

# Alpine School Council Minutes

Wednesday, November 27, 2019

6:30 p.m. Library



## Stay Connected:

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Website [www.alp.wrdsb.ca](http://www.alp.wrdsb.ca)

<https://alp.wrdsb.ca/calendar/>

**Present:** Rita Givlin, Heike Koester, Mya W-G, April Cousineau, Andy Slough, Donald Mann, Tiffany Million, Mandy Clark

**Regrets:** Lea Becker, Dawn Koehler, Samantha Hanley, Jessica Beaucage

## Principal's Update

- Our **Allie Traits** focus for November has been on **Resilience**. Our Resilience Team (Mr. Ottogalli, Mrs. Ramdehal, Miss Dunbar and their classes) organized a beautiful Remembrance Day Assembly reflecting on the resilience shown by those people who live through a war. Highlights included the beautiful student artwork and the What Peace Means To Me video created by Miss Dunbar featuring our very own students. Our junior students researched famous people including JK Rowling, LeBron James, Misty Copeland, and Martin Luther King and then shared how those individuals needed to be resilient on the daily announcements. They have created a Gotcha bulletin board and slips which are intended to encourage our students to notice when their classmates are showing resilience. We are getting a great deal of positive feedback about the inspiring songs the team is playing to also reinforce the resilience message. Videos recommended by the team are included here in case you would like to continue the learning at home:

Kindergarten- grade 2

[https://youtu.be/zS\\_-mYMzxaw](https://youtu.be/zS_-mYMzxaw)

<https://youtu.be/XLeUvZvuvAs>

<https://youtu.be/An2OalbPSII>

Any grade:

<https://youtu.be/JOWiPx5VRUU>

<https://youtu.be/UUlaseGrkLc>

Grades 4-6:

<https://youtu.be/zLYECijmnQs>

- Heartfelt thanks go out to Mrs. MacLeod for her tireless work and boundless energy for adding books to the Alpine library! The recent **Book Fair** was a great success in getting books into the hands of our students, adding titles to our resources (Mrs. MacLeod is only interested in the books in the highest demand by our students), and raising \$750 for our school. Mrs. MacLeod is amazing! Thanks to all the families who supported our book fair as she could not achieve this without your support!
- We are grateful to parents and staff who connected in by phone or in person to support our students. We do our best when we work together so thank you!
- Thanks to Mrs. Clark and the proceeds from our Jump Rope for Heart campaign, our classrooms all have new basketballs for outdoor breaks. We have some pretty excited Alligators!
- The **YMCA SHYFT** program is wrapping up with positive feedback from students, staff, and the YMCA leaders. Kids have time to connect with each other and build their self-confidence.
- A new **ArtShine** session is starting with 7 lucky Alligators being awarded a scholarship this session. We are very grateful to ArtShine for this incredible support. Our students who participate in the program love it!
- We are grateful to our teachers for providing **off-campus learning** opportunities for our students. This month we had Mrs Burton and Ms. Koesters's classes go to the Waste Management Facility. I heard a lovely story from a parent who attended one of the trips and purposefully created an opportunity to get to know one of the students he has seen struggling. The parent was struck by how appreciative, polite, and interesting the student was when they had time to talk on the bus ride. The parent counted this as his most valuable learning on the trip. #mindfulness #empathy #hope
- Thanks to Mrs. Lawson for arranging visits from the **Humane Society** which

are always popular with our students (and principal)! Thanks to Mrs. Becker, **Healthy Beginnings** and **Kindergarten in Nature in Alpine Forest** programming has also occurred here at the school this month. Mrs. Becker and Mrs. Lawson are very excited about the learning possibilities and our kids love being in the forest.

- Staff have been involved in professional learning during our staff meeting, PA Day session, and WrapAround/site-based days with our consultant, John Lee. Our teachers are reflective, eager to learn, collaborative, and want to do an incredible job for our students. We are working on asking the more challenging thinking and application questions in math, improving our awareness and actions to make Alpine more equitable, and using MathUp, DreamBox and Lexia as effectively as possible. All teachers whose students are using Lexia have also had training. Thanks to our awesome teachers our students are doing great on Lexia and DreamBox!
- Kudos to the families who manage to have students work on Lexia and DreamBox at home. We recognize that not all of our students have access and are committed to using both programs very well at school. But, the extra time can make an amazing difference for the students who do have access.
- Our **Little Library** is in need of some more children’s books if you are cleaning before the holidays. Your donations are appreciated.

## Financial Update

Balance Forward:	\$2516.13
MacMillan’s proceeds	\$2176.80 (approximate)
Current Balance	\$4692.93 (approximate)

## Parent/Student Survey Feedback - Raw Data

41/216 = 18.9% Response Rate

Winner of Free Pizza Session: Ekamjit Singh

### Would Childcare during council meetings make it more likely that you would attend?

Yes		No	
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### How do you read council news?

SchoolDay	
Website	

Twitter	IIII I
FaceBook	IIII II
Not interested	II

**Suggestions:**

No ideas at this time  
Blank IIII IIII IIII IIII I  
Add netting to soccer nets  
“You can start by picking up your trash and making sure that other people don’t litter or damage the earth”  
“We need more parent-teacher meetings.”  
Better school trips  
More lunch options  
“More community involvement by having the school invite professionals from many backgrounds (e.g., STEM, arts, theatre) to speak to our children so our kids learn from an early age can learn about future careers, what it takes to do that work etc.)  
New library books  
More chrome books  
More chrome books for classrooms  
School garden? Grow veggies?  
Time for outdoor learning/indoor physical activity can be increased  
Swings can be installed  
Movie night  
Outside movie night?  
Playground celebrations  
Fun Fair, Inquiry Night - Paint Night  
Fun Fair, Dance-a-thon (more likely to attend a warm outdoor event than indoor)  
Fun Fair  
Fun Fair  
Fun Fair (will need more volunteers)  
Fun Fair - great fro community  
Community Fun Fair is always a great event!  
New books - science materials  
Discussion about current issues related to children  
Repainting ball and game lines outside  
More “nature/natural” outdoor play: like Huron Natural Area  
Comfy corner in the library: beanbag, pillows, rug (make reading more fun)  
Resurface the footpaths leading into school and remaining paved play areas  
Repaint playground lines on paved areas  
Fundraising for field trips

**Council Next Steps Based Upon Survey Feedback**

N.B. swings are no longer allowed due to safety concerns

1. Council members will arrange child care for upcoming council meetings.

2. Council will try to run another Fun Fair if sufficient volunteers come forward.
3. Council priorities for fundraising for 2019-2020 based upon the staff wish list and feedback from families will be: painting of playground lines, purchasing picture books to support our Allie Traits, and money for guest speakers and drama/music presentations.
4. Council wants to check with Mrs. MacLeod about items she would like for the library to make it cozier for reading and listening to stories.

## Community Building Event

**Family Games Night**  
**Wednesday, January 29, 2019**  
**5:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

Families (adults with kids please) are welcome to join staff and council members in the library to play board games or cards. This is a drop in event. We will have games but participants are also welcome to bring their own. Challenge your friends! This is a bring-your-own-water-bottle event!

## Fundraising

### **Rheo Thompson Mint Smoothies**

Council Lead: Jennifer McCuaig

Order forms went home November 28, 2019.

Orders Due: December 6, 2019

Delivery: December 16, 2019

Several community members have had great success posting the smoothies using social media. Thanks in advance to everyone who is willing to sell smoothies to support our school and Alligators.

## Rangers Game

**Sunday, January 12 at 2:00 p.m.**

Alpine has been given 40 tickets from the Kitchener Rangers Hockey Club. Bonus!

Bus pick up time at Alpine is 1:15 p.m. and the bus will leave the Aud 10 minutes after the end of the game. Mrs. Becker and Mrs. Lawson have offered to chaperone and will each bring a guest. This will allow for 18 lucky Alligators to bring an adult (each

child must have an adult chaperone) to a great afternoon of hockey and fun. We are very grateful to the Kitchener Rangers Hockey Club.

Each Alligator will bring home a form for an adult to complete to express interest. All returned forms will be entered into a draw and 18 lucky Alligators will get to enjoy a Rangers Game! Watch for the forms to come home in December!

Any other business?

Upcoming Dates

**December Allie Traits Focus: Empathy**

**Alpine Mitten Tree**

**GIVE THE GIFT OF WARMTH!**

This Holiday Season we are decorating a Mitten tree. Help us to keep little hands warm this winter by donating a pair of mittens. All donations will be hung on the tree and then handed out to those who need them both in our school and Alpine community.

**Collection Starts December 6th till December 18th**

**Classroom: Entire School**

December 6 until 18th - annual food drive

**Holiday Concert - Save the Date!**

Our Holiday Concert will be on **Tuesday, December 17th** at **12 p.m.** We try to keep the performance to under an hour, so we ask that you plan to stay for the entire concert. Our students work so hard to prepare, and look forward to performing for a full audience!

We are excited to share the sounds of the season with our Alpine community.

Sincerely,

Miss Whistance

January 22 - School Council Meeting - babysitting available

January 29 - Family Games Night

## Alpine's 2019-2020 School Council

**Co-Chairs:** April Cousineau, Jessica Beaucage

**Secretary:** Rita Givlin

**Parent Representatives:** Donald Mann, Andy Slough, Samantha Hanley, Jennifer McCuiag, Jennifer Smerek, Mandy Clarke, Dawn Koehler

**Bulletin Board:**

**Facebook Page/Twitter/Instagram:** Samantha Hanley

**Principal:** Rita Givlin

**Teaching Staff:** Lea Becker, Heike Koester

**Non-Teaching Staff:** Marjolein Wijbenga-Groot

**Treasurer:** Sherry Mahon

*New members always welcome!*