

Seneca Trail Public School SCC Meeting Minutes

Date: November 4th, 2024

Attendees

- Karen Formosa
- Becky Nahvi
- Pooja Nawal
- Mariam Shah
- Debbie Peters
- Bonnie Chiu
- Huddah Nawaz
- Kate Murphy
- Farrukh Ijaz
- Jennifer Montgomery (Staff Representative)
- John McLeod (Principal)
- Jennifer French (Vice-Principal)
- Three students added to the committee

Roles

- **Administration:** Principal John McLeod, Vice-Principal Jennifer French
 - **Staff Representative:** Jennifer Montgomery
 - **Non-Teacher Representative:** Position currently vacant
 - **Community Representative:** Position currently vacant
 - **Chair:** Kate Murphy, Angela Mastralangelo
 - **Vice Chair:** Angela Mastralangelo
 - **Treasurer:** Becky Nahvi
 - **Secretary:** Mariam Shah
 - **Student Representation:** Three Grade 7 students
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1. Welcome and Introductions

- **Leadership Students:**
Three Grade 7 students were introduced as leadership representatives. They will:
 - Assist with SCC and school initiatives.
 - Serve as liaisons between students and SCC.
 - Share one collective vote as a single voting member.
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2. Upcoming Leadership Trip

- **Muskoka Woods Camp Trip:**
 - Duration: Two nights and three days.
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3. Treasurer's Report

- **Current Balance:** \$5,983.14 (as of year-end).

- No funds spent or earned since the last report.
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4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Minutes from the first meeting were approved without any changes.
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5. Principal's Report

Field Trips and Events

- **Duffins Creek Visit:**
 - Grade 6 students will visit Duffins Creek to explore the natural environment.
 - The center accommodated all Grade 6 students despite being slightly over numbers.
- **Kindergarten Field Trip:**
 - Kindergarten classes visited Linton's Farm.
- **Area Cross Country Meet:**
 - 140 students from Seneca participated in the area meet on a cold day.
 - 11 students advanced to the regional meet.

Athletics

- **Intermediate Girls Volleyball:**
 - Finished second in their pool.
- **Intermediate Boys Volleyball:**
 - Participated in the Provincial Cup in Halton, an invitation-only event.
 - Finished second in the tournament.
 - Currently competing in the top 24.

Staffing Changes

- Kathleen Cartier:
 - Took a leave, moved away, and ultimately resigned. A replacement is being sought.
- Ms. James:
 - Returned from parental leave but accepted a position in York Region. Ms. Vaz is filling her role.

Progress Reports and Interviews

- **Progress Reports:**
 - Completed, centered on learning skills, and under review.
 - Reports will be emailed to families on **November 13th**.
- **Parent-Teacher Interviews:**
 - Scheduled for **November 14th and 15th**.

Office Renovations

- Plans for constructing additional office space to support the Special Education team.

Immunizations

- The first round of immunizations has been completed.
- The second round is scheduled for spring.

Professional Development (PD) Day Success

- Teachers participated in a PD day with 11 stations.
 - Staff chose 6-8 stations to complete during the day.
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6. Chair's Report (Kate)

Bylaw Updates

- Becky will email the SCC body the updated bylaws for review before the next meeting.
- The updated bylaws are approximately 10 pages and will be voted on at the next meeting.

Meeting Accessibility

- A virtual attendance option was proposed to make meetings more accessible.
- Discussion about purchasing an OWL device to facilitate hybrid meetings.

Fundraising and Community Impact

- **Winter Clothing Exchange:**
 - Winter clothes will be set up during parent-teacher interviews for trading.
 - Leftover items will be donated by Kate on Friday after interviews.
 - **Giving Tree:**
 - A "Giving Tree" will be set up by December 2nd.
 - Leadership students will assist with:
 - Setting up the tree.
 - Making announcements and posters.
 - Visiting classrooms to explain the initiative and collect donations.
 - Mariam and Mr. McCleod will help organize.
 - Donations of new items will be accepted from **December 2nd to December 13th**.
 - **Candy Cane Grams:**
 - To be sold in the lobby on **December 10th, 11th, and 12th** during lunch.
 - Candy grams will be delivered the following week.
 - **Healthy Hunger Initiative:**
 - Proposal to tie a fun day (e.g., bubble tea or Booster Juice) with a spirit day.
 - Concerns about the scent of Subway bags; Angela is exploring alternatives, which may increase costs by \$1 per sub.
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7. Staff Representative Report (Jennifer Montgomery)

Teacher "Wish List" Items

- The entire list of teacher requests was reviewed. While it was not possible to approve the entire list, the following items were approved:
 1. Forest of Reading books for the K-8 library.
 2. Ten noise-canceling headphones for SERT (all grades).
 3. iPad for the gym (all grades).
 4. 48 headphones for primary classes (six per class).
 5. Three light tables for kindergarten classes.
 6. \$1,000 for musical production expenses (costumes, tech, props, etc.).
- The total approved spending for the above items amounts to **\$4,030**.
- **Scientist in the School:**
 - Discussion took place regarding approving funding for half of the cost of the "Scientist in the School" program.
 - The other half would potentially be covered either by the school or by student families.

Winter Concert

- A winter concert is planned for February.

8. Future Discussions

- Proposal to bring back "Treat Friday" to be discussed at the December meeting.

Meeting Adjourned