

September 27 2017 School Council Meeting Minutes

Welcome from Jodie Meyer and past chair Meghan Tracy.

Welcome to another year at Westvale. We had many new members and some seasoned ones as well. It was nice to see such a big turnout. Sadly, Meghan will be stepping down as chair and has passed on the duties to the new co-chairs Tonya Veltman and Krista Luft.

Elections:

As we did not have more applicants than vacancies on the board there is no need to hold elections this year. We're pleased to introduce the new Parent Council Executive Members:

Co-Chairs: Tonya Veltman and Krista Luft

Treasurer: Elizabeth Flynn-Dastoor

Secretary: Ruth Frei Bean

There are still spots available for voting members. If you wish to represent the parents or community in such a role, please email Jodie jodie_hancox-meyer@wrdsb.ca or Tonya tonya.veltman@gmail.com. Regular attendance is required. As always, general, non-voting members are always to attend whenever they can. Child minding is provided and there are always treats!

Principal's Report – Jodie Meyer

1. We've had a smooth start up to the year. We have a total of 18 classes (including our 2 congregated classes) and an enrollment of just under 400 students.
2. The WRDSB transitioned to the new G Suite, which meant a change in email for all staff and employees. We've had some growing pains with this on a number of levels, but the bottom line is that we've transitioned to a more effective means of communication. All schools also got a new phone system, which means we no longer have a separate number for attendance, which is much more convenient for our families.
3. Our pizza program is backing up and running, although with a bit of a change in organization. We are going to be running the program internally with the help of one of our teachers and his students. Between the School Day piece that Jacquie Jones does and some of the calculating and tabulating and spread sheet work that Mr. Bailey and his class will do, we're hoping that things will run smoothly.
4. Some facility and grounds updates: The kids are continuing to enjoy our new playground and the system we've got in place around sharing the 2 playgrounds seems to be working well. We got some new paving work done over the summer. Also, I arranged for some new line painting to happen which the students also seem to be enjoying. Our TD Canada Trust Friends of the Environment grant (\$2500) will be used to plant trees around the new playground in October. John's Nursery has been able to provide us with the best "bang for our buck" and the work was arranged for through WRDSB Facility Services. It was too hot to plant the trees in June and over the summer.

5. Thank you to Taryn McKinnon and Elana Ryeland who procured lots of balls and games to update and replenish the equipment bags for each class. The kids are making good use of the equipment!
6. Our focus this year at Westvale will continue to be on Mathematics and Mindfulness. In particular, in math, we are going to be focusing on how to best teach mathematical fluency (or in other words, how to teach kids to be flexible with how they are choosing to solve a math problem and being able to talk about why they chose that method). This is all part of our learning the new Comprehensive approach to math instruction, which in a nutshell contains 3 parts: problem-solving, building fluency, and doing purposeful practice. As a staff, this is going to be a multi-year journey as we co-learn the best way to teach math. In terms of mindfulness, we are continuing explore ways to help kids learn to self-regulate and become the best that they can be in terms of focus and self-awareness. Again, this is a bit of a journey for us. Last year, we had a speaker by the name of Dean Huyck who came and did a mindfulness workshop with us on a PD Day in the spring. I've arranged for Dean to come back for a part 2 on our November PD Day and the staff are really looking forward to this.
7. In terms of character education and aligned with some of our Safe, Caring and Inclusive Schools initiatives, we have country and western singer Ryan Laird coming to do a concert and anti-bullying program for us on October 18th at noon. I've seen him before and his program is engaging with a strong message to boot! The kids loved him! I will send a School Day blast out inviting any interested parents who are able to attend to come and join us on October 18th. Also, we are partnering up with Holy Rosary school around the corner and taking the kids over in 2 groups (primary and junior) on November 16th to see a magic show with an anti-bullying message. Paul Gladding and I are excited to be working together on this community partnership with all of our students. We are continuing to recognize our Communicators of the Month at our monthly Westvale Way assemblies with a ribbon, lollipop, photo and bulletin board display. In addition, we are starting a new initiative this year to further reinforce our monthly character education themes (e.g. respect, initiative, cooperation, etc) with Westvale Wow coupons (show the system and explain)
8. EQAO scores from the spring have just been released and we will be spending time as a staff having a close look at our results. In a nutshell, our math results are down this year from last, particularly in last year's grade 6 group. We will delve into the numbers some more and try to tease out factors like exempted students, special education students and other factors and how they impacted our results. Also, as mentioned previously, we are continuing to look closely at our instructional practices in teaching mathematics as a whole. All students who wrote the test last school year will receive a one page report in the next few weeks. Grade 7 students will have their reports forwarded by us to their current school.

Teacher's report - Steve Ahlberg

Grade 6 Silver Lake trip was successful

Teacher night was very well attended

Terry fox will be September 28th. Many events are planned and, CTVNews may come.

Intermural soccer has begun for grades 4-6. 50 children are attending after school. The winning team usually plays against the teachers, however this year Rockway school will also be coming to play the winning team.

Picture day will be October 17, this is for Class Pictures as well as Individual Pictures.

Turkey Trott will be happening again this year before Thanksgiving. Children will take laps around the school grounds and will fill in a ballot for every lap completed. There are 4 turkeys to be won.

Orange Shirt day is Friday September 29th for residential school awareness.

Treasurer report Elana Ryeland

Please see the financial reports at the end of this document.

All transactions from last year have been reported with the exception of the following two:

- Grade 4 bus fees for Mideavel Times - Elana will check to determine whether the account is still outstanding.
- Final costs for the new playground – Laura will check to ensure that all accounts are settled.

Last year (2016/2017) the board fundraised approximately \$5500.00.

Council funds are currently at \$16242.58. We need to have a goal to put these funds toward.

We would like to have a goal to use these funds towards.

Tonya motioned to approve funding for the following expenses (Laura 2nd)

- Turkey Trot,
- Blue Spruce.Silver Birch trip,
- DC Music
- Recess Equipment.

Last year the board committed to purchase iPad Minis and/or ChromeBooks for the students.

Jodie Meyer has a goal to achieve a 1 device to 2 student ratio. There were concerns raised as to why these particular devices must be used, and whether the devices will be obsolete soon. The board does not support any other type of technology at this time, meaning if we purchase anything else, we would be doing so without a board discount, and if they break, we would pay full price to replace them. The board will service iPad minis and ChromeBooks, and will replace them for \$50 if they cannot be repaired. Technology that we've purchased in the recent past are still in use today, and there is no way to determine how long the board will support these devices, Heidi Holmes motioned to spend \$5000 on chrome books for the students pending confirmation that the final \$7500 for the playground has cleared. Elizabeth Flynn countered to \$6000. Heidi Motioned, Elizabeth 2nd.

Front Garden Plans – Brenda and Dan Groen

Dan and Brenda have offered to chair a committee to revitalize the school's front gardens. They have asked for volunteers to help clean the gardens out this fall (Late October or Early November). If you can volunteer, please contact Dan Dngroen@gmail.com

Fundraising – Tonya and committee

- Vendor Fair

We will be having our annual Vendor Fair on November 16th, 2017. This will be combined with the following events:

Vender Fair

Scholastic Book Fair

Meet the teacher night

Bake Sale

Volunteers Required (Adults and Children) : Greeters, Run Bake Sale

Vendors Required: Below is a list of vendors who **will be** participating. We'd love to have more. If you would like to refer or join as a vendor, please contact Tonya tonya.veltman@gmail.com .

Arbonne	Tupperware	Epicure	Stella and dot
Norwex	Sweet Legs	Pretty Prints Scarves	Mydoterra
Pampered Chef	Jamberry	Younique	Mary Kay
Kelly Temple Photography	The Knutty Knitter	Fifth Avenue Collection	Young Living Essential Oils
Silpad	Usana	Isagenix	Barefoot Books
Steeped Tea	Gelmoment	Massage Therapy	AIM International
Turning Point Promotions	Josee-Clair Malenfant Swim Instruction	Pure Magic Vacations (Vacation Consultant)	Showing Up – Becoming the me I want to be
Thirty One	The Vintage Acorn	Teegyogs	Irwood north design
Nadia Ishmail	PartyLite	Daughter Beauty Co	Discovery Toys
The Sylver Dragon	It Works		

- Fitness Frenzy

This event has been changed to a Westvale Frenzie including a more diverse list of electives. This was event was supposed to take place at the end of September and will be moved to June.

- Family Dance

We are proposing to have a family dance (and possibly games night) in December in place of the family Movie Night December 7th. This item will be moved to the October Agenda. Committee Members and Volunteers are needed.

The next meeting will be October 25, 6:30-8:00PM

Westvale School Council Financial Report September 27, 2017

2017-2018 Year to Date

Date	Revenue	Expenditure	Balance	Description
1-Sep-16			16242.58	Opening Balance September 2017
27-Sep-17	0.00	0.00	16242.58	Amount Currently in the Council Account

3150.00 Expected Yearly Commitments for 2017-18 remaining

13092.58 Balance after commitments

Council Financial Commitments to Date:

Description	Expected Expense	Actual Expense	Date
Strong Start	600		
Teacher Appreciation Lunch	100		
Sept 2016 Boo Hoo Breakfast	100		
Year Over Year			
Turkey Trot	100		
Blue Spruce/Silver Birch	500		
DC Music	1000		
Recess Equipment	500		
Movie Night	50		
Electives	200		
Totals	3150		
Committed Money remaining	3150.00		

Projected Fundraising versus Actual:

Fundraiser	Timeframe	Expected	Actual to date
Pizza/Milk	ALL Year	3000	

<u>Totals</u>		3000	
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