

DMC School Council November 2025 Meeting Minutes

Location: DMC School

In attendance: Sasha, Frankie, Kari, Keely, Kim, Stephanie, Wayne, Jim, Jason

Not in attendance: Sheree, Anna

1. Welcome and call to order

Meeting called to order at 6:31pm

2. Approval of Agenda

Approved by Stephanie and Kim

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

Approved by Stephanie and Kim

4. Chair's Report

no report today

5. Principal's Report

- kids have come back great from the streak, didn't miss a beat
- Teachers are doing well, despite what happened

Last year's fees report

- has been approved
- documents where the money went that we gave them
- will be posted on the school website
- how much was collected and loss
- loss of \$1944
- Kim: have you asked council for support for this?
- Jason: council already pays for Be Brave and Riversedge
- Kim: anything you would like support for moving forward?
- Jason: it comes down to viewpoints, can't just pick one grade to support. They are happy to take support for any of it. They already collect fees for options and teams. Field trips are the biggest cost.
- Kim: are there capital expenses (like replacing all the mixers in the kitchens)?
- Jason: sometimes but hasn't been a problem for the school yet. There is money through the SBE for things like new stoves. Computers are the biggest expense as they move forward. Will be coming to us next year for evergreening.
- Kim: do you have a wish list?
- Jason: yes, but we also use vending machines and healthy hunger to push back into the school. Haven't had a lot of wishes from the teachers.

- Wayne: who determines when chromebooks get replaced? Jason: CBE decides, even if they are working, they have to be replaced.
- Stephanie: one field trip of busing for each grade, do you have a ball park of what that would cost? Just to make sure we can cover that.
 - Jason: it's about \$300/bus and likely 6 buses per grade
 - Frankie: keep in mind if something does come up, don't be shy to come back to us

School Improvement Results from last year:

- Saw some good increases in the data results
- Students are showing that they feel like they belong
- Surveys are a bit similar, but not the exact same questions
- The school is happy with the results
- Steph: do you have the data per grade?
- Jason: yes, Grade 6s typically have a better sense than grade 9s.
- Steph: what kind of initiatives does the school do?
- Jason: we do circle time every Friday for 40 minutes. Grade 6s buy in better than grade 9s, but the grade 9s have been doing it for so long that it works well. There's also time to discuss stuff that may not be in the curriculum, bigger topics so they have the venue to talk about it.
- Literacy goal: report card indicators did not change much, achievement testing showed slight fluctuations down.
- Data shows the children are not interested in what they are learning in language arts. But showing improvement in confidence about writing.
- Wayne: do you think these results are good across the board.
- Jason: we're where we should be. We have great kids here. Over the years we've had ups and downs, but minimal issues. Overall, parents are really supportive, kids are really good. Yes we have issues but that's the same as any school.
- They started a new program in writing, this is year 2 in it. They're measuring against previous years, against completely different groups of kids. It doesn't compare the same group of students.
- Kim: do you compare grade 6s PATs to their grade 9 results?
- Jason: we do, we find grade 9s don't care as much, they don't buy in as much
- Discussed surveys, and only a small group of parents actually fill it out, and often it's the parents that aren't happy
- Jason: surveys are good tools for overall measures but you have to take them with a grain of salt. We look at smiles in the mornings, smiles on the teachers, how guests feel about the school (i.e subs)

School Development Planning:

- Same as last year mostly
- Sense of belonging/strong sense of community
- CBE asked us to stay with our goals for 3 years
- Writing will continue to be a big goal

6. Change in Meeting Day/Time:

- Unsure we can come to a decision tonight as Anna is not here, and she had some strong feelings about this
- Steph: we would like to hear from you Jason. Where did this request come from?
- Jason: this is coming from the heels of the strike, being conscious of teachers' workload, the length of time that teachers have to be here. They were wondering, Jason included, can this be adjusted. Trying to find the balance.
- Steph: do we have the option for teachers/staff to be virtual? Can you provide a presentation and we present it on their behalf?
- Jason: admin need/want to be at the meetings. They do ask that they have a teacher representative – that's a council thing. Typically learning leaders do a presentation of their portfolio. But we're open to whatever you guys want.
- Discussion came up if we HAVE to meet monthly, and if we can change our bylaw if that is in the bylaw
- Steph: sometimes things come up that are an emergency, and can't wait until the next meeting, we might have to make decisions in group chats as long as they have at least 51%
- Can have a special meeting if something does come up
- Decided that meeting every other month may work best: September, November, January, March, May
- If we're meeting less often, does the time now matter? Can we bump it to 6 instead of 6:30?
- Will have to check what's in the bylaw, and will need to have an agenda item to make the changes.
- Kim: motion to reduce schedule, Steph: seconds
- Wanye will check the bylaw and will present in January what is in the bylaw.
- January will still be 6:30 and will change it moving forward

7. Other business:

No other business

Adjourned: 7:08pm