

Westmount Elementary School Council
Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2010

Attendance:

Suzie Careless	Ann Cheek
Colleen Derrick	Wayne Funk
Tracy Gillis	Dana Graff
Angie Hitch	Christina Kleysen
Deanna Kooistra	Heather Minshull
Trisha Nielsen	Julia Pfeifer
Chuck Renkas	Tara Watson Shaw
Dianna Visser	Susan Wenstrom

1. Call to Order
Chuck called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.
2. Welcome & Introductions
Chuck welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no new attendees to introduce.
3. Approval of Agenda
Amend the agenda as follows: remove 5a. Reports – Fundraising Society Report as the Society Meeting will take place after the School Council meeting today . Therefore item 5b Financial Report becomes 5a; 5c Administration Report becomes 5b; 5d President's Report becomes 5c. Add 5c.ii..Volunteer Positions for 2010/2011. Under New Business add 6a. Western Day Breakfast – May 28th and 6b. Grade 6 Grad Update – June 23rd and 6c. Clothing Apparel. Julia Pfeifer moved the agenda be approved as amended. Deanna Kooistra seconded the motion. All in favor – Passed.
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes
Deanna Kooistra moved that the March 10, 2010 meeting minutes be accepted as presented. Susan Wenstrom seconded the motion. All in favor – Passed.
5. Reports
 - a. Financial Report – Christina Kleysen
 - Account Balance as of April 14, 2010 \$12,842.77.
 - Currently \$10,636.37 spent of \$15,000 budget.
 - Original Casino Account is finally closed.
 - b. Administration Report – Wayne Funk
Past Month
 - March 15 – Grade 6 Ski Field Trip – Was a great day, wonderful weather, great spring skiing in the sun, fewer incidents than last year.
 - March 22 – Report Card #2

- March 24 – Parent/Teacher Interviews, 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. Was good to see the amount of parents here for the second report card interviews.
- March 25 – Pajama Day
- March 26 – Day in Lieu of Parent/Teacher Interviews (No School)
- April 1 – Courage Assembly
- April 2 – 11 – Easter Break (No School)
- April 12 – Grade 5/6 Field Trip to Glenbow Museum speaker Robert Thirsk, Astronaut – Heather John, currently works at the Glenbow Museum was a former teacher here informed Westmount that Robert Thirsk was at the museum. He had a great presentation and spent 45 minutes showing a DVD and answered questions.

Month Ahead

- April 19 – Japanese Intern arrives; he is 25 years old and will be here for 1 year. Dana mentioned that arrangements have been made for him to stay in a basement suite. It was requested that parents/families be a host family for a month to take him to places in the area on day trips, i.e. Royal Tyrrell Museum, Telus Science Center, the Zoo, etc. to hear English, learn our customs and see our part of the world. E-mail Dana if you are interested or if you know anyone who would be interested in participating in this program.
- April 23 – Professional Development in Calgary for all Teachers (No School)
- April 28 – Grade 6 visit Crowther Memorial Junior High School for Band Concert
- April 29 at 10:15 a.m.– Senior High School Band Concert
- April 30 – Spring Photo Day.- Photo company will pay school \$2/student
- May 4 – Siksika Board of Education coming to Westmount. Golden Hills and Siksika School Board have a really good relationship. Many students attend Westmount from Siksika Nation.
- May 6 – Motivational Magic Show
- May 7 – Flex Friday (No School)
- May 11 – PAT LA Grade 3 writing
- May 12 – PAT LA Grade 6 writing
- May 13 – PAT Math Grade 6 writing
- May 14 – PAT Math Grade 3 writing
- May 14 – Humility Assembly

Enrollment Update

- Kindergarten – 61 students (3 classes)
 - Grade 1 – 66 students (3 classes)
 - Grade 2 – 52 students (3 classes)
 - Grade 3 – 69 students (3 classes)
 - Grade 4 – 48 students (2 classes)
 - Grade 5 – 58 students (2 classes/3 classes for 3 hours) (2 international)
 - Grade 6 – 65 students (3 classes)
- Total – 419 students (2 international)

This is a decrease of 3 students since our last WESC meeting.

2010/2011 Budget and Staffing

- We have been allocated a set \$ amount per student. This is a year of decrease. Golden Hills is forecasting high deficits.
- Dana and Wayne have set up a staffing budget for teachers & administrative staff.
- Dana and Wayne have also set up an operational budget for the school.
- At the May WESC Meeting Wayne will be able to present a more detailed plan and where the cuts in the budget will affect.
- Extremely stressful and tense time as this will affect many teachers positions.

c. Presidents Report – Chuck Renkas

i. Key role replacements for next year

- Christina Kleysen has had Heather Minshull come forward to fill the Treasurer position. Christina has agreed to do a transition in May with Heather as Christina will not be able to attend the next meeting.
- Colleen Derrick nominated Heather Minshull for School Council Treasurer. Suzie Seconded the nomination. All in Favor – Passed.
- Colleen Derrick moved Heather Minshull fill the position of School Council Treasurer as of April 14 and reposition Christina Kleysen as co-Treasurer. Julia Pfeifer seconded the motion. All in Favor – Passed.
- No one has come forward for the Secretary position. Ann commented she might be interested and would talk to Dianna. If no one else is interested, a note will be put into the newsletter regarding filling the position for next year.

ii. Volunteer Positions for 2010/2011

- Trish inquired what the Volunteer Coordinator position entailed.
- Wayne explained the Volunteer Form is sent out in the fall to all parents. A list is then compiled at the school.
- Wayne and Dana would be glad to meet with Tracy, Trish or whom ever is interested in amending the list.
- Julia explained the process of what the Volunteer Committee has done in the past.
- It was suggested that a message be put in the Newsletter that School Council is looking for a Volunteer Phone Coordinator who would call from home to request parents to volunteer for different events/activities. Wayne requested that the person phoning for volunteers mention that to volunteer, they must have a security check for certain activities.

6. New Business

a. Western Day Breakfast

- Julia expressed she was not involved in the last year Pancake Breakfast. That it was Angie and Dianna who have organized it in the past, asking who would be interested in organizing it this year.

- Dianna and Angie agreed to coordinate it together again this year. Angie mentioned volunteers would be required for cooking sausages and helping out that morning.
 - Julia, Ann, Heather and Suzie mentioned they would be willing to help.
 - Wayne commented that the date has already been set for May 28, 2010.
 - Wayne indicated that there is a change of focus for the day and Michelle Brassard is organizing a full-day of events following the Pancake Breakfast. Activities such as Line Dancing and other outside activities, as apposed to having just the Pancake Breakfast and Wheatland Whirlers.
 - Christina mentioned that she has a rubbermaid tote with items from last years Grade 6 Grad BBQ that could be used at the Breakfast. She will bring it to the school.
- b. Grade 6 Grad BBQ
- Christina talked to Lynne Atkinson a couple of weeks ago and asked Lynn to give Wayne a call to talk to him about the BBQ.
 - The BBQ will be on June 23, 2010.
- c. Logo Apparel
- Susan was going to ask Carrie, who helped organize the apparel sales last year, if the School Council would be able to obtain the art work from the company.
 - Angie mentioned that Sherrill Rechner is selling the business and she is considering purchasing it. Angie commented that if the School Council was wanting to get quotes from other companies to do so.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

- Deanna, on behalf of the staff, wanted to thank everyone who helped with the Parent/Teacher Interview Dinner.

Teacher Appreciation Day

- Ann requested Wayne to ask the staff when is a good day for the Teacher Appreciation Day.
- Trish is available on Monday, Tuesday or Friday to assist Ann.

7. Meeting Adjournment

Next meeting May 5, 2010 at 6:30 in the Library.

- a. Chuck adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.