

Westboro School Council
Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2017

Welcome and Introductions:

Called to order 6:33 pm (Jacquie Surgenor).

Present:

Colleen Alpern, Trina Boymook, Amy Churchill, Jeff Dickey, Krystal Gibson, Crystal Herbert, Leah Hesson, Sandra Hryhirschuk, Debbie Klita, Matt Matheson, Lynda Miller, Jacquie Surgenor

Approval of Agenda:

Crystal Herbert moves to approve the agenda, Jeff Dickey 2nd. All in favour: “Yes.”

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:

Krystal Gibson moves to accept the minutes from February 16, 2017, Amy Churchill 2nd. All in favour: “Yes.”

New Business:

A.) Logos Report

Lynda Miller shared the Logos report.

- The Logos meeting was held last night at Westboro School.
- There will be a “no fuss” fundraiser form coming home with Logos students before spring break. They are also doing a fundraiser with Nitza’s Pizza. Discussion occurred around whether to send it home to all students, or just Logos, as they didn’t want to interfere with the Family Dance and everyone agreed to open it up all families at our school.
- A Christian resources/book fair will be coordinated with the school book fair in the fall.
- Elk Island is sponsoring an advertisement on Shine FM radio. It will mention Westboro Elementary, Brentwood Elementary and Sherwood Heights Junior High schools, and will run for 2 weeks.
- Six Logos Society meetings for 2017-18 are being scheduled for the second Tuesday of the month.
- The Grade 6 Logos Chapel is happening at Sherwood Heights Junior High tomorrow as a way of introducing the students to their next school.
- The next Logos meeting is Tuesday, May 9, at Sherwood Heights Junior High at 7pm.

- The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled for June 13 at Brentwood Elementary School starting at 7pm. Lynda is stepping down as president of the Logos Society so they are looking for new members to join their board.

B.) COSC (Committee of School Councils) Report

Jacquie Surgenor reported that the majority of this month's COSC meeting was focused on discussing the 2017 Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) AGM issue resolutions.

C.) 2017-2018 Meeting Dates

Meetings for the next school year will be held on the following Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30pm in the school library:

September 20

October 18

November 22

January 17

February 21

March 21

April 18

May 23 – Annual General Meeting

Other school events that have been scheduled are:

Shop Til Ya Drop – Saturday, October 21, 2017

Penny Carnival – Friday, February 2, 2018

Family Dance and Silent Auction – Friday, May 11, 2018

D.) ASCA Issue Resolutions

Jacquie Surgenor shared the member sponsored proposed advocacy resolutions for ASCA's 2017 AGM. Those present at the meeting gave their feedback which will help guide Krystal Gibson when she attends the April AGM on behalf of our school council.

The resolutions that were discussed can be found on pages 8-18 of the following document:

http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/resource/resmgr/conf_17/2017_AGM_Resolutions_Preview.pdf

E.) Open Questions

There were no open questions.

School Report:

A.) Principal's Report

Matt Matheson shared the following report.

Activities and events in our school over the past month

- Grade 5 & 6 students on the track team competed in the Journal Indoor games. All teams and students participating in individual races ran extremely hard and we had a couple of students qualify for the next round of competition.
- pink shirt day (anti-bullying)
- Several students participated in the Young Authors Conference.
- Parent/Student/Teacher interviews
- 2 school-based PD days: February 17 – literacy scope and sequence, numeracy; March 3 – Feeder School Framework day at Salisbury Composite High School and various schools in the division. Met as grade groups to discuss a variety of different issues.
- speech competition
- tryouts for Grade 4 track team members
- Grade 5 and 6 art club with Mrs. Alpern once/week
- school choir sang at Sing for Spring at the Oil Kings game

Activities and events coming up

- Budgets are slated to come out in March, usually around spring break.

Fees discussion

- A projection of next year's school fees was shown but these cannot be confirmed until the conclusion of Bill 1 (An Act to Reduce School Fees) in the provincial legislature and a budget is handed down by EIPS division.
- A spreadsheet was presented that outlined costs of the school supervision program. The program has been running a deficit for a few years and this fee will be increased for the 2017-2018 school year.
- Parents can apply through EIPS to have school fees waived but this does not cover fieldtrip fees. If a significant number of students in a class have not paid this particular fee, fieldtrips for the class are being reviewed this year.
- Teachers have reviewed the 2017-2018 school supply lists closely which have been reduced as much as possible to help minimize school expenses for families. This is the second year in a row the lists have been reduced.

It was asked how Westboro covers any fee deficits. In the past, noon hour supervision and fieldtrips had been covered by the school's operational budget.

It was asked if school fees can be paid in installments. Options include using post-dated cheques, paying in installments or putting in an application to EIPS to waive the fees.

It was asked if Boomerang Club is going to be run again. Mrs. Fedor had organized one session this year so far and has now left on maternity leave. The new school counsellor, Mr. Cooper, will run something similar to assist students with social skills.

It was asked if zones of regulation training is happening soon. It will begin tomorrow for a 6 week session.

B.) Trustee Report

Trina Boymook presented her report.

The public open houses for the Sherwood Park Boundary Review were held on February 8 and 16. The EIPS Board will be reviewing the feedback in early April. The next round of public consultations will be held on April 19 and 25 at Lakeland Ridge School from 5-8pm.

The provincial budget is coming out on March 16. Fees and Budget Allocations will be approved at the Board's April 20th Board Meeting. In past years, EIPS has used reserves to make up short falls in the operating budget but will not be able to do so for the 2017-2018 budget. The Board has been working on a plan to reduce costs with the intent to protect the classroom.

On March 2nd, the provincial government gave first reading to Bill 1 (Act to Reduce School Fees). Two specific fees are being eliminated: transportation fees charged for students who attend their designated school but live 2.4km or more away from their designated school and Instructional Supplies and Materials Fees. EIPS does not charge this transportation fee but their Learning Resource Fee does fall under Bill 1. If Bill 1 is passed, the Learning Resource Fee will be eliminated which currently cost families \$25 for ECS, \$50 for elementary, \$55 for junior high and \$120 for high school. Information on how the government will offset the elimination of these fees will not be known until the budget is tabled on March 16.

The deadline for the boundary exemption request process is April 7. Please ensure forms have been submitted by this date as late submissions will not be accepted.

The decision about the possible closure of Ministik School is part of the March 16th Board meeting.

The Board will be approving the Three Year Capital Plan at the March 16th Board meeting. The priority request is a replacement for Wye Elementary School which would be a K-6 school for 600 students located in Heritage Hills. The second request is for the modernization of Sherwood Heights Junior High. School boards are required to submit their Three Year Capital Plan to Alberta Education by April 1st of each year.

Next Meeting Date: April 19, 2017 at 6:30 pm

Adjournment: Amy Churchill moves to adjourn at 8:07 pm.