

Westmount Elementary School
Parent Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
September 3, 2008

Attendance:

Ann Cheek
Susan Dersch
Dana Graff
Deanna Kooistra
Leah Mathieson
Julia Pfeifer
Paula Smith
Susan Wenstrom

Suzie Careless
Wayne Funk
Christina Kleysen (Pederson)
Jana Kopp
Trisha Neilsen
Bill Southern
Dianna Visser

1. Call to Order and Introductions
Julia called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. and welcomed Wayne Funk our new Principle and everyone else to this first PAC meeting. Everyone introduced themselves.
2. Approval of Agenda
Deanna Kooistra moved the Agenda be approved as presented. Susie Careless second the motion. All in Favor - Passed.
3. Meeting Minutes
Christina Kleysen (Pederson) moved that the June 4, 2008 meeting minutes be approved as distributed. Ann Cheek second the motion. All in Favor – Passed.
4. Trustee's Report – Kerry Hebbes
 - Was not in attendance – table until October 1, 2008 PAC meeting.
5. Treasurer's Report – Christina Kleysen (Pederson)
 - Total assets as of August 31/08 is \$17,381.27.
 - Still waiting for some expenses from last year.
 - Julia will check where Kim sent the invoice for the catering for the Teacher's Appreciation.
 - Deanna mentioned the electronics have not been purchased with the raffle funds.
 - Christina reviewed the Balance Sheet for the 2007-2008 year.
 - The School Patrol trip was subsidized \$225 however the field trip to Heritage Park was \$116.25 short.
 - Paula Smith moved to reimburse the school \$116.25 for the difference in field trip cost. Susan Wenstrom second the motion. All in Favor – Passed.
6. Teacher's Appreciation Lunch – Ann Cheek
 - Christina Warrack has not submitted any expenses for the decorations.
 - Need to obtain the catering invoice. Julia will check with Kim.
 - From all feedback the Teacher's Appreciation Lunch was very well received, and was impressed with all the volunteer help that was involved.

- Dana commented that the staff were still talking about it on the first day back to school. He reflected how well it was put on; the room was decorated so nice, the food was great and it was a little “oasis” in that room.
- Julie thanked Ann for all her organizing.

7. President's Report – Julia Pfeifer

Basket Ball Hoops

- Julia talked about the basket ball hoops and talking to Blue Imp about attaching them to the existing poles to save funds. Just need to be finalized.

Subsidized bussing for Field trips

- Julia spoke to Karen about the cost of the bussing which is \$50/hr for an average of 6 hours. Karen asked to increase the subsidy from \$250 to \$350 for each field trip. Tabled until October 1, 2008 PAC meeting.

Tarmac

- Angie was unable to attend so Julie read Angie's note on her behalf. Angie would like to thank Crickle Creek contracting -AKA- Christina and Neil for allowing the use of their account to get a 20% discount on the paint. Thanks to all the volunteers who came out to paint: Lynne Ironside- She helped sweep the tarmac; Julia Pfeifer; Marion Zachery- She home schools her kids and they always use the Westmount park for their downtime; Dave Gallo; Nicki Cosh; Jen and Joel Duroche; Dianna Visser; and Ken Hitch. I sure hope I didn't miss anybody, if I did my sincerest apologies, without everyone's team effort, this project wouldn't have been so successful. Thanks everyone!
- Angie took photos of the painting process, asked Dana and Wayne to let her know if they would like them for putting up on the web site and she will forward them to Karen.

Casino

- The Casino AGM was held on August 26, 2008
- Sherrill Rechner stepped down and Susie Careless was voted in as Secretary.
- Christina Kleysen (Pederson) was voted in as Treasurer.
- Julia Pfeifer was voted in to chair the meetings.
- The announcement is May 7, 2009 for finding out what the draw date will be.
- Deanna Kooistra's mother-in-law is again completing a quilt by next week ready for October 10, 2008 to raffle off. Tickets were \$2 each and the parents were asked to sell a booklet of tickets. The winner to be drawn at the December 11, 2008 Christmas Concert.
- Deanna Kooistra moved that the quilt will be raffled and tickets sold by teachers and parents and at the Meet the Teacher night for \$2. Leah Mathieson second the motion. All in Favor - Passed
- Deanna will obtain the license for doing the raffle.

Subsidized swimming

- Last year was the first year for parents being given the option to choose to use the subsidy for swimming. The results were that out of 400 students 90 students used the subsidy. Table until October 1, 2008 PAC meeting.

PAC – Annual General Meeting

- On September 16, 2008 at 7:00 – 7:45 in the gym.
- Theme? Julia will make announcements and inform those that attend what PAC does for the school.
- Parents in attendance will enter their name for a draw; the winner will be reimbursed for the school fee for their children attending Westmount School.
- There will be a draw from all the Parent Volunteer Sheets 2008-2009 submitted for a logo apparel of their choice.
- Susan Careless moved that Julia Pfeifer will spend no more than \$300 for coffee/tea/juice and cookies for the AGM. Deanne Kooistra second the motion. All in Favor – Passed.
- Julia will get name tags for everyone.
- Dana will get Grade 6 students to help set up the tables.

New Volunteer Form

- Bill mentioned he was unable to help during the day however is able to donate funds.
- Suggested to put a category for “Sponsorship” i.e. Smoothie Week, Milk Program, Hot Lunch, or Swimming in exchange for time – donation.
- A category of “Recycling” i.e. milk cartons, juice boxes. Dana is setting up a meeting for a Recycling Committee.
- Suggested a column for each parent and group in categories.
- Tabled to October 1, 2008 PAC meeting.

8. Principal’s Report – Wayne Funk

- Wayne introduced himself. He has 18 years experience in education - 12 years in physical education and 6 years teaching; last 6 years he was principle of the Carseland School. He is currently taking his Masters of Education at the U of C and is half way completed the program. Has lived in Strathmore for 11 years and is involved in the community through hockey, soccer and baseball.
- The following are the enrollment numbers for Westmount at this time:

○ Kindergarten	61 students	3 classes
○ Grade 1	61 students	4 classes
○ Grade 2	57 students	2 classes
○ Grade 3	45 students	2 classes
○ Grade 4	51 students	2 classes
○ Grade 5	72 students	3 classes
○ Grade 6	<u>73 students</u>	3 classes
420 Total Students		
- There may still be some movement. There are 8 international students, 2 maybe leaving at the end of September, 2 will be with us until the end of June.
- With the Kindergarten attending alternating days, full time equivalent is 381.5 students. That translates to being staffed at 37.3. That may not change unless a few more students start. The enrollment is up slightly from last year.
- Westmount School is at about 70% capacity.
- The Lutheran Christian School is using our playground for the students as they do not have any playground equipment; acting as a partner school.

- September 11, 2008 is Meet the Teacher for one night. There will be an informal social potluck dessert for 45 minutes, from 5:45 - 6:30 p.m. outside on the tarmac if the weather is cooperating. Following there will be an informal meet the teacher in their class from 6:30 – 7:15 p.m. where they will handout a package of information. This is on a trial basis this year and will be reviewed at the next staff meeting where they will give Wayne feed back.
- September 18, 2008 is Photo Day.
- September 22 – 26, 2008 Wayne will be going to Mexico to recruit international students.

Vice Principle – Dana Graff

- Dana mentioned the Power of 10 is starting for the Grade 1-6. In November there will be a Professional Development Session.
- Accelerated Reader program is in full operation.
- The Accelerated Math for the Grade 5-6 will start with the rooting test and they will use an information scanner. The school purchased printers for students to print off their reports.
- April 6 – 9, 2008 will be the play Cinderella. Auditions will be in a month. Grade 5-6 will be actors and Grade 4 will be in the choir. Choir will be determined by Jana Kopp.

9. Other Business

- Deanna talked with staff regarding an Emergency Lunch Program for the students. There has been situations where students forget their lunch and require something for lunch. It was discussed to put a coupon on the lunch bag (Marie vanDriel is making up a coupon), the slip on the bag would then be sent home with the student informing the parent that they had an emergency lunch that day and request \$3 (or whatever amount determined) for the lunch. Wondered if there could be a committee set up to coordinate and restock the lunches every 2-4 weeks. Tabled until October 1, 2008 PAC meeting.
- Julia talked to Karen about all the email addresses are changing to firstname.lastname@ghsd75.ca format.
- No one was aware of when Hot Lunch will be starting up. Deanna will contact Michelle Stewart to find out who is coordinating it this year.
- Christina Kleysen (Pederson) inquired if it was possible to change the evening of the PAC meeting to Tuesday nights. It was determined that several others would not be able to attend on Tuesday so the meeting will remain the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Library.

10. Next Meeting

- The next PAC meeting will be October 1, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in the Library.
- September 16, 2008 will be the AGM where parents are invited to meet the Parent Council and determine the executive.

11. Adjournment

Julia adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.