

## **Westboro Elementary School Council**

October 20, 2021

### **Welcome and Introductions 6:33**

Called to order by Kim Scott at 6:37

Present: Karry Biri, Don Irwin, Mike Lastiwka, Theresa Mackenzie, Tracey Prouse, Christan Rasmussen, Courtney Richard, Haley Schellenberg, Kim Scott, Desiree Williams

### **Approval of Agenda:**

Motion to approve agenda as presented.

Moved by Haley Schellenberg, seconded by Courtney Richard

Passed

### **Approval of Minutes September 2021:**

Moved by Courtney Richard, seconded by Theresa Mackenzie

Passed

### **New Business:**

- **Logos Report – Theresa Mackenzie**
  - Chapel – there was a technical issue which has now been resolved – Parents are able to join now.
  - Next Chapel is next week of September and is hosted by Grade 5L
  - There will be a non-Halloween party in each classroom. It will be up to each teacher to determine the theme. There is no big celebration for the school – all class specific.
    - EG. Kindergarten is having a harvest festival celebrating the farm/farmers instead of a Halloween party.
  
- **COSC Report for EIPS– (Committee of School Councils for Elk Island Public Schools)**
  - School Council Grant is coming down. \$500 for parent engagement.
  - EIPS pays our membership to Alberta School Council Association (ASCA)
    - You can go to their website and go in and learn.
    - EIPS is looking for feedback on the Saffron cyber centre. – it has cyber tips for you and your kids.

- COVID was discussed and new rapid testing
  - EIPS is looking for feedback on the proposed curriculum – this EIPS summary is separate from the Government of Alberta survey which is still open. This version/feedback is about what you would like to see in the curriculum – doesn't require an analysis of the current draft. Email responses to [westboroparentsgroup@gmail.com](mailto:westboroparentsgroup@gmail.com)
    - What would you like to see in the draft curriculum?
    - What are your hopes that the new draft curriculum would provide for you kids?
  
- **Trustee Report Don Irwin**
  - EIPS has set aside 1 million dollars for Eliminating student learning gaps.
  - \$500,000 is set aside for social emotional health
  - Positive response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission activities
  - EIPS board is working on the upcoming curriculum – hopeful there may be changes on date
  - Board met several times to address COVID case numbers and vaccines. The board can call special meetings and meet quickly should things change.
  - The policy on masking is a temporary measure which is reviewed monthly.
  - Question: EIPS Board reviewed bussing fees last year. The school board dipped into reserves this year. Will there be an increase in fees next year?
    - Answer: It is too early to say given the changing situation with number of riders, etc.
  
- **Administration Report – Mike & Tracey**
  - Congratulations to Don Irwin for winning School Trustee election
  - The Results/Review of Parent Survey will be November 29, 2021 and Mike will be reviewing the data
  - The survey noted a decrease in parent involvement – to be expected due to COVID protocols
  - What can we do to get parents more involved?
    - Suggestion on a “School Council for Dummies” – What is COSC? What is ASCA? Who can vote? – Needs to be a handout in school backpacks - Maybe a 15 min briefing ahead of a meeting?
    - Send out invite to parents by grade? – Invite kids to come and share at the meeting

- Door Prize?
    - Conversation about school and school priorities and hot lunch – should these be committees? Separate meetings?
  - TRC Activities were discussed
  - We have 3 Student Teachers in grades 1, 5, 6
    - Miss McMahon
    - Miss Roberts
    - Miss Walker
  - AMA Patrol is up and running and going well
    - Lit crosswalk currently does not have enough kids to monitor the cross walk.
    - AMA is developing training for lit cross walks
  - There was a couple fire drills this past month and a fire inspection – We passed
    - Discussion about a virtual firefighter visit – could possibly be in person
  - Read in week was a success –
    - We had some Sherwood Park Crusaders attend virtually and read.
    - Over 100 kids are getting public library cards
  - Question re names of staff no longer on website?
    - Answer, if you need to contact staff, don't hesitate to contact the office for email addresses
- **Teachers Report – Courtney Richard**
- Discussion about what the teachers need
    - Class/school slush fund for novels/games etc.
    - Teachers are trying for in school field trips currently.
  - Teachers and students were grateful for the Artist in residence
    - Gratitude diaries and journals were made – there could be follow up with the kids to see what the journals look like
    - She did step by step drawings with the kids
  - Brief discussion around TRCC and Orange Shirt Day
  - Discussion around having another Artist in Residence this year
    - Possibility to have Parents Group Fundraise
    - Would be nice to have 2 per year (one fall, one spring)
    - If a second Artist in Residence goes ahead, would need to be booked before December

Meeting adjourned 7:55 p.m.

## **Westboro Parents Group**

October 20, 2021

Present: Karry Biri, Don Irwin, Mike Lastiwka, Theresa Mackenzie, Tracey Prouse, Christan Rasmussen, Courtney Richard, Haley Schellenberg, Kim Scott, Desiree Williams

### **Approval of Agenda:**

Motion to approve agenda as presented.

Moved by Courtney Richard Seconded by Christan Rasmussen

Passed

### **Approval of Minutes September 2021:**

Moved by Courtney Richard, seconded by Christan Rasmussen

Passed

### **New Business**

- Treasurer Report – Desiree Williams
  - Current trust balance \$16,615.04
  - Funds spent on Artist in Residence and World Teacher Day – Coffee and Snacks for staff
  - Question: if we have this money why do we need to fundraise?
  - Answer: These funds have been accumulated over years and we have not done active fundraising in some time. Fundraising for specific items/goals can create parent and student buy in. We will continue to spend some of our savings, but we also do not want to spend it all, without a plan to replenish.
  - Discussion on Scooter Rack purchase
    - Why a scooter rack? Scooters can't be locked in a normal bike rack.
    - [www.blueimp.com/nav\\_product/double-scooter-rack](http://www.blueimp.com/nav_product/double-scooter-rack)
- GOALS for Parents Group Brainstorm
  - Scooter Rack (\$1359 per rack)
  - Artist in Residence (\$3250)
  - Garden Boxes
    - There are 2 by grade 2 entrance that need to be fixed. Should repair and make a plan on how to maintain during summer.
  - Benches for Grade 5 entrance
- Possible Fundraisers
  - Stawnichy's (8 votes)

- Greeting Card Fundraiser (5 votes)
  - Gift Card (1 vote)
  - Little Caesars (7 votes)
  - Queen of Hearts (2 votes)
  - MLM Fundraiser online (6 votes)
  - Drop the worry ball – Dr. Alex Russell – Book Study
    - Dr. Russell has several ted talks
    - Goal to develop shared expertise and how we can work together as teachers and parents to build resilience in our kids.
    - New council member buy books?
1. Kari Birri Motion to purchase up to 25 books for book study –Seconded Courtney Richard
    - Passed
    - Individuals interested should contact [westboroparentsgroup@gmail.com](mailto:westboroparentsgroup@gmail.com)
  2. Courtney Richard Motion to spend \$100 on social games for Mrs. Gratziano school counsellor – Seconded Haley Schellenberg
    - Passed

**Meeting Adjourned**