

CROSSROADS PUBLIC SCHOOL
School Council Minutes
Tuesday, November 23, 2021 at 7:00 pm
TEAMS Meeting



Present: Kate Fish, Melora Brewster, Sophia Vollmer, Carrie Plaskett, Amanda Fretz, Emma Thwaites, Stacey MacIntyre, Ashleigh Dixon, Amanda Nickason, Lida Ruller, Amy Rapone, Melissa Saxton.

1. **Welcome and Call to Order** - Sophia Vollmer & Carrie Plaskett
2. **Review and Approval of Previous Meetings' Minutes** - approved by Amanda, seconded by Carrie
3. **Chair's Report** - Sophia Vollmer & Carrie Plaskett
4. **Principal's Report** - Kate Fish & Melora Brewster - Crossroads had its first virtual Remembrance Day Ceremony, it included a speaker from War Amps. It was a wonderful ceremony, students were respectful and they later talked about how meaningful it was to them.
 - PD Day - Staff is continuing to focus on math PD as well as equity, inclusion and anti-racism. Also focusing on all of the celebrations and traditions that are celebrated at Crossroads - considering cultural diversity, financial diversity, mental health considerations.
 - Interactive boards - \$3000 raised from Little Caesars fundraiser, anonymous donation of \$6000, school council donated \$4000. 3 boards have been purchased to start, working our way to replace others as needed.
 - Newark Neighbours food drive - Students have collected a hall full of food! Next week we will continue by collecting toys and winter clothes.
 - Sports - Crossroads had a Fun Run. Intermediate volleyball has begun with exhibition games last week, and there will be a tournament Dec 10. There will be a co-ed team playing in December as well. More sports to come in January.
 - Grade 8s had a virtual presentation from Laura Secord today in class. Next week is the Open House. Teachers are discussing grade 9 course selections with students.
 - Holiday theme - looking to support Crossroads' families, grocery gift cards from EFN have already gone out. Toyota Performance Group will support one family, they are submitting a wish list. Niagara Children's Foundation is supporting 5 families with winter gear. Staff will put together baskets to support families over the break with food and extra treats. Sophia suggested donating the PC and M&M gift cards that we had bought in the past for hot lunches, but are just sitting around. Council voted in favour of donating the gift cards.
 - This week is Bullying Prevention Week - staff have been using books to help students support the idea of recognizing what is kind about them - being reflective, and also

preventative measures. Focusing on what being kind looks like, feels like and sounds like.

- Lida Ruller is leading a Professional Learning Community with Crossroads' staff. The focus is investigating better ways of communicating with families and getting to know students in a genuine way. Families are underutilized in terms of student achievement. There are many ways families can be included. They are doing research, they have had their first meeting, and they look forward to how this will help school culture. Looking to build effective strategies to bring everyone together.

- Thursday, Dec 9th, 10:00am - Opening Ceremony for accessible playground.

5. **Treasurer's Report** - Magdalena Bator - \$47 came out of school ground greening for plants at the front of the school. Balance is just over \$6000.
6. **Fundraising Committee** - Amy Rapone - Last year, we held a calendar contest as a fundraiser. Kids participated by drawing a picture for a month/season and someone from Niagara Pumphouse chose the winners. Ashleigh has agreed to print the calendars and cover the cost of printing again this year.
7. **Your Voice**
8. **Looking Ahead to our Next Meeting** on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at 7:00pm
9. **Adjournment** - Sophia Vollmer & Carrie Plaskett - adjourned by Amanda, seconded by Stacey