

# Castor Valley Elementary School Council Meeting 2020-2021

#2 (Virtual): Thursday October 21, @6:30pm



## MINUTES

Attendance: 27

#	Voting Members (19)	Oct	Nov	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
1.	Amy Marques	✓						
2.	Cynara Corbin	✓						
3.	Nat Elliott	✓						
4.	Elli Kapsalis	✓						
5.	Jamie Ibrahim	✓						
6.	Jenni Bell	✓						
7.	Jodi Sooley	✓						
8.	Meagan Keaney	✓						
9.	Adriene Gannon	✓						
10.	Brandi Zebrak	✓						
11.	Trish Bezaire	✓						
12.	Carolina Suarez	✓						
13.	Erin Browning	✓						
14.	Erin Lowe	✓						
15.	Jodi Forest	✓						
16.	Demeena Kaur Seyan	✓						
17.	Jancey Wallace	✓						
18.	Maryam Sugrue-Foubert	✓						
19.	Samantha Millar							
20.								
21.								
22.								
23.								
24.								
25.								
26.								
27.								
28.								
29.								
30.								
Quorum = (50%+1) = 11								



## I. Welcome and Attendance/Quorum [Adriene Gannon]

- Agenda and other meeting docs can be found at [www.castorvalley.ca](http://www.castorvalley.ca) under the CVESC info tab, Council Meetings and Minutes section
- Keep mics muted unless it is your opportunity to speak
- You can use the Q&A form to submit questions: see link in Chat; use the Chat function for immediate follow up questions
- Voting - we will be using Google form links posted in the Chat at the appropriate moments
- Ensuring you do not have any other programs running on your device, may help with any potential connectivity issues

## II. Approval of October Agenda [Adriene Gannon]

- October agenda: <https://cvescouncil.files.wordpress.com/2021/10/octagenda.pdf>
- No questions
- Adriene Gannon motioned to approve Agenda; Brandi Zebrak seconded
- Motion passed by Council vote

## III. Approval of September Minutes [Adriene Gannon]

- September minutes: <https://cvescouncil.files.wordpress.com/2021/10/cvesc-sept-minutes.pdf>
- Adriene Gannon motioned to approve Minutes; Brandi Zebrak seconded
- Motion passed by Council vote

## IV. Chair Report

- Thank you to the outgoing Executive Council for all their hard work
- We are still looking for another treasurer
- October has been busy and we appreciate your patience and understanding as we learn our new positions
- The Council looks forward to making this the best year possible

## V. Principal, Teaching & Support Staff Report [Tracy Snarr]

- Principal's report:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QtW29MROxRMQ9C0NBrKr57qmGdICbZ0bW\\_iudq1niSk/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QtW29MROxRMQ9C0NBrKr57qmGdICbZ0bW_iudq1niSk/edit?usp=sharing)
- Inclusive, Safe and Caring
  - Priority for Tracy to continue this work and include the staff perspective, in addition to the work being done by the parent council
  - Preparing kids for the future, building good citizens
  - Providing parents with resources
  - Not in big events but in everyday conversations and learning
  - Thread throughout the school year – being an accepting and welcoming place, giving kids a place to share and have a voice
- IEPs (Individual Education Plans)
  - Parent input welcome throughout the school year; we make adjustments as needed
- Q & A
  - Sarah Slater: there is a belief that IEPs have been delayed because of a lack of resources (books); what is school doing to support these kids, as Covid has been especially hard on them?
    - Tracy: will look into this as she is not aware of books not being available
    - Tracy: we weren't able to do small group work because of Covid but this year we are able; Kristen has started many reading groups already
  - Tracy: safe school situation this week; parents expressed concern
    - Corporate Services has confirmed there is no issue with Confidentiality/Privacy in further explaining:
    - This was a medical situation – “Secure School” - that required first responders to be on site; it was not a “Lockdown” where there is an external threat and kids are asked to get small and quiet and hide)
      - Demeena Kaur Seyan: thank you for the explanation; it would be helpful for parents to understand the definition of the different levels of alert

- There was some confusion in how the students reported the event (told to sit on the floor)
- Tracy: “Shelter in Place” would be something like a weather event or coyote on site’ “Secure School” is a medical emergency or student support situation where responders need to move through the school without children coming into the halls and “Lockdown” is an external threat that poses a safety risk to people in the building (this info will be shared out to parents)

## VI. Teacher Rep Input [Jennifer Reed]

- News from the intermediate side....
- Kids have been divided into spirit houses; on Fridays they try to do a spirit activity and House competition
- Ambassadors is starting up soon for grades 7 and 8; this is a club we’ve had for many years for trying to do good in the community and in the school; they organize activities for the kids, fundraising, etc.
- There is a new initiative this year for intermediate classes called Taking Care on Tuesday; it addresses some mental health concerns among students; they take 10 min to share some stress relieving options and coping strategies to help student (deep breathing, list making, etc.)
- Having been at Castor Valley a very long time it is really noticeable this year how happy the kids are to see their friends and be at school; it’s a real treat to see everyone appreciate the small things

## VII. Treasurer’s Report [Maryam Sugrue-Foubert]

- Financial update: <https://castorvalley.ca/info/council-finances/>
- No questions
- Ad Hoc Budget Update
  - <https://cvescouncil.files.wordpress.com/2021/10/castor-valley-ad-hoc-requests-for-approval-v2-oct-14-2021-1.pdf>
  - We had the meeting to review Ad Hoc requests
  - Some requests were cut because we were over budget; all decisions were supported by Tracy (e.g., a request for easels was not approved as Tracy said the school will cover that cost with the furniture budget)
  - For approval this evening, Ad Hoc requests recommended by the Committee and Treasurer
  - We recommend spending the total budget of \$5000
  - Therefore to approve any further Ad Hoc requests going forward this year we would need to raise more funds
  - Ad Hoc requests approved by Council vote
  - Maryam Sugrue-Foubert made a motion to transfer banking information to new Treasurer; seconded by Meagan Keaney

## VIII. Vice Chair’s Report – Fundraising [Meagan Keaney]

- The Fundraising Committee has met and we reviewed our planned fundraising activities with Tracy
- Our aim is to run events or activities that are community-building or facilitate parents and kids doing things together
- We’ll send a full list of fundraising activity soon so parents know all the ways they can support around the holidays
- Tracy Snarr will highlight in her biweekly update
- The Fundraising Committee is also brainstorming ways to get the word out
- Please consider joining the Committee or volunteering to help or organize an activity

Timing	Fundraiser	Notes
All year	Mabel’s labels	
All year	Indigo gift cards	
All year	Funscript	Cynara Corbin: with the urgency to shop early this year, can the gift certificates be emailed from Funscripts? Nat Elliott: eGift card or plastic mailed in 2-7 days, \$1.04 shipping
November / December	Christmas wreaths and planters	Very profitable
November / December	Spirit wear	Chelci Smith is setting up a Shopify store where we will sell unique

		merchandise that is distinct from that available through the school (focused on gift-giving); items such as toques, hats, stickers, etc.)
November / December	In-person chapters shopping day	November 10, Chelci Smith is organizing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteers needed – please email Chelci or the Council if you can help</li> <li>• Some changes this year: participants have to register online ahead of time and when they shop any time that day and show their registration 15% of their purchase goes to Castor Valley</li> <li>• (they do ask at the cash if you're with the school so we may get additional people donating)</li> <li>• Nat Elliot: we should do a big push to encourage people to buy a gift card ahead of time through Funscrip so they can double dip by using it at this event</li> </ul>
February	MacMillans (or other) baking jars	Around Valentine's Day – an activity to do with the kids
April / May	Plantables	
April / May	Drive-in movie event	NEW event: Metcalfe Fairgrounds; could actually raise legitimate funds by selling tickets and concessions
June	Fun fair	Really hoping this will be possible this year; it raises good money and it's a great community-building event
June	In person chapters shopping day	End of school when parents are buying for teachers
TBD / on hold due to Covid	Sheets / towels sale Grocery store fundraiser Parents get together/dance at Greely legion (Valentine's Day or end of year)	

#### IX. Inclusive, Safe & Caring School Committee [Jodi Sooley]

- Our meetings with Tracy are now biweekly
- We're looking for members to join, even just to help with activities if you don't want to attend meetings - parents who want to make a difference at the school
- We provided the Castor Valley admin with ideas on how to support/enact Call to Action 63
- We're looking for speakers on anti bullying, inclusion and diversity
- We're liaising with indigenous organizations to support implementing Call to Action 63
- We're making a list of French books on diversity and Indigenous inclusion

#### X. Important Dates

- Virtual Scholastic Book fair October 18-22
- PA Day November 12

- Next Council Meeting November 18, 6:30pm

## **XI. Adjournment**

Meeting Adjourned: 7:42 pm

Adriene Gannon motioned adjournment, second by Maryam Sugrue-Foubert