

Westmount School Council
Meeting Minutes
May 6, 2009

Attendance:

Ann Cheek	Colleen Derrick
Wayne Funk	Angie Hitch
Christina Kleysen-Pederson	Deanna Kooistra
Leah Mathieson	Trisha Neilsen
Julia Pfeifer	Chuck Renkas
Sara Renkas	Carrie Tompkins
Dianna Visser	Susan Wenstrom

1. CALL TO ORDER

Julia called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

1.1 Introductions

Julie welcomed and thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting. Dana Graff is away at an Assessment Conference in Portland Oregon.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

Under Item #5 New Business Ann would like to add Staff Appreciation. Also add Western Day Breakfast and Grade 6 BBQ. Leah Mathieson moved the Agenda be approved as amended. Christina Kleysen-Pederson seconded the motion. All in favor - Passed.

1.3 Approval of Meeting Minutes

Angie Hitch moved that the April 1, 2009 meeting minutes be approved as amended. Julia Pfeifer seconded the motion. All in favor – Passed.

2. COMMITTEE REPORTS

2.1 Treasurer Report – Christina Kleysen-Pederson

The Bank balance as of May 7, 2009 is \$17,507.34. Christina will deposit \$602 cash and \$1733 in cheques for the clothing orders and \$5,872.37 for hot lunch tomorrow. The Quilt Raffle money has not been spent yet. Christina requires the receipts for last years raffle money that has been used. Last year \$247 was spent on pizza for drama dress rehearsals. The DARE program will be no-charge presented by the RCMP. If the DARE Grad event is implemented there is a cost. The Drug and Alcohol Awareness Presentation for the Grade 6 is at the Civic Center on April 29 which is organized by Sharon Blanchard.

Christina Kleysen-Pederson would like to make a motion to that School Council pay \$400 for the Drug Prevention Day on April 29 at the Civic Center for the Grade 6. Susan Wenstrom seconded the motion. All in favor – Passed

If anyone has any questions regarding the bank transactions or Profit & Loss please contact Christina Kleysen-Pederson.

2.2 President Report - Julia Pfeifer

Hero-A-Thon – Angie indicated the pledges were counted on Monday, May 4. There was approximately \$8,300. A few more pledges came in today and there are more cheques coming in. Don't have a final number yet or who is the biggest fund raiser.

It was discussed that in August the School Council in conjunction with the staff will set the schedule for the fund raisers for the year as there have been comments on having too many too close to each other. Ann commented that the kids need to show an effort for obtaining the pledges. The students need to do something to benefit the community. Discussed other ideas for what the students could do to raise pledges. It was decided to table the Fund Raising issue until the fall, first meeting next year.

Wayne is going to the Town of Strathmore Council Meeting to accept the “Club Moo Award” for Westmount School.

2.3 Clothing Apparel – Carrie Tompkins

- arrie presented the logo on the orange Team t-shirt.
- he majority of the t-shirts will be printed with black ink. Those that are on black will be printed with red ink.
- elivery for the logo clothing will be the middle of the month.
- here were more orders from Kindergarten – Grade 3 than Grade 4-6.
- ay 31 is the Hershey Track and Field in Calgary where the Team t-shirts will be used for the first time.
- here were over \$3000 in orders.
- arrie Tompkins will contact Susan Wenstrom to sort orders.
- here will be a follow-up order to rectify any discrepancies.
- ill send out the total when all the orders are finalized.

3. GUEST SPEAKER - Sherry Gillis

3.1 Alpha Smart – Neo 2 Presentation

- he school council all made their way to the computer room for a presentation by Sherry Gillis.
- everyone was guided through the steps to use the Alpha Smart and show how the information is entered and then transferred to the computer to be printed.
- cart of the Alpha Smarts costs \$6,500 and a program Co-writer is \$171.
- ctive boards will be installed in the Grade 4 room using technology funds.

4. PRINCIPLE/TEACHER REPORT - Wayne Funk

4.1 Past Month

- April 6
– at the City of Calgary Stephanie Limb was presented with a prize for being one of the 3 finalist for the Lions Peace Posters. She is the first one from the Strathmore Area.
- April 7-9
– Drama Production – Cinderella's Glass Slipper. Thank you for everyone who helped and put the presentation together. Carrie wanted to thank Angie for doing such a great job on make-up and informing the kids on time line and being there for their practices. There was a discussion regarding the sound.
- April 22
– Strathmore High School Band did a great performance for the students.
- April 23
– Power of 10 Professional Development for teachers.
- April 23 & 24
– Alberta Farm Safety Presentations by Laurie Clark from Hanna.
- April 24
– Pajama Day was fun for the students to dress up in their Pajamas.
- April 29
– The Grade 6 attended a Drug Awareness Presentation at the Civic Center.
- April 29
– Was the Kindergarten Open House for next years parents. There were 20-22 who attended; it was a good evening.
- May 1
– Professional Development Day spent planning for 2009-2010 school year.

4.2 Looking Ahead

- May 7-9
– Reaching and Teaching Conference 2009
- May 12-14
– Provincial Achievement Exams for Grade 3 and Grade 6.

- – Phys. Ed. Fund Raiser - Annual Plant Sale May 12
 - 15 – Flex Friday May
 - – Victoria Day May 18
 - 21– Crowther Memorial High School Administrators visit the Grade 6 classes. May
 - – Beach Day May 22
 - 22 - Hero-A-thon assembly in the gym to award prizes for fund raising. May
 - – 29 – Book Fair in the Library May 25
 - – Annual Roof Top Photo by Life Touch May 26
 - – Hershey's Track Meet at Glenmore Athletic Park in Calgary. May 31
 - – Western Day and Pancake Breakfast June 4
 - – Grade 6 go to Crowther Memorial for a BBQ. June 12
- 4.3 Enrollment Update
- Kindergarten – 64 students (3classes)
 - Grade 1 – 59 students (4 classes)
 - Grade 2 – 60 students (3 classes)
 - Grade 3 – 45 students (2 classes)
 - Grade 4 – 58 students (2 classes)
 - Grade 5 – 72 students (3 classes)
 - Grade 6 – 74 students (3 classes)
 - Total – 432 students (20 classes) increase of 2 student since April Westmount School Council meeting.
- 4.4 Kindergarten Registration
- The full-time program is in danger of not running at the beginning of next year as there are only 7 registered and the requirement is 20-21.
 - A decision will be made regarding the full-time program by mid-May.
 - The mid-year start is difficult.
 - May 28 will be a Kindergarten Screening Fair inviting students in to determine their level and if they would be candidates for the full-time program. Parents complete a survey and the children have 2-4 stations to determine their development.
- 4.5 Staffing for 2009/2010 School Year.

- The staffing allotment for next year was discussed. The following is
- Kindergarten – 3 classes
- Grade 1 – 3 classes
- Grade 2 – 3 classes
- Grade 3 – 3 classes
- Grade 4 – 3 classes
- Grade 5 – 2.25 classes (2 Home room - 25% of day 10 students of each class in LA)
- Grade 6 – 3 classes
- 1 Physical Education Specialist
- 0.5 Music Specialist was created for the Music Program on a consistent basis.
- Creating preparation time for K-Gr 4 during Music and Phys. Ed.
- Discussed the issue with the teacher allocation.
- Board has been making cuts all across the division. The staffing has been cut and not increased as the students have increased.
- Sherry Gillis is teaching French in Grade 4 and Sandra Campbell is teaching Grade 5. During LA every day a ½ hour is allotted to teach French.
- Grade 6 teachers are not capable of teaching French.
- If circumstance change the staffing allotment may change which would allow for the possibility of great changes of teaching areas.

4.6 Classroom/Teacher Requests

- The Letter of Student Placement was sent out earlier this week.
- A comment was made about the letter of student placement for next year was well written, tactful and to the point explaining the way the classes are created.
- A small note is in the newsletter as well.
- Professional judgment is always used in making up class lists and placing students.
- Requests will still be accepted but may not be acted on – depending on circumstances.

4.7 Westmount School Web Site

- www
westmoutelementary.com web site is up and running and was introduced to the students at the last assemble.
- Look
ing for a spring date to coordinate with Wheatland School.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Western Day Pancake Breakfast

- Angie indicated that last year Tina Markel phoned volunteers. Angie will check with her to find out if she is willing to do phone calls again this year. Angie and Dianna organized last years Pancake Breakfast and will oversee this years event.
- Chuck is unavailable for the morning of the breakfast, however he has a trailer transporting the grills to and from the school.
- Use up the supplied from the previous years first.
- Ensure that the grills are available from the Legion.

- Before the students are coming out for breakfast, ensure they are aware of how many pancakes and sausages are allowed.
- Grace Wong will be contacted for the Wheatland Whirlers.
- Deanna will contact Sherry and Guy Wells regarding the roping.

5.2 Staff Appreciation – Ann Cheek

- Ann was asking for a suggested date during the week of June 8-12. Th
- There are 19 classes with the Living Skills program to be included. Th
- There will need to be 23 volunteers. Christina will watch the office during the lunch break. An
- Ann asked what her budget was. Last year \$484 was spent. Ch
- Christina Kleysen-Pederson moved that School Council provide \$500 for the Staff Appreciation. Chuck Renkas second the motion. All in Favor – Passed.

5.3 Grade 6 BBQ

- Wayne asked on Dana's behalf for 2 parents from Grade 6 to volunteer to arrange the Grade 6 BBQ. Christina and Ann will organized the Grade 6 BBQ. The students will go swimming from 3-5 p.m. And then back to the school for the BBQ.

Carrie Tompkins mentioned there was 3 girls in Grade 5 who would reach out and slap others. This should be discussed at another time outside of the school council meeting.

6. OLD BUSINESS

6.1 No old business.

7. NEXT MEETING

June 3, 2009 at 6:30 in the Library

7.1 Julia adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.