

Maurice Cody School Council
Meeting Minutes, May 3rd, 9am

Sarah Claydon welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming to our second last meeting of the school year!

Approval of April Minutes - Sarah Claydon

Craig Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes from the April meeting. Jen Ankenmann seconded the motion.

Walking Wednesday Update - Michelle Wagland

Sarah and I are looking for volunteers to take over Walking Wednesday. It really is quite simple to do. You just need to bring the tables outside, put down some bristol board and the kids do the rest. Music is nice, but optional. If anyone is interested please email admin@mauricecody.ca or come chat with us Wednesday morning!

Kiss and Ride - Sue Porritt

Our Tuesday person is no longer able to volunteer if there is anyone else available. The role requires someone available from 8:25 to 8:40am. Ideally if we could find a number of people to volunteer we could make it once a month instead of once a week.

Question: What is happening with the kids that are being dropped off after the doors are locked?

Sue: We are telling the parents to park on Cheston and take them around to the front door but some kids are still being let out and expected to get inside on their own,

Sarah: Perhaps Mr Nigro could send out an email blast highlighting Kiss and Ride closes at 8:40am so if parents are showing up after that, they need to bring their child to the front of the school.

Spring Fair Update - Sarah Claydon

Amazing job by our Spring Fair coordinators! It's really coming together. Wristbands are now on sale and cover all the inflatables. You can get those on the www.mauricecody.ca site. We are bringing back the Petting Zoo in the Rock Garden, Wanda's Clay will have an activity set up, there'll be an egg surprise and more.

Class Reps are doing a great job recruiting volunteers. If people could sign up for one hour of their time whether it be set-up, an attraction, table, or clean-up, it would be greatly appreciated. Many hands make light work!

Silent Auction: if anyone knows of any cool experiences they'd like to donate, please let us know. For example, one new item to the Silent Auction is a lawyer who has donated time to draft a Will.

Bake Sale: Help out our school by making your favourite goodie!

All treats must be NUT FREE and can be dropped off on the morning of the fair (May 26th). We are asking all Cody families to contribute to our Tasty Treats (see below), but feel free to bring whatever your baking "talent" may be!

JK/SK – Bars/Squares of any kind (brownies, Rice Krispie treats, lemon squares)

Grade 1 – Cookies of any kind

Grade 2 - Cupcakes or muffins, donuts

Grade 3 – Banana Bread or other loaves

Grade 4 – Cake Walk Cakes

Grade 5 – Cookies of any kind

There will be a backpack drop for kindergarten students in the coming weeks. This will allow our new parents to become more familiar with all the activities the fair has to offer.

Finance Update - Kat Hopkins

We are in a great position financially now in the bank. Waiting on rectifying a couple of large ticket items like X-Movement but expecting them shortly. Music usually places an order end of school year as well.

Sarah and Kat had an initial budget meeting for ideas for next year. They are putting together a letter for teachers on some spending options for next year. We're happy to give money to different areas but if some would prefer it more to certain areas than others, we'd rather focus there.

We'll be making changes to the budget spreadsheet for next year to show the spends more clearly.

Principal and Vice-Principal's Reports – Mr. Nigro and Ms Vala

The following provides a synopsis of some key events and updates since our March FSA meeting. For the latest and up to date information, check out the parent website at mauricecody.ca

1. Enrichment is ongoing. We have some authors visiting
2. LEGO Robotics group is continuing with their first LEGO League competition this week
3. Athletics: Ms Appel has started a Pin Hockey Intramural for the grade three's during lunch
4. Music: the performances at the Spring concert was really amazing to see, all the hard work the students and Ms Snow have put into it. The kids were really fantastic. There will be a kindergarten performance, date to be announced and the grade fives are now working on the play *Into the Woods*.
5. Aussie X will be here next week with activities like cricket
6. We are looking at making the library, atrium and gym cooling centres for the students during Extreme Heat Alert days with proper air conditioning. Library has air conditioners installed already.
7. We've been speaking with Thorncliffe Park PS on donating our outreach budget (5% of the FSA annual budget) (per usual) and they would like to put it towards technology this year.

(In the past we've help shelled their multilingual library and setup a bench with a plaque of a former teacher).

8. The kindergarten playground on the corner of Belsize and Cheston is currently under review. Kindergarten follows a play-based curriculum and the playground is not up to the standards we would like. We have a group of designers coming to asses the playground and outline the scope and sequence of work required: will it be a complete overhaul or an upgrade? We will then at that time be looking for a parent group to perhaps help with some fundraising but we will also be exploring other means of funding through Josh Matlow and the City.
9. There will also be a metal storage container purchased for the kindergarten playground to house some play equipment for the teachers.
10. Please have your teacher-style requests in by Friday, May 11th. We do not save a record from year to year of past requests so you need to remind us and we will take everything into consideration.

Ms Vala: We work under the assumption that kids change, friendships change so if there was a historical conflict that happened two years ago, we may not still have that information. Please don't rely on us to know the history. Especially new teachers may not know history of your child. Please make the request with regards to desired style and not the specific teacher. Teachers can move grades, so the teacher you request may not be teaching that grade. Sometimes we get friendship requests but they may not be ideal workmates in a classroom together so please trust the teachers and us in doing this process.

11. EQAO for grade three will be on May 29th, 30th and 31st. The teachers have been working with the kids on this since September. It's a one hour test in the morning and one in the afternoon each day. Please refrain from being absent those days as it is important to us that the students are in attendance.

Other Business - Sarah Claydon

PRO Grant - Mr Nigro and Sarah Claydon will work together to apply for the grant for next year. Those funds generally go towards bringing a speaker in or an event that benefits the parents. A parent brought to us a great topic on how to answer questions that kids may have to do with grief around major events such as Humboldt or the Yonge street tragedy. The PRO Grant should be completed by early June. Davisville has offered to share a speaker with us. Many schools in our neighborhood are getting into co-hosting events so don't be surprised when you see posts on our instagram or parent site with upcoming parent events at different schools.

Morning FSA Meetings - we will provide a sign-in sheet going forward at these meetings instead of going to the office to sign in.

Tech Update - the Tech Team has been working on a plan for next year of what's important to the teachers and what they are using or could use more efficiently. If you'd like to join the Tech Committee please contact admin@mauricecody.ca and we'll put you in touch with Krista and Craig.

Julie Seymour brought up the Panda Mandarin program which would offer a Mandarin-speaking program to students outside of school hours. Mr Nigro and Julie will meet to discuss further.

Hodgson Middle School is holding a Family Wellness Fair, May 10th from 6-9pm. We are all invited you just need to register ahead of time at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hodgson-family-wellness-fair-registration-45554446576?aff=eand>

Adjournment – Sarah Claydon

Motion to adjourn Tracy Hall and Julianne Bryant seconded the motion.

Our final meeting of the school year is our budget meeting on June 12th from 6:30-8pm in the Cody Library. This meeting will include approval of next year's budget.