

Annual School Council Report Parkside Montessori 2022/2023

September 2022-June 2023

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August 31st was a beautiful day full of excitement as students returned to school. Parents, students and staff started the year happy to experience a normal school environment.

The school council Annual General Meeting was held on Monday September 19 2022. This meeting was held in person for the first time in over two years. Elections were held for school council chair and secretary. Danielle Pellerin was re-elected for council chair, Amy Johann (Slon) was elected for council secretary and Desiree Miguel remained as vice chair.

During the November meeting, admin presented Parkside Montessori PAT results and Interpretation for Council to review.

Council along with several parents provided a pot luck dinner for staff during Celebration of learning in November.

The first event Council participated in, was organizing, and cooking a pancake breakfast for all students and staff. This took place right before Christmas break and was a highly successful event. Having everyone together for a communal meal was a beautiful sight.

In the New Year council decided to partner with the fundraising guild and hold a Valentine's Day family Dance/ Fundraiser. We collected several donations and had a raffle, we also had a DJ hired by donation, and we provided a small concession and glow sticks to all kids. This was a sold-out event and we filled the school to capacity. It was incredibly fun and rose just over \$3000 for the fundraising guild.

In April council discussed the proposed resolutions for the ASCA Annual General Meeting. I attended the meeting virtually and voted accordingly based on the decisions made by council during those discussions.

With the arrival of warmer weather and the promise of Spring we entered Staff Appreciation Week. We gathered donations from Parkside families and with those funds members of council organized a Kindness Cart which contained several treats and small gifts that we delivered to all the staff members. There were funds left over after the kindness cart supplies were purchased so it was decided we would use the money to purchase a Starbucks gift card that would provide all staff a beverage on a day of their choosing.

June was a busy month for council. During our regular meeting we reviewed the Alberta Education 3-year plan results, and we also made the decision to use the \$500 Alberta School Council Engagement Grant to provide book sets for our families on the topics of grief and loss as well as divorce and separation. Members from school council created and presented a proposal to the Grande Prairie Public School Division requesting that Parkside Montessori be expanded to include grades 7 and 8. We partnered with the Grande Prairie Composite High School and hosted a year end dance at their gym. We used council funds to hire a DJ and photo booth. Having the dance in a bigger venue was lots of fun and

eliminated the need for tickets. The photo booth was much loved and there were tons of fun pictures taken.

Throughout the year Council worked with the Fundraising Guild to offer several fundraising options in our efforts to purchase a new playground. In June, the final decisions were made, and the playground was ordered.

As June arrived we all welcomed the beautiful summer days and were so thankful for all the hard work put in by the staff, students, and parents to get through the year.