

February 2021 Northdale School Council Meeting Minutes

The third meeting of the Northdale School Council for the 2020–2021 year was held on Monday, February 1, 2020, from 6:30–7:30 p.m. via Teams.

Attendees: Sean Noon, Christine Kramer, Julie Pulley, Andrea Waters, Penny Nowak, Tricia Friesen, Jose Cabral, Darla Manship

1. Welcome (Sean): Ariel has a training, so she will email everyone an update. First meeting of 2021.
2. Principal's Report (Christine):

Staffing update: Mrs. Richardson has returned from maternity leave, so we had to say goodbye to Ms. Liesemer. We thank her for her work and wish her all the best in her future endeavours. We also said goodbye to our afternoon custodian Nick Sestric, who has accepted a position four minutes from his home.

Restorative practices: TVDSB is providing training for administrators, teachers, and school support staff. We will be using this work to support students when problems arise and support is needed to solve those problems. We will be working to introduce these concepts to parents as well. I will be sending home a letter outlining the restorative practices and how students will be impacted. A sample of questions that are used when things go wrong: What happened? What were you thinking at the time? What have you thought about since? Who has been affected by what you have done? In what ways? What do you think you need to do to make things right? Helps students take responsibility and identify how they are feeling. Behaviour is a form of communication.

Safe and Inclusive School Plan Team: This one plan will replace our Safe Schools action plan and the bullying prevention plan. It comprises staff, students, parents, and community members. The team will be meeting twice in the month of February, and we hope to have a draft of a plan to share for March School Council that, once finalized, we will post by March 31. We are looking forward to this opportunity to collaborate with all stakeholders. The following are the team members: Mrs. Kramer, Ms. Pulley, Mrs. Magoffin, Ms. Bragg, Mr. Gysels, Mr. Cabral, Ms. Fenske, Mrs. Kelly Walker (Good Beginnings), Mrs. Andrea Waters, Amanda Smith (a rep from Big Brothers/Big Sisters), two grade 8 students, and a grade 7.

Brick replacement: working to replace the brick on the original part of the building over the next few months. Currently they have removed all of the old brick, then they will be putting up insulation and finally the new brick. Probably

won't be done until after March Break. We are also slated this spring to start getting our outside renovations started.

Early ID: Ms. Kramer, the kindergarten staff, our speech and language pathologist, and LSTs are meeting to discuss student needs. This information is used by our teachers and the speech and language pathologist to support students. This information is shared with parents by letter.

Term 1 report cards will be sent home in paper form on February 12 with IEPs and Early ID letters for those respective families.

Device deployment and IPL: At this time the tech that was deployed is not being collected from students, but the students are being encouraged to bring them to school to use as their personal device in their classroom. Students and families are also being encouraged to complete the personal device agreement and send a well-labelled personal device to the school with their student. This will allow students to be able to continue to access the learning classrooms and the literacy and math platforms that have been purchased for their learning.

Further COVID restrictions for schools. It is now mandatory for students in grades 1 to 3 to wear masks. All students are required to wear masks outside when in proximity to other students. This means while playing soccer, basketball, sitting on a bench, or building a snow fort, and any time a 2-metre distance cannot be maintained. As well, masks are required to be worn while indoors, including the gym. Families are encouraged to send at least two labelled masks and a bag to take home the soiled ones.

3. Forest of Reading update (Julie): Happens every year through the library. Includes categories like Blue Spruce, Red Maple. These books aren't in circulation yet. Students are given a ballot to vote on which one they liked the best. Working on a virtual platform that will hopefully be up by next week so students can pick which ones they'd like to read (since they won't be able to come in and browse). Possibly will have some online activities. Some of the authors have published themselves reading their books aloud.
4. Safe and Inclusive School Plan: video /input
5. Treasurer's Report (Ariel): To come
6. TVPIC update (Sean): Thames Valley Parent Involvement Committee met in January. The biggest focus was student and parent mental health. Click the "mental health and well-being" tab and there are options for parents and families. Everyone (students, adults) has mental health, whether good or in need of help. Main focus of schools is

universal mental health, social and emotional learning. We have Mr. C. trained in ASIST in the school. Encourage any parents who want to to get involved with TVPIC.

7. New Business: Update re. OSNP (Andrea/Tricia)

1. The School Food Delivery Program (SFDP) we are participating in was on hold while schools are closed. Any leftover credits with Produce Express will carry over and can be used when school resumes. Schools that still have unspent OSNP funding received in September (before the SFDP started) can use this money to support at-home learners with the purchase of food or gift cards. Regular reporting must still take place if utilized. We have until the end of June to utilize these funds. We ordered eggs, cheese, and crackers for next week. We have a credit of \$1,700 with Produce Express. We have an additional \$1,400 in the school fund that needs to be used by June, along with a \$250 donation (pending approval) to the nutrition program from the Finoro family. Trish's idea is to use the \$250 donation to purchase top-up food items for families. Produce Express has two \$30 options and a \$40 option with a variety of food items (eg. fruits, vegetables, a dozen eggs, a block of cheese, a loaf of bread). We could purchase seven \$30 baskets and one \$40 basket for the \$250. Tricia will contact Kelly (from program) and Emily (from Produce Express) in the morning to see if we could get it out for February 12. Possible if they could pick it up from Produce Express.
2. When school resumes, the SFDP starts back up.
3. The OSNP grant renewal to request funding for the 2021–22 school year will now take place in late spring (mid-May to June).

Upcoming meetings April 12, May 3, June 7