, Diversity and Gratitude
 - i. The school received a thank you letter from a community member recognizing the accessibility of the cross country run at High Park. Plan to expand accessible parking options for next year
 - ii. Halloween Hoopla – went smoothly and was well attended
 - iii. Volleyball – Junior B team is a developmental team organized by Ms. Daniels and they were able to participate in a tournament
- d. Indigenous Perspectives and Ways of Knowing
 - i. School has had lots of elder visits from Elder Linda and Kokum Violet
- e. Programming and Pedagogy
 - i. Band has grown from just High Park to the Parkland Band Program
 - ii. Grade 3 and 4's received a grant from Pay It Forward for the Planet
 - 1. They went on a field trip to the zoo and then did a research project on animals and conservation
 - iii. Learning Sprint Framework will allow staff to track collaboration time, goals and progress
 - iv. Fish in Schools Program is back this year. Melissa and Stacey will take the lead and will include students in the care of the fish.
 - v. Construction CTF class had a tour of CanPar Facilities
 - vi. Remembrance Day ceremony was well received by the community and a lot of thought and planning went into it. Veterans' way with posters recognizing veterans was a hit.

6. PAL Update

- a. Halloween Hoopla
 - i. net \$2645. Gross \$3610
 - ii. 371 attendees
 - iii. Oilers raffle made \$810
 - iv. Glow sticks did not cause a problem.
 - v. Concession costs are up which eats into profits. Previously food has been donated this year needed to be purchased. Pizza is not making money. Will need to look into an alternative for the next dance.
- b. PAL election
 - i. Ashley Skopyk was elected Chair
 - ii. Korina Parent was elected Vice Chair
 - iii. Pam Russ was elected Treasurer
 - iv. Pam Armitage was elected Secretary

- c. Parents have been asking for more transparency about where PAL funds are going. Brainstormed ideas on where to post this information other than meeting minutes which are linked on the school website.
 - i. Nicole can share a Facebook link to PAL newsletter but cannot send out the newsletter to all parents.

7. COSC Update

- a. Cat meets with other School Council Chairs from the Division
- b. Graminia is hosting in February. Always the first Tuesday of the month. February will be discussing insurance for PAL groups and school budgets. Others are welcome to attend these meetings

8. Open Discussion

- a. November 27 PSD Townhall
 - i. Parents of Grade 4-6's – the division wants to look into the increase of challenging behaviours from this group of kids. What is the root cause? What can be done?
 - ii. These townhalls can be a valuable way to share information with parents from other schools.
 - iii. Separated into small groups to discuss three topics and then go back to the large group
 - iv. RSVP by Friday November 22. Will be held in person at Broxton.
- b. School Engagement Grant for 2024/2025 school year
 - i. \$500 to go towards school council
 - ii. Different courses are available. Cat will send out options and school council can vote on what they would like in February.
- c. Korina asked about Traffic safety conversations at the school after an accident that involved two students from High Park. That same week there was an accident between a school bus and a car that many students witnessed.
 - i. School staff provided factual information to the classes of the girls involved with their parents collaboration.
 - ii. Traffic safety information was provided in the announcements.
- d. Pam noted that the Division 2025/2026 Calendar input survey went out today.
- e. SOSQ survey was completed by students in Grades 4-9 today
 - i. 42 questions to gauge how students are feeling.

- ii. This will give the school a good idea of where students are struggling. Nicole feels like there was a general vibe that internalized anxiety will be a major theme reported.
- f. Nicole mentioned that PAT results are promising
 - i. Grade 9s are above provincial standards
 - ii. Grade 6s are still working on improving.
 - iii. Nicole would be interested in data showing where High Park sits compared to other division schools rather than the province as a whole.

9. Next Meeting Date

- a. January 21, 2025

10. Adjourn

- a. Meeting adjourned at 7PM