

**Alta Vista Public School (AVPS)
Minutes • School Council
Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2022**

NB: The meeting took place via Google Meets due to 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 from the last meeting were approved.

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

Toonie Tuesday is Feb. 22. Pink Shirt Day is Feb. 23.

Spring Fair is being planned. Contact Melissa Extross, if you are interested in helping.

4. Administrative Report (Dennis Paré, Principal)

Picture Day is March 9.

Requests for a re-supply of Rapid Antigen Tests have been fulfilled, and there are enough to meet demand for those who require the tests.

Reports of a driver in a white car revving its engine along Randall Avenue at the end of the school day in February were taken seriously. While the event was perplexing, no one reported feeling threatened by the incident.

The school is hoping to open the library up to students in a COVID-safe manner. Intramurals are beginning for Intermediate students as long as staff feel comfortable offering this extracurricular activity. When a case of COVID arises in a class, that class no longer isolates. Masks are required in the school and are strongly encouraged outside.

5. Teacher's Report (Christol Barrett-Kilongozi, Teacher's Representative)

Kinders have been busy with Black History Month, Lunar New Year and Valentine's Day. Newly purchased items, such as balance rocks, are arriving, thanks to School Council. Some Gr. 5 leaders have started setting up phys. ed. equipment for Kinders.

The Phys. Ed. dept. is grateful for the helmets purchased with School Council funds; students have been skating regularly. Winter Carnival Days will take place in March.

The R123 class is continuing with Roots of Empathy and have started media literacy.

EF4A and EF4B wrote biographies inspired by a Black History Month Mission and posted the biographies around the school. They will soon create a school-wide trivia game.

The Eva Olsson presentation took place for Grs. 6-8. High school course selection is underway; the school's 65 Gr. 8 students will attend eight different high schools. CHEO workshops on mental health have been enjoyed. Thanks to the generosity of School Council, EF8A did hydraulic builds. Five intermediate classes will host two Indigenous speakers, who will compare urban and traditional living.

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

Given that \$8,000 in spending requests have been approved but only \$2,500 has been dispersed, School Council is setting a deadline of March Break for those approved spending requests to be fulfilled. After March Break, new requests will be welcomed.

School Council approved the following requests.

• Supplies for Gr. 4 science unit (pulleys and gears, and rocks and minerals)	\$575
• Recognition tokens for school-wide math initiative in March and April	\$250
• Recognition tokens for Asian and Pacific Islander Month (May)	\$300
• Additional funding for Gr. 8 mousetrap cars	<u>\$180</u>
	\$1,305

School Council is in the black for Spirit Wear this year – many thanks to Mais Kiryakos!

7. New Business

Caryn Taylor was given the go-ahead for a fresh fruit fundraiser.

Mais Kiryakos will plan for a Plantables.ca fundraiser and a spring offer of Spirit Wear.

Following a discussion about setting up a fund for the Principal to provide financial help to AVPS families in need, School Council voted to increase the student subsidy standing item to \$1,500. In addition, a note will be removed from this standing item that it should only be accessed when funds from the Education Foundation of Ottawa have been exhausted. In the interest of equity, the reason for the removal of this note is because the funds from the Education Foundation of Ottawa is the only source of funding for some OCDSB schools, whereas AVPS has the capacity to fundraise. In October 2022, School Council will determine if \$1,500 is a reasonable amount for student subsidies.

8. Next Meeting

Since the third Wednesday in March is during March Break, the next School Council meeting will take place virtually Wednesday, March 23, at 7 pm. All parents/guardians of AVPS community are welcome to attend.