

## Westboro School Council

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School Council Minutes – October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023

6:30 p.m. School Library

*\* indicates written report/attachment provided*

### **Attendance**

**Parents:** Christan Rasmussen (Chair), Hilary Schmidt (Vice-Chair), Carrie Bounds (Secretary), Mallory Jackson, Allison McColl, Aung Htoi Marip

**School Staff:** Mike Lastiwka (Principal), Tracey Prouse (Vice-Principal), Amberly Witzke (Grade 6), Chris Kryslar (Steps), Kayla Reivonen (Grade 2)

### **Others:**

1) Call to order at 6:34 p.m.

2) Review of the Agenda

Motion to add Amberly Witzke to agenda. Agenda approved as amended.

3) Approval of the Minutes from September 20, 2023

The Minutes were approved as distributed.

4) Partners 4 Science (P4S): Christan Rasmussen & Mike Lastiwka

- Partnership with Dow Canada and EIPS
- Creates Science kits for all students to do hands on learning
- Has caused our student grades to be higher than average
- Just over 45% of Westboro students have achieved the standard of excellence which is 80%>
- This year with new curriculum, all students will follow the curriculum Science modules simultaneously so learning in this subject is the same across the division.

5) School Council Engagement Grant

- Grant given to each school to put towards students' caregivers/guardians becoming more engaged in the school.
- Might need sub-committee to discuss.
- In previous years, some schools have pooled funds to bring certain speakers in.
- Interest in bringing in speakers relating to mental health and emotional intelligence.

6) Trustee Report

No Trustee report this month. For more information on EIPS updates, please go to:

<https://www.eips.ca/parents/committee-of-school-councils-cosc/meetings-agendas-minutes>

7) Administration Report:

Mike Lastiwka – Principal

- Success with balancing the budget-even with our recent decrease in students.
- French Immersion Programs
- Bev Facey has been recommended to absorb the Jr. and Sr. High French Immersion programs between Sherwood Park, Ardrossan, Fort. Sask, etc
- There are mixed feelings among parents about long distances travelled by school children and by the change in grades that will be pooled together.

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### Amberly Witzke – Grade 6

- Recommending individual iPads for students in replacement of Smartboards
- Most smartboards are 20 years old and starting to die
- If they die during a lesson, it affects being able to do lessons in real time
- Smart boards are interactive, but teachers are stationary while using them
- With iPads, you can take pictures at any moment and instantly project work to the smart screen while walking around the room-not restricted to one area
- Teachers can be more in the moment, especially with larger classrooms
- Currently working on iPad app for report cards/students
- Pictures of work and audio recordings will all be saved regarding the outcomes of students, and will follow them through the years to see if they are meeting requirements or struggling “in real time”
- Funds for iPads (assistance with our technology budget) is how parents can support learning in the classroom
- Parent’s Society has been asked to provide 50% of budget

### Tracey Prouse – Assistant Principal

- Reading week was a huge success
- Many ESL and other kids were “adopted” for the afternoon to read with other families
- Books were even read in English and then in Spanish to remind everyone what it’s like to have a language barrier
- Mike Lastiwka and Tracey Prouse have been doing “small groups” with certain grades at a time to allow time for teachers to collaborate
- AMA was able to come discuss Road Safety with Patrollers.
- All EAs to be trained in First Aid – working with Brandy Chimko to get all staff first aid trained this year.
- We remain super grateful for our Librarian Mrs. White. She knows books, she knows the kids, and she continues to order books that engage the kids in reading. She has been essential to the success of our students’ learning.
- The division will also be addressing the caliber of school photos taken this year by Lifetouch. We understand many parents are unhappy with this new company.

### 8) Teacher Report

#### Chris Kryslar– Steps

- The students involved in Friends Squad spend recess with the kids in the STEPS program, hanging out and helping them.
- This is done on a rotation and helps kids feel included.
- This month we will have Grade 4’s for help.

### 9) General Discussion

None this month.

### 10) Next Meeting

Wednesday, November 22, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

### 11) Adjourned at 7:54 p.m.