South Branch School Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 8, 2021 - 6:00 p.m.

Tanya Preston, Christie LaBrash, Peter Knight, Kami Link, Samantha Kutowy, Chris Hewitt, Katie O'Connor, Julie Culkeen, Mrs. Corby, Deb Gaw, Don Lewis, Lisa Swan, Denise Mahoney, Melody Busuttil

- 1. Welcome & attendance: meeting started 6:08pm welcomed by Sami Chair
- 2. Additions & acceptance of meeting agenda: Transition Planning of OOR (Oxford on the Rideau)
 - a. Accepted by Denise and Melody
- 3. Acceptance of May 2021 meeting minutes: Accepted by Denise and Melody
- 4. Teacher's Report (Mrs. Corby)

Mrs. Ross K - Our group planted and watched bean plants grow as well as some frog activities. We have been playing trivia games on Sun safety and summer fun.

Mme. Smith K - Kinders of Room 7 & 8 have been engaged in learning related to Community Helpers, Gardening and Changes of Seasons. Last week, we had a virtual tour of the North Grenville Fire Station and a virtual visit with Mayor Nancy Peckford. We have also virtually visited a greenhouse, a goat farm, the San Diego Zoo and will be visiting with beekeepers tomorrow.

Mrs. Price 1 - We are working on storytelling and the importance of passing stories on. We are listening to Canadian authors like Robert Munsch and Indigenous authors like Monique Gray Smith (When We Are Kind) and listening to Indigenous Elders tell some classic tales like How the Turtle Got It's Shell.

Mrs. McCool 1 & 2 - We have been working on autobiographies and letter writing. Students are becoming very persuasive writers. In Math, we have been learning a lot about sharing fairly and fractional names.

Mrs. Gaw 2 - Our class is learning about global communities in Social Studies. And in Math - directional coding, and probability.

Mrs. Adamson 3 - My grade 3's have been working on using more describing words and increasing their vocabulary throughout their writing pieces. They also explored probability in math as they played a variety of games. We finished up our soil unit in science. They are trying to develop a better understanding of the relationships between our country, province, municipality and town.

Mrs. Mellaney 3-4 - Mathematics: Movement on a grid - coordinates, positional language (up, down, left, right). Compass rose on a map (North, Northeast, Southeast, South, Southwest, Northwest). Coding - code.org course, blockly language, loops (repeated actions), debugging Problems Solving strategies. Language - Finishing fables, supporting opinions with reasons, word work - homonyms, synonyms, antonyms, word clouds about summer. Social Studies - Indigenous (Inuit and First Nations). Science - Soil and Rocks and Minerals. Art - Indigenous inspired art. Health: Talking about summer plans, how we feel that the school is closed, and we won't be returning to school.

Mrs. Lynch 4 - Miss Lynch's class participated in a virtual science workshop on Monday June 7.

Scientists in Schools is an organization that engages students in real-world experiences that spark curiosity and nurtures their inquisitive young minds. Not only do they help children to discover the fascinating and fun side of science, technology, engineering, math (STEM), and the environment, but they also help them to develop the 21st century global competencies that they will need to succeed not only in the careers of tomorrow, but in the world of tomorrow.

To support students, teachers, and parents during COVID, they are now delivering engaging hands-on STEM workshops and STEM Clubs virtually. Highly investigative activities will be delivered safely and seamlessly to the classroom or home by a science topic presenter.

The topic of the workshop is based on the grade 4 science curriculum - Habitats and Communities. The students will investigate the diet of an owl and estimate the prey number and type of prey. The students will dissect an owl pellet, sort, and identify bones.

Ms. Davison 4 - Math - coding on code.org. Language - just finished a novel study on Stuart Little, and now working on some end of year memory books. Science - making animal and plant habitats (dioramas or posters)

Mrs. Corby 5 – Math – coding on code.org, decimals, data management. Language – persuasive and procedural writing. Reading comprehension on realistic and historical fiction. Science – Forces acting on structure unit. The students are building bridges and mechanical systems to showcase their learning.

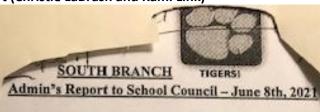
Mr. Stone 6 - We are doing Flight in Science. Doing PowerPoint presentations, building models, flight tests. In Math, lots of numeracy and problem solving.

Mme. Berry French - K- 3's are in the middle of a camping unit. Lots of new vocabulary being introduced. There are plans to have a camp set up (read fort making) for our last class on this topic. Hoping that generates a bit of excitement. And in PE we have started doing some yoga. Students are doing well with this online.

Mme. Wright French - The junior French classes have just completed "les animaux" unit where they created missing pet posters and a video presentation that was like a news cast. The junior French core classes are currently working on "ma famille et moi!" This is a project where they choose a format to show their family and to share information using new vocabulary. Some students have made videos, we had a life size family tree art project using photos and more! We are doing a transition today into summer themes!

Mrs. O'Connor Music - In music, Mrs. O'Connor continues to have synchronous classes with all of her groups each week. The primary students have been singing and moving to music and playing some rhythm games. The juniors have finished their unit on beatboxing and they made some amazing creations using the website Incredibox. They enjoyed sharing their compositions with the classes. The final music assignment was due last Friday and some amazing basketballs to the beat and homemade rhythms were sent to Mrs. O'Connor by video. Mrs. O'Connor is REALLY looking forward to being back in a classroom and making music with her students in the fall.

5. Principal's Report (Christie LaBrash and Kami Link)



Staffing - Staffing process still happening. We are currently awaiting for our EAs to be staffed for next year. We welcome Michelle Dawson who was staffed in our 0.9 grade 6 class. We still have an outstanding .2 French position. Many of our primary classrooms and core Kindergarten are at or above cap so we are anticipating an additional classroom to alleviate our heavy numbers in primary. We will have 3 ECE's next year: Mrs Trayner, Mrs Harrington and Mrs Rothwell will be returning

Teaching and Learning updates

The Board has completed digital choice boards for students who are digital and non-digital learners for the remainder of the year. Our synchronous learners will continue to login with their teacher daily until the end of the school year. We are working hard to continue to connect and encourage students and families to do what they can at this point.

We are expecting that all of our students will be returning to in person learning in the Fall. Emergency remote learning will only be an option if a student/ family has a COVID related issue/condition and this will be at the discretion of the Principal and the Superintendent. These remote options will be synchronous and asynchronous digital learning.

Bussing: If you gave up your seat this year due to COVID so you could drive your child you will want to reach out to STEO to secure your seat for September.

What has been Happening

Supervision – at this point looking at starting with cohorts so we have made an initial supervision schedule which has each cohort in their own zone, rotating weekly. We are proposing to have first recess/lunch 11:55-12:35 and 2nd recess 1:55-2:35 (20 mins out and 20 mins in for snack/alternative).

Summer Learning Program- This program runs from 9:00 a.m. - 12 p.m., Monday to Friday, from July 5 to July 23. It is being provided in an online format with synchronous (real time) teacher-led instruction for 2.5 hours a day. Students will engage in literacy, math, coding activities and Indigenous education each morning for the duration of the program. This is a three-week program and students would be expected to attend each morning.

Those who are interested in taking part in this program can express their interest using the <u>K-8</u> Summer Learning Program Online Form.

Visit our website for more information or contact summerlearning@ucdsb.on.ca with questions. The survey closes on June 22 and space is limited. Confirmation of registration will be sent to families by June 25.

Vaccinations- The Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit (LGLDHU) has opened a dedicated online booking system for appointments at special youth COVID-19 vaccine clinics, offered from June 11–25, 2021. These clinics are for all youth ages 12-17 and for secondary students ages 18-21. The Pfizer vaccine will be provided; this is currently the only vaccine authorized by Health Canada for use in youth ages 12 to 17. Youth <u>must</u> be at least 12 years old on the day of their appointment to be eligible to receive the vaccine.

On the Radar

- Retrieval of Student Belongings stay tuned information and procedure to be shared shortly
- · Planning for virtual Kindergarten "Welcome to School" event June 22nd-4:30pm
- Grade 6 Leaving ceremony Thursday June 24th- 4:30pm virtual ceremony
- Last day classes June 25th
- · PA Day staff June 28th



6. Treasurer's Report (Emily)

- a. Final Financial Report for the 2021-2022 school year \$11, 636.67-no June totals yet from pizza fundraiser Mr. Mozzarella
- -Reviewed money in funds and transfer/use of money for playground and end of year gifts. Play structure cost approx. \$24,000. At present, in play structure fund rests \$16,000.
- **Motion to transfer \$8,000 to play structure fund. Accepted by: Denise, Chris, Melody, Julie and Katie
- -South Branch council fundraising balance: 3636.67. Remaining funds to be utilized to End of year gifts for teachers, grade 6 student grads and teacher luncheon.
- -Melody to begin purchasing of Grade 6 "Survival kits".
- -Melody to begin purchasing end of year gifts to teachers' theme "summer campfire"
- -Melody to follow up with Crusty Bakers to provide teacher luncheon and delivery.

7. Fundraising Report (Katie)

- a. Final Fundraising Report for the 2021-2022 school year
- -Limited details to report at this time due to end of year and covid concerns. Will revisit in September 2021 dependent on school opening possibilities.
 - 8. **Discussion Topics** Open for any issues parents would like to discuss (to be addressed now and future meetings)
 - a. Playground update-advised Christie to move forward with playground in hopes to have installed summer 2021 for new school year.
 - b. Garden update-thanks so much are extended to Denise and Chris who have utilized their own time to begin the buildup of the new garden. Soil delivery expected June 21st. Chris has begun plans of building two arbours.
 - c. Plans for the 2021-2022 school year-future discussion topics of importance are fundraisers and if covid will deter future plans. Transition team to begin meetings at South Branch with OOR and share details of smooth transition.
 - 9. First meeting of the 2021-2022 school year is September 14th at 6:00 p.m.
 - 10. Adjournment of Meeting: 8pm motioned by Denise and Katie.
- **Farewell to our wonderful Principal, Vice Principal, and staff.

Dates to Remember for the 2021-2022 School Year

Meeting dates for the 2021-2022 school year. SBSC meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month during the school year. We will meet at 6:00 p.m. online via TEAMS until further notice. Please add the dates to your calendar!

September 14^{th} February 8^{th} October 12^{th} March 8^{th} November 9^{th} April 12^{th} December 14^{th} May 10^{th} January 11^{th} June 14^{th}

Please contact School Council Chair for more information at southbranchcouncil@gmail.com