

**Abraham Erb Public School**

Nov 16, 2022 - Google Meet, 7:00 p.m.

At peak time, total 17 participants showed up online meeting room.

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**Agenda item: Welcome, Introduction and Territorial Acknowledgement**      **Presenter: Ivy JY Cui**

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**Agenda item: Approval of Oct 19 Minutes**      **Presenter: Jodie Hancox-Meyer**

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**Agenda item: Teacher's report**      **Presenter: Meghan Wentworth**

- Mrs. Mueller is spearheading a holiday initiative for Chartwell Retirement home. Classes are contributing artwork and cards for the holiday season that will be given to the residents there. While many of the residents have family, some of them don't have any in town and few none at all. Classes have participated in previous years and the student contributions are always very much appreciated.
  - Mrs. Mueller is looking for items that can be easily transported - bookmarks, cards, artwork
  - Many of the residents have hooks on their doors for wreaths or signs
  - The deadline is still TBD
  
- Grade One classes have been attending the skating program called CanSkate by Skate Canada.
  
- Our week of giving will begin on December 12-16. As in previous years, each day will have a theme (e.g. Toy Tuesday). We will use the foyer to collect the items and then donate them to families in need in the community. As soon as the poster is created, I will make sure to share it with the council to send around.
  
- Volleyball club has started for the grade 5/6 students on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school. It has been well received so far. Thanks to Mr Snyder, Ms. Varady, Mr. Walker and Mr. Krulicki for volunteering their time.
  
- Many of the grade 5/6 classes have attended (or will be attending) the Laurel Creek Outdoor Education Centre this week for a day of orienteering. Our school was very fortunate to get a number of sessions from the centre. We are hoping to create pan orienteering activity for Abe Erb that other classes can participate in in the community forest.

- Winter wear update - thank you for the donations for the winter wear drive. We were able to completely outfit a few families with warm winter gear. We have kept a few of the extra hats and mitts and set them aside into a bin to pull out later in the winter when we notice students in need.
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**Agenda item: Principle's report**  
**School**

**Presenter: Jodie**

**School**

- Our first couple of pizza days have been a huge success. Our standing order is 539 slices. Panago Pizza has been an absolute pleasure to work with thus far. They pre-organize all of the slices by class and put the correct number of slices into boxes so none of that has to be done at the school prior to distribution. All of the boxes are labelled by class, so our distribution routine goes very smoothly. Feedback from the kids has been that the pizza tastes good, too!
- Last week, we recognized Remembrance Day each day of the week with an interactive google slide deck prepared by our ESL teacher, Mr. Cairns, and with contributions from many of our classes. Each day, there was a theme (e.g., the poppy, Ingenious veterans, women in the Canadian armed forces, animals at war). Mrs. Carey also sourced a wide variety of classroom resources for classrooms to use and our library clerk, Mrs. Mueller had a great selection of Remembrance Day themed books on display for students in the library.
- Last Tuesday, SK students had vision screening done. This was a service provided by Region of Waterloo Public Health, in partnership with the University of Waterloo School of Optometry, the Lions Club and the Cowan Foundation. Each child had 3 standardized tests done and a letter sent home to parents with recommended next steps, if applicable.
- Progress Report Cards (grades 1 – 6) and Kindergarten Initial observations of Learning reports will go home with students on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. There is no formal day designated for parent-teacher interviews, but our staff remain open to ongoing communication with all of our families so please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher if you have questions or concerns about your child's progress.
- The City of Waterloo is still actively recruiting crossing guards for two positions that serve our community (Laurelwood and Erbsville Road, and Laurelwood and American Beech). The Record even ran a small article a couple of weeks ago talking about the available positions. I know we have our collective fingers crossed that these positions get filled and I am staying in touch with my contact at the City to keep reminding her that these positions are integral to the safety and well-being of our students and community. As of my last communication with the City, they were conducting interviews of potential applicants. They promised to let me know if they were successful in filling the positions.
- EQAO has released the results of our grades 3 and 6 testing that we did in the spring. We have also been given access to the Individual Student Reports for each student who participated in

the testing. Those will be sent home with students with their Progress Report Cards on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Here is a summary of the results for the province, WRDSB and Abraham Erb:

## **EQAO Results – Overview**

### **Ontario**

#### **Percentage of Students Achieving Level 3 or Higher**

<b>Grade 3</b>		
Reading	Writing	Math
73.1	64.9	59.0

<b>Grade 6</b>		
Reading	Writing	Math
84.9	84.1	47.2

### **WRDSB**

#### **Percentage of Students Achieving Level 3 or Higher**

<b>Grade 3</b>		
Reading	Writing	Math
71.6	62.5	57.7

<b>Grade 6</b>		
Reading	Writing	Math
85.1	85.1	48.6

### **Abraham Erb P.S.**

#### **Percentage of Students Achieving Level 3 or Higher**

<b>Grade 3</b>		
Reading	Writing	Math
85.8	76.2	76.7

<b>Grade 6</b>		
Reading	Writing	Math
100	96.5	87.9

### **Board**

- WRDSB psychology staff are offering “lunch and learns” during the month of November for parents and caregivers to help them in supporting their children. These take place via Zoom on

Wednesdays over the lunch hour. Samples topics include structured literacy, what to do when your child doesn't want to go to school and helping your child with perfectionism. More information and meeting links can be found on the WRDSB website.

- The WRDSB recognized Holocaust Education Week from November 2<sup>nd</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> and Treaties Recognition Week from November 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>. During both of those weeks, they posted information on their website, including links to more information.
- All grades 4 – 12 students in the WRDSB will have the opportunity from November 14<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> to participate in a Safe, Caring and Inclusive Schools survey (called the Middle Years Development Instrument). Students will each receive a link to their school email and teachers will give them time in class to complete it. Results will be shared with schools in the new year and will help inform them about how students are doing in the following areas: physical health and well-being, social and emotional development, connectedness, school experience, and use of after-school time.

### **Province**

- You're likely aware that the government repealed Bill 28, which imposed a contract on educational staff in Ontario who are part of CUPE, after CUPE members participated in a 2-day strike/protest, and that both parties are returning to the table to negotiate a contract. The WRDSB has no CUPE members working for them, so we were unimpacted by the job action. However, all unions across the province are carefully watching how this all unfolds as they, too, are negotiating contracts.
  - On October 20<sup>th</sup>, the government announced its "Plan to Catch Up" which involves the opportunity for parents to apply for and receive a payment of \$200 for every school-aged child under 18 (\$250 for children with special needs under the age of 21) to help offset the costs of helping their child catch up. The plan also includes initiatives such as "Math Action Teams" deployed from the Ministry of Education to Boards of Education who are underperforming, new digital resources to support parents, students and educators, new universal screening for reading for Ontario's youngest students, and an extension of the government's tutoring support program. We will wait for more details on some of these things to see what they look like specifically for the WRDSB and our schools over the year.
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### **Agenda item: Treasure's Report –Presenter: Vasudha Raghunathan**

No new spending. Some old spending hasn't reflected in the account details.

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### **Discussion:**

**Regarding the council ran events, there're still a lot of sickness in school building, COVID, flu and RSV all going around in the same time. So Jodie suggested to have some online family engagement events, such as online magician show, online trivia night, etc. We will have further discussion in next meeting.**

Next meeting: Jan 19, 2023

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:10 p.m.

