

**Clinton Junior Public School  
School Council Minutes**

<b>Meeting Date</b>	September 29, 2021	
<b>Start/End Time</b>	17:30 – 18:45	
<b>Minutes Approved</b>		
<b>Attendees – Elected and Appointed Members</b>	Co-Chair, Co-Chair, Communications Officer, Treasurer, Secretary	
<b>Attendees</b>	Parents / Guardians	8
<b>Attendees – Staff &amp; Administration</b>	Principal, Vice-Principal	

<b>Upcoming Events and Meetings</b>	
<u>2020-21 School Council Meetings</u>	<p>Come to School Council meetings to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the education experience of our school's children</li> <li>• Provide input and enhance school system accountability</li> <li>• Learn more about what's going on</li> </ul>
<b>2020-21 School Council Events</b>	Itinerary to be determined and distributed via Council website and email communications
<b>Action Items</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Principal: Does Clinton have access to PCR testing centres?</li> <li>2. Principal: To provide school budget upon receipt, including whether carry over funds are available.</li> <li>3. Principal: To deliver message to teachers encouraging communication with parents / guardians regarding curriculum details for their classroom.</li> </ol>	

**Land Acknowledgement**

*We acknowledge the land we are meeting on is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.*

**1. Intro and Welcome**

Co-Chair welcomes all and outlines meeting agenda. Co-Chair provides summary of Council's mandate and purpose.

## **2. Approve Last Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve minutes of June 23, 2021 Minutes

Motion: Co-Chair  
Seconded: Treasurer

**CARRIED**

## **3. Co-Chair's Report**

Co-Chair Report:

- 2020 / 2021 Year in Review:
  - o Generally light year given COVID-19 restrictions
  - o Safe return to school procedures and toolkits implemented for all students
  - o Fund raising – Limited due to restrictions imposed by governing bodies and TDSB. Nonetheless Council was able to conduct:
    - on-line auction
    - virtual family trivia night
  - o Continued to support family through the community support fund (explanation of that fund provided)
  - o List of guest speakers was maintained but ultimately abandoned given restrictions on funding
- Upcoming 2021 /2022 School Year
  - o COVID-19 restrictions continue in place which will inhibit fund raising activities until at least Nov 2021
    - Online fundraising is allowed as long as there are no personal interactions
  - o Continue to work with TDSB and School to pursue Council mandates
- Wish List – October 2022 Meeting
  - o Currently requesting recommendations from community about what might enhance the community (subject to restrictions imposed by the Board)
  - o Undertake decisions based on votes regarding how to allocate funds

## **4. Treasurer's Report**

- General overview: Fundraising for Council typically occurs and then funds are allocated through the wish list
- In normal year there is upwards of \$30 – 40k raised, whereas last year there was apx. \$15k raised
- Currently funds are at \$10k with limited prospects for fundraising going forward given restrictions
  - o Once we consider limited overhead expenses, very limited options on what funds can be allocated
  - o Currently probably at \$7000 for what can be allocated to the wish list **[STEVE KINDLY CONFIRM?]**
- Co-Chair: One means to fund raise is through direct fund raising requests

- Provides means to donate to the school through various options, as directed through the Council website, including both tax receipt and non tax receipt options
- Online auction is a potential option but more volunteers would be required in order to undertake that activity

## **5. Art Smart**

- Treasurer of ARTsmart / Friends of Clinton provides introduction, mandate and structure. ARTsmart supports visual arts at Clinton
- Traditionally run as follows:
  - Larger art projects undertaken
  - Artists come in to instruct the teachers
  - Art room dedicated to teaching art
- Clinton is unique to have a charity that specifically supports visual arts at the school
- Art Night is the largest event, and showcases the art that is done at the school by the students. This has not been held in two years, and hopeful that a virtual one can be undertaken if personal is not available.
- There is a website now available - [artsmartclinton.ca](http://artsmartclinton.ca)
- In previous school year ARTsmart provided funding and coordination for:
  - Grad project - designing t-shirts for grad gift
  - Art kits provided for students
- There are financial constraints now due to the pandemic that will be requested thru the Wish List process. At the beginning of the year there will be a “big ask” that will be coordinated through Council fundraising.
- 2021 / 2022 Projects Planned:
  - Modular online supports
  - Outdoor beautification / graffiti project
- Thank you to Principal and Vice-Principal, previous Board and Council members
- No coordinator is currently scheduled for the year and there is no formal announcement for that role, however there are connections within the community that may be able to assist
- Meeting Date: Monday Oct 4<sup>th</sup> for official Board meeting, in addition to a welcome meeting thereafter on date to be announced. Looking for Board members now to meet minimum requirements.
- Co-Chair expresses thanks for ARTsmart program and what is done through the program

## **6. Principal's Report**

- Appreciation expressed for Co-Chairs and other members of the community
- General safe return to school so far thanks to protocols set up at the outset, and the students following the guidelines and procedures in place
- Staff updates:
  - Week of Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> there is typically a reorganization due to final numbers at school, though this is now extended to October.
  - Enrollment: 343 children this year, which is slightly lower than normal
    - Several families have moved out of the area, and many kindergarten families delaying start of school
    - Classes are at good numbers, averaging 23 – 25 per class
- Parent reminders:
  - Reminder to send children to school with signed passport

- TDSB partners with local hospitals (Women's College) to provide us with spit tests for the community for any symptomatic child or family, with a courier that brings them to the hospital for testing
  - Question: what is sensitivity of test relative to PCR test
  - Answer: Tier 1 test and not to the level of the PCR test, though details could not be provided
  - Follow up: Does Clinton community have access to PCR testing centres?
  - Principal to inquire
- Vaccines: Mandatory vaccines for Staff as of Nov 1<sup>st</sup>. This is not controlled at school level, but instead is at Board level.
- Budget: no school budget has been provided. Principal to provide when available.
  - Question: Are there carry over funds from previous years
  - Answer: Unknown at this time. Previously understood there would be no carry over, then decision to allow carry over. To inform the community.
- Library
  - Construction is complete but books remain unassembled. To be completed in October 2021.
- Parent Questions:
  - **DISCUSSION REGARDING PREP STAFF. SECRETARY TO UNDERTAND THE DETAILS OF THIS DISCUSSION FOR INCLUSION IN MINUTES...**
    - Prep staff → Clinton has 3.5 allocations: 1 = French teacher, 0.5 = Music, 1 = Phys Ed, 2.5 = Drama
  - Who will be 2021 / 2022 teacher representative?
    - Principal: Request to Staff has been made as to who will take on this role. Currently no representation.
  - How can school be used outside of school hours?
    - Anything outside 6pm and weekends is no longer under principal jurisdiction, and this is up to the Board.
    - Principal will not support anything occurring within the building during school hours.
  - What is best means to communicate with teachers at this time?
    - Given restrictions with interactions it is very difficult to communicate with teachers. This is a Board wide issue that is being expressed through out the City. Teachers are undertaking best efforts to reach out, and within next couple of weeks as items settle down then should become more settled. By Oct 6/7 there will be curriculum communication that will provide an opportunity to communicate, though Zoom / Meet may not be feasible.
    - Co Chair: Are there communication protocols that might be implemented so there might be some understanding of the upcoming curriculum. There is no information available, which is causing a lot of questions.
    - Principal will encourage teachers to reach out to parents about questions / comments regarding the curriculum, and will send an email to teachers requesting that teachers connect with parents about questions.
    - Parent – Provides an example of what they have done to reach out to teachers at other schools.
  - Why has there been a lack of homework expected of students?
    - In Principal's experience, homework used to be an everyday expectation, but subsequently there was a reduction in expectations of homework due to parent demands for overwhelming work placed onto them. Homework policy was revisited at Board level, and now policies shift away from "homework" especially for KD and Junior schoolchildren. Parents should communicate with teachers about what expectations are with respect to assisting students.
  - Are there any ongoing maintenance programs at Clinton?
    - No new projects at the moment, though working to complete the following:

- Drainage issue → to address basin overflow due to filters being clogged
- Soccer pit → no drain installed for the pit, so that will be installed
- Are there garbage cans planned to be installed on the field
  - There are two metal cans installed currently

## 7. Other Business

- None

## 4. Elections

- Co-Chair calls for expression / interest
- Co Chair –
  - Nominate Jaime Donovan, accepted
  - Second: Parent
  - Confirmed
- Co Chair
  - Expression of Interest from Aditya Chityala
  - Second: Treasurer
  - Confirmed
- Treasurer
  - Continued role: Steve Parker
  - Second: Parent
  - Confirmed
- Secretary
  - Continued role: Nigel Lawson
  - Second: Treasurer
  - Confirmed
- Ward Rep
  - Expression of Interest from Kerryann Pryce
  - Second: Co Chair
  - Confirmed
- Communications Officer: Continued Role: Kristi Marstrom
- Any objections to Council member being named on website please advise Council asap

## Closing Remarks:

Co-Chair expression of thanks for departing Co-Chair

Welcome to new members and participants

There will be continued difficulties but also opportunities with respect to Council this year

Date to be set for next meeting and Wish List Meeting, which will be distributed through communications

Meeting Adjourns 7:30 pm.

**NEXT MEETING: TBD**