***Baltimore Public School Council***

***Meeting Minutes – September 18, 2024***

**Members Present (Staff):** Renee Cameron, Mark Duke and Tracey Lowe.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Members Present (Parents):** | |  | |
|  | Rachel Austin |  | Jenn Kerswill |
|  | Breeann Cochrane |  | \*Lindsay Logel (Treasurer) |
|  | Kierstin Cochrane |  | Cait Miller |
|  | \*Danielle Dafoe (Chair) |  | Emily Murray |
|  | Ashley Daniel |  | \*Kelly Stewart (Interim/Secretary) |
|  | Rachel Finlay |  |  |
|  | \*Pam Graham (Regional Council Rep) |  |  |

Minutes from previous meeting (April 4, 2024) were approved.

NOTE: Meeting minutes can be found on Edsby in the Parent Council group and electronically on the School Website <https://baltimore.kprdsb.ca/Community/School%20Council>

* Goals for Parent Council (Same):
  + Short Term - Trips, Fundraisers, Support Teachers/Classrooms
  + Mid Term - Technology
  + Long Term - New Playground Equipment

**Adoption of Agenda:**

* A hardcopy of the “Baltimore PS School Council Agenda” dated September 18, 2024 was handed out to Council by Renee Cameron.
* First order of business, the Election of the School Council (SC) Executive for the 2024-25 school year.

**\*Executive Election:**

* Reference the “Constitution of Baltimore Public School” and the “Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board School Council Policy B-6.1” for more detailed information. These official documents will herein be referred to in this Minutes of Meeting as the “Constitution” and “KPR Policy B-6.1”.
* Constitution Election & Term of Executive: *“Members of the Executive shall be elected by Council not later than the second meeting of Council following the election of Council and shall serve a term of one year. Members of Council are eligible to stand for election to the executive for additional terms. Members may serve as Chair for only two consecutive terms. No more than one member of a family shall hold an Executive position in the same term of office. Council shall fill vacancies among the Executive.”*
* As per the Constitution, the term of office for elected members of Council shall not be more than 2 years.
* The identified individuals were elected into the following School Council Executive positions for the 2024-25 school year:
  + **Chairs/Co-chairs** = Danielle Dafoe
  + **Treasurer** = Lindsay Logel
  + **Secretary** = Kelly Stewart (Interim. Shared effort between Council Members)
  + **Regional Council Representative** = Pam Graham (By proxy – virtual dates TBD)
  + **Fundraising** = Same 6 people from last year’s Executive

**September Council Business:**

* Hardcopies of the “Constitution of Baltimore Public School” and the “June 2024 – KPRDSB School Report on the Annual Operation of School Councils” was handed out to Council by Renee Cameron for review.
* The June 2024 Report (Created by Co-Chairs, Bree Cochrane & Rachel Finlay) was a snapshot and high level overview of last year’s School Council goals, accomplishments, financial status and proposed growth for the coming 2024-25 school year.
* ACTION: Council Members were requested to review the “KPR Draft Code of Conduct” and the “KPR Cellphone Policy” at home. Additionally, it was requested that the Constitution be thoroughly reviewed at home. Any questions, concerns or suggested changes/feedback will be tabled and addressed at the next Council meeting.

**Fundraising:**

Parent Council Funding Support for Classrooms:

* + $200 for each teacher re: classroom needs
  + Approximately 14 teachers in total comprised of eleven Homeroom classes, plus Science, Library, Tech, Gym, etc.
  + Additional requests for funds beyond the initial $200 to be presented to Chair/Council for review and approval on a case-by-case basis.
  + A reminder about this funding will be sent to the teachers.
  + Reminder to Chair/Council from previous notes the School Board will not allow the teachers to create an Amazon Wish List because they can’t monitor it. Classroom materials and textbooks must come out of the school budget.
* Brief discussion and updates provided by various members of Student Council.
  + **Mabel’s Labels** - ongoing
* The link will continue to be shared.
  + **Hot Lunch Program**
    - Cait Miller advised that the new Pizza supplier has been working much better than previous Pizza Pizza supplier. Quality of food appears to be good. Positive feedback received from staff and kids. Gluten option was explained (Re. The quantity of pizza was doubled for the $5.00 increase in the price). No other issues reported.
    - Still in need of parent volunteers to sign up and help with delivery of hot lunches.
  + **Holiday Fundraisers**
    - TBD
  + **Other Fundraisers to be further discussed for the 2024 / 2025 school year:**
    - Domino’s Pizza Nights (\*Note: Jim’s Pizza suggestion from last year)
    - Kernel’s Popcorn Fundraiser
    - Spring Market
    - Twoonie Tuesday Spirit Days
    - Hot Dog Days
    - Purdys Chocolates
    - Baltimore Blooms
    - Family Trivia Night
    - Fun Fair
    - Family Dance or Themed Dances (Re. Halloween, etc.)
  + Go Fund Me (Re. It was discussed that individuals can make donations to the school through School Cash online. This option should be promoted.)
    - Student Art Show, etc.

**Yearbook**

* Update provided by Tracey Lowe.
  + “Yearbook and Media” Club
  + Parents are encouraged to send any photos of sporting events or school trips to [yearbook.baltimoreps@gmail.com](mailto:yearbook.baltimoreps@gmail.com).

**Social Media Account:**

* Preliminary discussion around creating a new social media account. This account would be separate from the existing “Parents of Baltimore” group.
* Council liked the idea of having more control over the content posted.

**Principal’s Report**

Update provided by Renee Cameron:

* Thank you! The new playground swings are incredible and are used all of the time.
* Introduction of the “Positive School Climate Team”. An anti-bullying group designed to survey/collect and analyze data (Re. Kindergarten – Grade 6), how the kids feel, etc.
* Group comprised of the Public Health Nurse, Parent & Staff Reps (Kindergarten – Grade 6).
* Community building events, helpers on the yard, etc.
* The team is called “Baltimore Vibe”. Looking at possibly getting T-Shirts made.
* Fun Fair – Dates go into Edsby. Posted on Calendar.
* Early Reader Screener Program. Based on the Primary grades.
* New Curriculum 2024-25. Not called writing anymore – comprehensive text, etc. Language curriculum beyond phonics.
* Teacher Tool from the Ministry of Education.
* Students are assessed every Friday in the classroom.
* Kindergarten – Grade 2 are tested in the Fall 2024 (Re. by mid-October). Retested in the Spring 2025 to chart student growth. Parents will see it on the Report Cards (February).
* Nutrition Program shortfall (Re. $4,000). The program did not get grant this school year.
* BPS has had to go to the local Foodbank for breakfast cereal and is relying on donations of food such as apples, yogurt, whole grain cereals, etc.
* Typically, there are 4-6 servings of food available in the class if kids ate all of their lunch.
* There is estimated to be 22+ students who routinely use/rely on the BPS Nutrition Program.

**Teacher’s Report:**

* Update provided by Tracey Lowe and Mark Duke.
* Spoke about music/performances in the BPS Concert Hall – fun.
* Mark Duke volunteered to be a part of the Fun Fair.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

* A review took place of the “BPS Royal Bank of Canada School Generated Funds”.
* The summary and balances for each account were briefly reviewed by Council.
* Direction provided to the Treasurer (Lindsay Logel) by the Chair (Danielle Dafoe).
* The Chair has approved select balances for transfer into the SC School Council account.
* The current, opening balance for the SC School Council account is $11,765.10.

**Regional School Council Meeting:**

* Pam Graham (and any others interested) will be provided the dates for the upcoming virtual meetings by Renee Cameron.

**Other Business:**

* The BlueImp Play Strong quoted options were shared with Council by Renee Cameron.
* Option 1 was voted #1 by the Grade 2-6 classes. This option was $32,794.86.
* Thank you for the play structure quotes and equipment information Pam Graham.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

Wednesday October 2, 2024 at 6:00 pm = Fundraising Meeting (6 people)

Wednesday October 23, 2024 at 6:00 pm = Council Meeting