



Westvale Public School

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**School Council Meeting minutes
April 28, 2021, 6:30pm
Virtual Meeting**

Welcome to those attending –

Name	Present	Name	Present
Karma Harris		Kira Bruschke	X
Liz Kristensen	X	Rick Foucault	X
Laura Gillians	X	Christine Glidden	X
Marisa Moser	X	Jenn Amos	
Doerte Schulze	X	Heidi Holmes	
Jodie Hancox-Meyer	X	Cristina Shaffer	
Tonya Veltman	X	Krista Luft	
Amber Fitzgerald	X	Bobbie-Jo Seitz	X
Stephanie Evansberg		Christina K	
Melissa Santo	X	Jennifer Yocom	X

Welcome Message – Tonya Veltman

Territorial Acknowledgement – Jodie Hancox-Meyer

Principal's Report – Jodie Hancox-Meyer

- As you are likely aware, the WRDSB recently posted important information about the upcoming school year asking families who would like to have their child(ren) participate in “remote” learning to fill out a form by May 3rd at 4 p.m. By doing so, families are committing to their child doing the entire year by remote learning (i.e. there will not be any opportunities to switch during the school year).
- Our planning for next year is behind schedule due to the complexity of this year. After interested families have indicated by May 3rd that they would like to commit to distance learning for next year, we can proceed with the submission of our enrolment numbers. From that point, we can begin to organize classes and staff for the fall. We are approximately 3 weeks behind where we usually are with planning and staffing at this point.

- I submitted the Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant Reimbursement form on behalf of council to the WRDSB finance department at the end of March. School Council will (eventually) be reimbursed for the \$452 expense of the Paul Davis Internet Safety Workshop.
- We requested and quickly received a 5 cubic yard load of mulch through our WRDSB Facilities Department at the beginning of April. Our outdoor spaces are seeing much heavier traffic and usage this school year and we have been struggling with the copious amount of mud in the restoration area. Our core grades 4/5 and 5/6 classes worked to get the mulch spread throughout the paths in the area and this has been a wonderful “fix” to our mud issues. Our plan is to get another dump truck load of mulch delivered again once students are back in school.
- There will be a unified system-wide approach to all “graduations” this year. Included will be grade 6 graduation, along with grades 8 and 12. Decisions around what this will look are currently underway but students and parents can expect a consistent approach with respect to how each school recognizes its students who are moving on. Last year, there were issues and challenges with each school “doing its own thing” and the inequities this created across the board. This year’s approach, still under development, will be much more consistent and unified.
- This is the time of year when we would typically be ordering planners for the next school year. The orders need to be placed early to accommodate the company (School Specialty, who the Board has a contract with) being able to mass produce them in time for the beginning of September. Last year, we had to absorb a bill in the amount of \$1844.78 for the planners that we had ordered and were unable to use due to COVID health and safety regulations which we were unaware of in the spring when the pandemic first hit. This year, the health and safety department at the WRDSB is unable to offer any guarantees that we will be able to distribute and use planners in the fall. Thus, I have decided that we will not be going ahead with a planner order for next year. Having lost a significant amount of money this year, I’m just not willing to take the risk of a financial loss again. Families will be welcomed to purchase and use their own planner (e.g. you can purchase them at Staples and many other stores) if they wish their child to have one. Teachers may also develop their own planner or communication system working within the parameters of whatever health and safety rules are in place in the fall.

Teacher’s Report – Marisa Moser

- Back in March, the primary classes had the privilege to have a guest magician/juggler, Simon to enjoy during what would have been the original March Break. In March we also had a school wide Westvale Wow initiative of responsibility where students demonstrated their responsibility throughout their classrooms.
- Over the April break, staff prepared to transition to online learning and have been adjusting as best as possible.
- As you know, we are now fully online and students and staff are working hard and trying their best! Teachers are working hard to engage students and continue to provide great programming. We are thankful for all the parent support and help with their child’s learning.

Treasurer’s Report – Rick Foucault

- Mrs. Morley has \$1500 available to use
- Paid out virtual games night, virtual magic, and internet safety presentation

- \$4042 available
- Expecting reimbursement for the Paul Davis internet safety presentation (around \$450)

WRAPSC Updates – Heidi Holmes

- If you want to be on our mailing list which includes monthly emails regarding meeting dates and agenda, please email: wrapsc@gmail.com
- At our April meeting, we had guest speaker Theresa Pastore speak to the group about parent Engagement. Ron DeBoer from the WRDSB also presented about Specialist programs, including Co-op at Secondary Schools and plans for 2021/22
- Our May 4th meeting will have a variety of WRDSB representatives presenting on: French Immersion, PRO Grant updates, and Fundraising guidelines for schools for 2021/22. We will also bid farewell and provide thanks to Director Bryant who is retiring in June. We also hope to have Trustees come and have Breakout rooms for meet and greets and Q&A

Magic Night Update – Amber Fitzgerald

- Magic night was a success, but there were some technical difficulties getting started
- Really good turnout
- Got cutoff due to the zoom timing, and had to log back in, but most were able to get back on
- Kids got to learn magic tricks, and got to vote on what they wanted to learn
- Maybe we should use a paid Zoom account, or a Google Meet
- Muting was an issue with participants and caused some disruptions

Scavenger Hunt – Kira and Tonya

- School Day announcement was made to encourage families to do the scavenger hunt
- Haven't received much feedback on how it was received
- It's still accessible for families if they haven't had a chance to try it yet

Parent Involvement Funding Grant – Tonya

- \$500 available to us
- It has been given to the school (not in the school council budget)
- Needs to be used for parent engagement
- Saidat is a program that encourages singing and dancing, promotes self confidence, teamwork and a celebration of differences. It's via YouTube Live and is \$350 plus tax. Many dates available. <http://www.saidat.ca/schools/>

Other Discussion

- We had a 1 to 1 ratio this year with Chrome books, but expect more kids to be in person next year – should we source more chromebooks?
- \$300 per Chromebook
- Should we look into using our funding for the outdoor classroom?
- Look at numbers in September and if we want to fundraise to increase our Chrome book supply so it's a 1 to 1 ratio.

Next Meeting Date – June 9, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.