

**Westvale School Council Agenda
November 27, 2019, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. in the library
(Babysitting will be provided)**

Welcome

Tonya Veltman

Attendees: Emily Cho; Christina, Rick, Naeem, Christine, Stephanie, Doerte, Heather, Laura, Bobbie Joe, Jodie, Tonya, Steve Ahlberg and Crisitna Shaffer, Taryn, Kristy.

Parent council members not in attendance please email Tonya at tonya.veltman@gmail.com for future communication.

Territorial Acknowledgement:

Jodie Meyer

WRAPSC (Waterloo Region Assembly of Public School Councils) & PIC (Parent Involvement Committee) Update

Heidi Holmes/Jodie

The region will be administering grants differently and are looking at alternative for continuing education in order to increase opportunities for students who become disengaged. The programs that are being provided are not mandatory. The board has gotten more creative in integrating students who don't normally fit in.

Principal's Report

Jodie Meyer

1. The new mud kitchen (which quickly become a "snow kitchen" and is now back to being a mud kitchen) is being enjoyed by our youngest students and all sorts of concoctions are being created. This new structure is providing our kindergarten students the opportunity for dramatic play when doing outdoor learning that they didn't previously have. Thank you so much to School Council for supporting this purchase for us. A big thank you to Tonya V for arranging the purchase and meeting the vendor at the school on a Sunday when the kitchen was delivered and also to Cristina S for her donation of pots, pans and containers for the children to use in their new kitchen.
2. As of November 8th, our staff were the recipients of a total of 12 full days of "release time" to work in groups on PD with myself and a consultant. The professional development has been incredibly rich and has focused on math instruction and assessment, specifically the MathUP program that all math teachers are using as part of their instructional practice. We've had some in depth discussion and learning around the use of small group instruction to differentiate instruction to meet the needs of students, particularly those who struggle. We look forward to our next 5-week block of support, which will start in the new year and will provide us with more site-based time to work with our consultant, again focusing on mathematics.
3. The money being given to support the purchase of materials for grades 1 through 6 music programming was most gratefully received by Mrs. Morley, who is in the process of working with Long and McQuade and negotiating the best prices she can to procure the variety of things on her wish list. Our students will be thrilled to be able to use the new things once they arrive!

4. We had an entirely student-lead Remembrance Day assembly on November 11th, which was attended by the entire school, along with a good number of families and community members. Under the leadership of Mr. Bailey and Mrs. Morley, the students used a variety of modalities to teach us about and emphasize the importance of “peace”. There were projected images, drama, poems and musical performances. It was a lovely tribute to recognize the past and current contributions of so many which allow us to live in the peaceful country we do.
5. Having done a pretty large-scale musical performance last year just before the holiday season, our staff is going to take a bit of a break this year and will not be doing a seasonal performance for parents. Sometime during the last week of school before holidays, we will be having a seasonal assembly with all of the students.
6. Our creative playgrounds (both new and old) have been closed for student use during our school day. This happens every winter (at all schools) and is rooted in keeping students safe (when the ground freezes, falls become even more dangerous, students start to wear “clunky” winter boots which are slippery for climbing when wet with snow.) Students are used to the winter routine of the playgrounds being closed and are generally very good at finding other things to do out on the yard for fun.
7. We submitted an impressive application package to the Tower Garden contest. Thanks to Mrs. Balkos, for her leadership in creating the submission on behalf of the school, Mrs. Reaume, who worked with her class on creating a video as part of the submission package and Laura G, who wrote a wonderful letter of support on behalf of School Council to support the application. On Monday, November 18th, we were informed that we won! The tower garden will be installed in our library soon – very exciting!
8. As you are likely aware, the Elementary Teachers across Ontario started a work-to-rule campaign yesterday, November 26th. The WRDSB is committed to keeping families as up-to-date as possible around negotiations and potential job action. Updates will be pushed through to all school websites (<https://wsv.wrdsb.ca/>) along with a labour website (www.wrdsb.ca/labour) and families are encouraged to visit these websites and subscribe to them to receive updates as new information is available.

Teacher’s Report

Val Beddoe/ Steve Alhberg

Nov. 1 – Westvale Way Assembly – Empathy

Nov. 4 – Bus Evacuation Training

Nov. 11 – Remembrance Day Ceremony – Prepared by Room 18

Nov. 14 – Caribou Math Contest #2 (January, February, May and June).

Nov 14 -20 – Book Fair in Library

Nov. 26 – Picture Retake Day

Nov. 27 – SK Vision Screening

Nov. 27 – Tower Garden Installation

Dec. 5 – Junior Volleyball final – Winning team vs. teachers - over 80 junior students played in the league and showed great improvement over the month

Dec. 6 – Westvale Way Assembly – Hope and Social Responsibility

We are planning a small holiday assembly during the last week before the holidays. Date and Time are still TBD. There is a need for a Santa suit that will be provided by Heather.

Pic and Pro Grant applications

Jodie Meyer

Jodie introduced two grants that had previously been obtained by Westvale.

PIC – Parent Committee Grant – last year used with Holy Rosary for stress. This is used for projects of inclusion and parent engagement (i.e translation, parenting books, guest presenters, orientation session, student achievement – access involvement). The scope is broad.

Pro grant – Alana Roland completed in past years – Westvale has received this grant 2 years in a row. Since the change in Ontario Government the application is no longer submitted to the province, however the grant has since been cut in half and the application now goes to the local school board. Successful applications will receive \$250-\$500 which could be used separate or in conjunction with PIC

Money has to be spent by June 2020.

So far the board has received only two applications. The board has a committee that evaluates the applications. Jodie had an idea that she proposed on how the money could be spent should we received the grants.

Currently there are 53 schools who will receive \$500/school where before there were 82 schools who were previously receiving \$1000.

\$10k will go to a regional activity.

What to do with the money from the grants ideas:

Paul Davis – social networking safety – can come in the afternoon and talk to students in grade in 4,5 and 6 and do a workshop with the parents in the evening.

The cost is \$975+HST.

Christina will be taking over the grant application.

Treasurer's Report

Rick Foucault

\$63 in profits from Mabel's labels.

Spending - \$75 for turkey trot, \$472.80 garden supplies, \$670 for the mud kitchen.

Available funds \$1188.88

Update on spirit wear

Bobbie-Joe

60 pieces. Most popular item were: the hoodies for both kids and grown-ups. A few long sleeve t-shirts and t-shirt. Some order from kids for hoodies and jogging pants. Unknown what the profit was at this

time, but it is believed to be around \$150-160. Orders will be scanned in this week and shipping date December 17, 2019.

Jodie has put in a separate order for 75 small t-shirts (invoiced separately to Jodie Meyer) for the Kingergarden open house in May 2020. This is instead of the goodie bags that kids were previously receiving.

Christmas Dance (Family Fun Night update inc Bake sale)

Tonya Veltman

School blast message stated \$5@ the door optional for the school dance.

Heather will be selling raffle tickets: \$1 for 1 ticket, buy 5 tickets for \$5 and get the 6th free, buy 12 tickets for \$10.

The dance is on December 4, 2019.

DJ has been arranged.

Currently there are over 10 theme baskets.

Cake bingo will use raffle tickets.

Baking Volunteers:

Christine school day bake sale – expectations: so far only 2 people.

Bobbie Joe – rice crispy squares.

Christine – cookies and juice.

The baking required is peanut free.

Volunteering times:

Emily will be at the dance for 45 minutes. Tonya will also be attending the entire evening.

Doerte – will come from 7-7:30 and Bobbie Joe 7:30-8.

Tonya, Bobbie-Joe, Jodie and Laura will be here for the dance.

Other dance needs:

Christine will be picking up glow sticks and selling them at the dance.

Motion was put forward by Bobbie Joe, 2nd Doerte and it was passed to spend for \$20 for glow sticks.

Volunteers bringing snacks to Cristina and Emily.

Next meeting date: January 22, 6:30-8pm.