

March 2021 Northdale School Council Meeting Minutes

The fourth meeting of the Northdale School Council for the 2020–2021 year was held on Monday, March 1, 2020, from 6:30–7:30 p.m. via Teams. Attendees: Christine Kramer, Julie Pulley, Sean Noon, Andrea Waters, Tricia Friesen, Donna

1. Welcome (Sean)
2. Principal's Report (Ms. Kramer):

Staffing update: Mrs. Smith has accepted the afternoon custodian position. Please join us in welcoming her to Northdale.

Ms. Pulley will be off the end of March for 6–8 weeks.

The following administrative procedures/board polices have been updated:

- Use of Service Animals by General Public (#5012e)
- School Council Procedure (3016a)
- Live Animals in the Classroom Independent Procedure (#9010)
- Selection Procedures and Appointments of System Principals (#9045)
- Attendance Area Review Procedure (4015c)
- Accessibility Standards for Customer Service Policy (#5012)

On Course: 1. Key milestones in their learning journeys 2. Staff establish a culture of belonging and respect 3. Engage and communicate with TVDSB students, staff, parents, and community. Trying to align practises within the board.

Attendance review: There is a need to review attendance based on current and projected population. North-end schools are over capacity, and south-end schools have empty space. Until those are addressed, no new schools will be built. Roch Carrier is our only French immersion public school in Oxford with 282 on-the-ground spaces; currently have 10 or 12 portables. Woodstock is growing, so they are looking at a couple of options. Northdale has on-the-ground capacity of 328, functional capacity 397 with portables. We were at 384 last June. Looking to redistribute boundaries. No changes currently impact Northdale.

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 problems. We will be working to introduce these concepts to parents as well. Ms. Kramer 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 of 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?

Safe and Inclusive School Plan Team: This one plan will replace our Safe Schools action plan and the bullying prevention plan. It is comprised of staff, students, parents, and community members. The team met twice in the month of February, and we hope to have a draft of a plan to share soon that once finalized we will post. We are looking forward to this opportunity to collaborate with all stakeholders. Team members: Mrs. Kramer, Ms. Pulley, Mrs. Magoffin, Ms. Bragg, Mr. Gyssels, Mr. Cabral, Ms. Fenske, Ms. Waters, Mrs. Kelly Walker, a rep from Big Brothers/Big Sisters, two grade 8 students, and a grade 7 student. We hope to share more at the May meeting.

Brick replacement: Working to replace the brick on the original part of the building over the next few months. Currently they have removed old brick, then they will put insulation and finally the new brick. Currently looks like it will be the end of May before it is done.

Early ID: Ms. Kramer, kindergarten staff, Speech and Language Pathologist, and LSTs met to discuss student needs. This information is used by teachers and Speech and Language pathologist to support students, and is shared with parents by letter.

Term 1 report cards were 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, deployed tech is not being collected from students, but students are being encouraged to bring it 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. The current screening tool will remain the same for the rest of the year. Important to note that with ONE SYMPTOM the student and family are to stay home. Once a student is sent home sick, siblings must also be sent home, and they are strongly encouraging the sick child to be tested. 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, any time a two-metre distance cannot be maintained. Masks are required to be worn while indoors, including in the gym. We encourage families to send at least two labelled masks and a bag to take home the soiled ones in.

Beginning the staffing process for next year. Ms. Kramer is waiting to find out our allocation.

Library update: Forest of Reading is happening right now; blurb can be found in the last newsletter. Voting deadline is April 23, but it can happen anytime in April. Northdale has a virtual library now. We have booked another virtual book fair happening for two weeks starting the week of Monday, May 3 (Education Week).

3. Treasurer's Report (Ariel): School Council started out with \$10,209.37; paid \$22.50 to Ms. Magoffin for Lena Butendyke Award and \$200 to Music Player Online. Need to confirm costs for lacrosse sticks and Festive Feast. Waiting for Mme. Manship to send confirmation of cost of microphone because it wasn't purchased through the board store. Ms. Kramer will look into the Festive Feast. We started with \$1,090.28 for the snack program; brought in \$202 from Produce Express fundraiser. We had a \$250 donation come in, which was used to purchase gift cards that were donated (sent out a thank you card for the donation). We have currently been ordering snack using our Produce Express credits. Our account will probably come down by about \$200 in the next couple weeks to purchase yogurt tubes from the grocery store.
4. TVPIC update (Sean): Ms. Kramer forwarded Sean an email; TVDSB is looking for input from School Councils about TVDSB administration leadership qualities to determine if changes need to occur with placement of school administrators. Input of School Councils will be considered among other factors and will be confidential.
5. New Business:
 - OSNP update (Andrea/Tricia): We are participating in the Big Crunch on March 11. Every student gets an apple to eat at the same time; those are being provided by OSNP. Snack program has been renewed for another two months; selections are less varied than previous years because of COVID. March is Nutrition Month; every week there will be a specific vegetable the students will receive with a fact/activity sheet along with it. This week it's carrots; next week it's broccoli. Next week OSNP will be sending us a bunch of ranch dressing cups to have available.
 - Discussing the icy field conditions; Ms. Kramer hopes that when they redo the asphalt, they will be able to correct where the water drains without having it flood onto the road.
 - Ms. Kramer and Ms. Pulley are considering doing a fun activity during Non-March Break for the students. Tricia suggests a PJ day.
 - For future meetings: discussion about getting a Northdale sign for our front yard. So far, we have only received one quote, and we need at least three. Banner Promotions: 8'x9' double-sided sign that you could pop open to put letters in, with Northdale logo on the top; includes 300 characters; \$6,700 for non-illuminated and \$7,500 for illuminated (there is already electricity there). The lighted option would be nice when it gets dark early. It would stand perpendicular to Victoria Street. The price for a digital sign is close to double.
 - Ms. Kramer looking in to making expansion of tech a focus as we move forward out of COVID times.

Upcoming meetings: May 3, June 7.