

Westmount Elementary School Council
Meeting Minutes
December 3, 2009

Attendance:

Wayne Funk
Tara Shaw
Dana Graff

Trisha Nielsen
Colleen Derrick
Julia Pfeifer

Ann Cheek
Tracy Gillis
Chuck Renkas

1. Call to Order
Chuck opened the meeting at 6:35 pm.
2. Welcome & Introductions - Chuck Renkas
3. Approval of Agenda
Julia commented Revs in Feb is conflict with our School Council meeting. Historically we have a low turnout in February. Wayne suggested we change the meeting to last Wed in January and not have a January and February meeting. January 27 is the next meeting as per Chuck. Wayne advised he has 2 school division policies. We'll look at that under his section.
Chuck moved and Tracy Gillis seconded that we accept agenda as amended.
- Passed
4. Approval of minutes from last meeting
Chuck moved the last meeting minutes be accepted as amended. Anne seconded.
- Passed
5. Reports
 - 5a. Casino Report by Julia.
No report.
 - 5b. Financial Report by Dana
Christina asked Dana to present as she is not here. Dana gave a budget done by Dana, Chuck and Christina. Julia missed the meeting. Proposed \$15,000 budget based on revenue left from last year.
 - Hot lunch is the main fund raising for this year.
 - Anne thought the Parent Teacher Interview Supper was covered entirely by parents. It is in there because they decided to supplement in case it was needed. Staff Appreciation is different.
 - Wayne advised another question was what was the rationale behind Western Day and how came into being. At the staff meeting this afternoon, long serving staff advised the 25th anniversary of the school was the beginning of this tradition. Many feel it is a valuable event and would like to see it continue as it is positive.

- They decided on 20 field trips instead of 19 due to living skills and LAC room.
- The swimming program is primarily transportation. Dana advised usually there are some families who cannot pay and we end up paying for them.
- School Patrol is the end of the year field trip.
- AGM was food and school fees.
- DARE program covers the end of the program Grad Party with cake etc. Dana advised a few dollars would be nice. Wayne advised it is exclusively funded by the RCMP. Their representative comes 13 times and this is our only contribution.
- Drug Awareness at Civic Center is in there and may be dropped this year but may not be so they want it included. That cost is to cover lunches.
- Dana advised he gets \$1000 from school for drama and tries to reimburse as much as possible. This amount covers the final lunch and to pay Angie a bit for make-up.
- Bonnie buys prizes for the accelerated reading program.
- \$1000 into an emergency fund Dana advised is to have money available for anything that may come up.
- Special events and recognition is if someone retires on school council and flowers for Mrs. Kooistra in appreciation for making the fund raising quilt.
- Office expenses are printer costs and paper.

Budget \$15,000 spent \$15,000. Drama – is that just food asked Julia. Dana advised also some set stuff. Wayne advised school's \$1000 plus our \$1000 goes together and after the received admission is paid in, the school is refunded first and then the school council is reimbursed if there is any extra. Julia advised we bought sound stuff awhile back. Is there a need for upgrading? Dana advised it would be big bucks to upgrade. We have done what we can with what we have. It would cost too much to upgrade. Julia advised she hears back about the sound from the children and parents depending on where in the gym they're sitting. If the parents can't hear what's going on it is very discouraging. Dana advised last year was better, and Wayne and Anne concurred. Dana advised there are 4 mikes on stage plus cordless mikes for main characters. The sound board is full and the lighting board is full. Nothing more can be done to improve with what we have.

Julia moved we accept proposed budget for 09/10 year as presented.
Seconded by Trisha Nielsen.

- Passed

5c. Administration Report by Wayne

The Past Month

- Monday and Tuesday, November 9/10 – Wayne and Holly gone to AISI conference in Portland, Oregon
- Tuesday, November 10 – Remembrance Day Service
- Friday, November 13 – Beach Day Spirit Day
- Thursday, November 19 – Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Assembly
- Friday, November 20 – Bobby Boogaloo – Kids Have Character 9:30 am
- Monday, November 23 – Report Card #1
- Wednesday and Thursday, November 25/26 – Parent Teacher Interviews
- Thursday, November 26 – Truth Virtue Assembly

The Months Ahead

- Wednesday, December 9 – Afternoon Christmas Concert
- Thursday, December 10 – Evening Christmas Concert
- Wednesday, December 16 – Christmas Day Spirit Day
- Thursday, December 17 – Christmas Marketplace
- Friday, December 19 – Student's Last Day before Holidays
- Monday, January 4 – Student's First Day back
- Friday, January 22 – Wisdom Assembly
- Friday, January 29 – Semester Break Day

Enrollment Update

- Kindergarten = 57 students
- Grade 1 = 66 students
- Grade 2 = 50 students
- Grade 3 = 68 students
- Grade 4 = 46 students
- Grade 5 = 58 students
- Grade 6 = 68 students
- Total = 413 students

School Budget

- Another round of cuts for GHSD Schools was announced at the Nov 19 Administrators Meeting
 - \$9 per student (\$3420) in total
 - Further cuts to our support staff

5d. President's Report by Chuck Renkas

Report not available as Chuck left early due to unavoidable schedule conflict.

6. New Business

6a. WESC Yearly Budget

See financial report in 5b.

6b. Christmas Pageant by Dana Graff

We're using a new format. There will be a Division One concert first where all students will be on the stage and risers for the entire concert. Then during intermission, Division One parents will be able to leave and Division Two parents can enter. The second part will have all Division Two students on the stage and risers for their entire concert. This will minimize congestion, chaos and difficulties with seating and sound as there will be two smaller audiences. Dana advised 50/50 tickets need to be discussed as there are 2 shows so there should be 2 draws. Christina managed it last year. Dana advised it should be ok to have 2 draws. Wayne suggested the proceeds to be donated to project Hope. Project Hope isn't funded by any of the schools.

Julia moved we give to Project Hope. Colleen seconded.

- Passed

We need someone to organize it. Suggested maybe 5's and 6's could sell but we're not comfortable with the uncontrolled nature and Dana advised it is under gaming and should be handled by adults. Tracy can help somebody set this up. Wayne advised need 8 sellers, 4 for afternoon and 4 for evening. Tracy will sell for Wed afternoon. Wayne will have Karen phone for the balance of volunteer sellers. Tara is selling. Trisha Nielsen will sell Thursday night. We agreed it's a buck a ticket. Some seats will be reserved for sellers.

6c. Snacks by Trisha Nielsen

At a previous meeting it was decided that people would take turns Providing snacks for the meetings. People had signed up for different dates on a sheet. Trisha Nielsen is taking care of organizing the snack sign up sheet and reminders.

6d. April Meeting

April meeting is April 14th due to Easter.

6e. Swimming Information

Colleen commented on swimming notice. It wasn't very clear and had a negative connotation. Asked for clarification on what school council pays for and how that is handled. Wayne advised the school council does subsidize the bussing costs. They also help with underprivileged families who cannot afford swimming. I suggested that a better notice be sent out advising that the school council is supporting swimming and send a more positive clear message.

6f. Volunteer List

There are volunteer forms in school council mailbox. Christina had volunteered to organize volunteers but it hasn't happened yet. Ann suggested a high school student volunteer could coordinate volunteer forms into a spread sheet? Wayne will look into it.

7. Meeting Adjournment - Dana adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m. moved by Tracy.