

Victor Primary School

VPS Council Minutes

February 12, 2021

Zoom

7:45 a.m.

Facilitator: Danny Dehm

Notetaker: Leah Kedley

Members: Jessica Balduzzi, Chris Chilson, Julie Larson, Mike Musselman, Jeff Pistritto, Marissa Smith, Leslie Summerson, ~~Dana Zink~~, Lisa Bennett

Guests:

Minutes

#	Topic/Subject			
Opening				
1	Welcome	Facilitator	1 min	
2	Approve minutes	Facilitator	3 min	The January 15, 2021 meeting minutes were approved as written.
3	Review agenda	Facilitator	1 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of Minutes • 2-way Communication Subcommittee Update • Virtual Learning Experiences • Roundtable
4	Introductions	Facilitator	5 min	N/A
Guest Presentation			0 min	None
Old Business			0 min	None
New Business			30 min	
6	Committee Work		15	<p><u>Two-way Communication Plan</u></p> <p>Danny met with M. Linse and A. Quest on January 19 to provide background information regarding the topic and invite them to join this short-term subcommittee.</p> <p>The subcommittee meeting originally scheduled for February 1 was rescheduled for February 9 due to the malware predicament. The subcommittee consisting of J. Larson, M. Smith, C. Chilson, M. Linse, A. Wuest, D. Dehm met to engage in further discussion and make the following recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Move forward and create a feedback loop with parents/via a survey to determine how communication can be improved and support can

be provided within both the hybrid and remote models.

- a) Feedback was shared regarding the thought process of the December '20 ECS survey, takeaways gathered from the feedback, and resulting changes which provide parents with resources to support learning at home. Danny requested a copy of this survey.
 - b) Council would like this survey to go out sooner than later; Danny will provide a prototype for Council approval with a goal of incorporating the survey in the March 1 Newsletter.
- 2) Recognizing once we are past the malware challenges, D. Dehm and M. Linse will discuss the feasibility of turning off email notifications for all of the emails that parents receive w/ A. Affronti. Also consider allowing parents to email their own children to their district email.
- 3) Incorporate a piece in the March VPS Newsletter which articulates tips to manage VLS lessons.
- 4) Consider consistency in communication platforms within the school.
- a) It was determined that given the time of the year and the anticipation of new leadership in a few, short months, this would be best approached for the upcoming school year. It would be important for the new Principal and Asst Principal to be a part of this discussion/decision to ensure alignment with their vision and ability to uphold the plan.

Virtual Field Opportunities

Danny is attending the Jared Campbell virtual concert 'at' VIS today to see what this is like and how it might translate to our school community.

Parents felt that access to MGR (REVtour) as an option in the VLS or over breaks even without the teach piece from the teachers would be beneficial. The option is appreciated to break up the virtual learning experiences and incorporate the arts and varied opportunities. Provide alternate learning experiences as optional but available to all.

A modified special guest day event discussion included:

- A possible virtual interaction
- The importance of feedback and perspective from the 2nd grade teachers
- The desire is to maintain normalcy and if possible, we should try to do it
- Focus on Special Guest day to make this a possible zoom in opportunity for specific times and options for families and children for 2nd grade. We could include 3rd grade in this experience this year since last year 3rd graders did not get to experience this in 2nd with the closure
- Feedback from teachers: It would be something to discuss with fellow teachers and anticipated tech difficulties to determine whether this is truly a desired experience to do while juggling the demands of curriculum and equity for all to experience these different opportunities
- Children are so happy to be here learning together.
- Parents are ok with offering grace to not have this experience given all the different challenges including the technology
- A statement from council and or school/teachers, a video from kids, something to address this but not need to hold true to the routine and experience of past years
- PTSA is working to do more collaborative community based experiences, maybe can incorporate some other ways to include “special people”

DECISION: Council honors uninterrupted, in class teaching time and cancels Special Guest Day for Spring 2021. They are grateful for all of the work that we are doing and the kids really will not even know that they are missing anything as they are so happy to simply be in school. Shift to celebrating children in their ability to be flexible and adaptable to the unique school experience this year. Consider any type of celebration that focuses on them and the role parents have played.

Parents shared the perspective of how the home element for learning can be challenging and support in this situation would be appreciated.

				DECISION: Incorporate this element (how to support the parents with what they are doing in the home) into the upcoming survey regarding communication tool with the potential of developing a reference corner with resources for ideas to try. (If your child...) A “toolkit’ for parents, supporting parents as if they are student teachers and offering them tips to help them be successful as they engage in this work as “teachers”, may be beneficial.
	Add Meeting Date(s) If Needed			None needed at this time.
Closing			5 min	
8	Review assigned tasks	Minute Taker	1 min	Conversations between Danny with Angela Affronti, Michele Linse and a parent regarding the communication between school and home and email capabilities. (Danny) March Newsletter article (Danny) Survey: Danny will send out a prototype within the week in anticipation of Council feedback and inclusion in the March VPS Newsletter. Data will be reviewed at the March Council meeting.
10	Set agenda and roles for next mtg.	Facilitator	2 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review of meeting minutes ● Virtual Field Trip Opportunities ● Review Survey Results ● Roundtable
11	Parking Lot Attendant	Facilitator	2 min	None
12	Roundtable	All	4 min	None

Next Meeting Dates:

Friday, March 19, 2020: 7:45 - 8:45 a.m. through Zoom

Friday, April 16, 2020: 7:45 - 8:45 a.m. through Zoom

Friday, May 14, 2020: 7:45 - 8:45 a.m. through Zoom

Friday, June 11, 2020: 7:45 - 8:45 a.m. through Zoom

Our Working Agreements:

- Begin and end meetings on time.
- Maintain confidentiality when prudent. This will be stated in the conversation.
- Be prepared.
- Be respectful of others while listening with an open mind.
- Active participation for everyone is encouraged.
- Ensure all members state their position and/or opinion in the decision making process.

- Promote constructive, solution-focused discussions.
- Employ responsible, positive communication with diverse constituents by actively seeking their opinions and input when appropriate.
- Recognize members represent a constituency within the school community.

Guest Protocol:

- Welcome the guest.
- Provide introductions.
- Share working agreements/norms.
- Guests may provide input but will not participate in the consensus process.
- Should the guest desire to address the Council, they will be given 3-5 minutes to speak. Council members may vote to allow the guest additional time to speak. Guests who are invited based on Council goal work may be given additional time in the agenda.
- The topic the guest will be speaking about will be included in the agenda when it is known in advance.
- The order of a guest's opportunity to contribute will be determined by the facilitator.