

**Alta Vista Public School (AVPS)
Minutes • School Council
Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2021**

NB: The meeting took place via Google Meets due to OCDSB COVID-19 protocols

1. Welcome and Introductions (Melissa Extross, Chair)

2. Approval of Agenda and Meeting Minutes (Melissa Extross, Chair)

The agenda was approved. The minutes were approved.

3. Chair's Report (Melissa Extross, Chair)

A volunteer is needed to serve as our representative on the Ottawa Carleton Assembly of School Councils (OCASC).

Thanks were offered to Mais Kiryakos for coordinating the virtual Scholastic Book Fair and Spirit Wear.

Lori Brooks, Shelly Firth and Kathy Wrye volunteered to help Melissa Extross with planning for Spring Fair in 2022, knowing it may or may not go ahead due to COVID.

Shelly Firth will work with Tia Helm regarding the winter clothing drive.

Regarding Holiday Hampers for AVPS families, Tia Helm said Boys and Girls Club of Ottawa provides the food for the 10 hampers. Regan Braund volunteered to help.

The skating rink at Alta Vista Park is expected to be open for the school to use for Phys. Ed. in January 2022. A field-trip permission form will be sent home. The school administration is waiting for direction from the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) regarding which grades will be allowed to go skating.

4. Administrative Report (Dennis Paré, Principal)

Two or three portables will be renovated.

The classroom renovations are waiting for HVAC units. According to OCDSB's Department of Facilities, "Until further notice, consider the project on hold."

Community-use-of-schools has started for OCDSB high schools.

No update is available regarding picture day.

5. Teacher's Report (Stephanie Hindle, Teacher's Representative)

Thanks were offered to School Council on behalf of AVPS staff for its generous funding.

Teacher interviews took place Nov. 11 and 12.

Foundational learning is proving effective for the Kindergarten students, who are working on math skills and leaf projects and accessing the gym as the weather cools.

Primary students learned about Diwali and crafted oil lamps during visual arts.

Gr. 4 students made origami poppies and wore them Nov. 11. Mrs. Kurita's Gr. 4 class moved into their new "chalet," also known as a portable.

Ms. Harp's Intermediate class is running the recycling program at AVPS. They are working with Chief Custodian Denis Séguin.

Information night for the Canterbury Arts Program will take place from Dec. 7 to Jan. 7; the form can be downloaded.

Rideauwood Addiction and Family Services will talk about tech habits with Gr. 7 students and substances with Gr. 8 students.

The library's online catalogue is being used for holds and supplying book bins to classrooms.

6. Treasurer's Report (Kathy Wrye, Treasurer)

At the October 2021 meeting, \$8,000 in allocations were approved. No invoices have been received.

Mabel's Labels brought in \$150 and Plantables.ca brought in \$110.

Almost \$28,000 is available for future allocations.

School Council voted to pre-approve \$1,000 to support Holidays Hampers.

The following requests for funding were approved by School Council.

Presentation by a Holocaust survivor for Grs. 6, 7 and 8	\$300
Purchasing new library books*	\$700

*The library used \$800 in Scholastic credits.

7. New Items

Mais Kiryakos reported that sales are going well for the virtual Scholastic Book Fair (Nov. 8-22). As well, sales of Spirit Wear are going well. Laurie Mackenzie volunteered to advertise Spirit Wear via Facebook to increase sales.

Due to a miscommunication, the OCDSB migrated School Council's web presence to the OCDSB's host. As a result, when a user goes to the AVPS website, the tab for School Council takes the user to web content for which School Council does not yet have access. At the same time, School Council maintains (thanks to Lynne Scholten!) its own website: <http://altavistacouncil.com/> Following discussion, it was decided that Principal Paré would ask the OCDSB to make the School Council tab on the AVPS website connect to School Council's original website and not the website hosted by the OCDSB.

Charles H. Hulse Public School asked School Council to fund Luv 2 Groove virtual workshops. Charles H. Hulse does not have fundraising capacity. During the 2020-2021 school year School Council used Gifts of Giving funds to pay for Luv 2 Groove, as well as a few other items, for Charles H. Hulse and Arch Street public schools. From the outset, Gifts of Giving was designated as a fundraiser for outreach. When approached by Charles H. Hulse, Arch Street declined to have Luv 2 Groove this year. The cost of this request for students in Kindergarten to Gr. 6 is \$1,375 + HST. After much discussion, the request was approved.

Pranesh Chakraborty shared that Ottawa Public Health will be organizing large vaccination clinics for five- to 11-year-old. Planning is underway. The vaccine for this age group may be approved in the next two weeks. Info: <https://www.cheo.on.ca/en/resources-and-support/immunization.aspx>

8. Next Meeting

The next School Council meeting will take place virtually Wednesday, Dec. 15, at 7 pm. All parents/guardians of AVPS community are welcome to attend.