

School Council Meeting minutes October 18, 2023, 6:30pm

Welcome to those attending –

Name	Present	Name	Present
Mary Sue Meredith	X	Tamara DeCraemer	X
Marisa Moser	X	Shannon Vanderlip	
Tonya Veltman	X	Syed M. Umagr	
Stephanie Evans	X	Zunaira Kafeel	
Rick Foucault		Bradley O'Neil	
Christine Glidden	X	Naeem Mohammed	X
Bobbie Joe Seitz	X	Brydon Rayner	
Doerte Shulze	X	Matthew Theis	
Sarah Steinert		Sheena Kinghorn	X
Jillian Penney	X		

Welcome Message – Tonya/Steph

Territorial Acknowledgment - Mary Sue

Principal's Report – Mary Sue

- We have a new teach Mme Penga (Grade 5/6 FI)
- Pizza days have started!
 - We currently have 2 parent volunteers helping with pizza day.
 - Mrs. Brunsting has organized student volunteers to deliver the pizza to each classroom.
- Spirit Wear
 - We will be having a spirit wear sale in November; more information coming soon.
 - This will be run through Pegasus, which is our photographer, and will be after photo packages.
 - This will be an online shop. Pricing will be between approximately \$20 and \$50 per item (depending on both the size and the type – t-shirt vs hoodie).
- EQAO data was made public last Thursday.
 - Captured both ability as well as student's attitudes towards about whether or not reading, writing and math were important and whether or not they enjoyed those subjects
 - For Westvale we didn't see a big difference in achievement between French Immersion students and core students
 - The main takeaway from looking at students' attitudes is that parents can help by supporting reading and writing at home (making it a priority, making it enjoyable, etc.).

Teacher's Report- Marisa Moser

- Things at school have been going well and progress reports are coming up soon.
- A few updates:
 - This coming Friday we have Fall Play Day. We encourage students to dress appropriately as they will be outside for a while.
 - Field Trips- teachers have started signing up their classes for field trips. So far, this is all French immersion classes.
 - IEPs have been completed and sent home to those that are applicable
 - Photo Retake Day is November 7th. Photo cards have been sent home for orders to be placed online.
 - Friday Fall Play Day – come dressed for the weather
- There may be a class photo done at the end of the year, but this hasn't been booked yet.
 - Decision to have this or not has not yet been made, but there are privacy concerns.

Treasurer's Report – Rick

- We opened the month with an opening balance of \$7,930
- There are \$5,197 in commitments
- There were 3 expenditures totalling \$846 (1 for Gr. 6 trip, 1 for Paul Davis, and 1 for Boo Hoo breakfast).
- There was \$63 in revenue this month, which came from Mabels Labels.
- This leaves us with a final account balance of \$7,148, and available funds of \$1,950.
- As always, the actual account balance has yet to be confirmed in the school financial records system.
- In addition, there was a WEFI donation of \$96.20.

Date	Description	Revenue	Expenditu	Commitm	Account Bal	Available Fu	Note
Sept. 20/23	Balance carried from last report				7,929.94		
	Minimum balance			-3,000.00			
Nov. 2, 22	Chicks			<--			Commitment remaining was \$259.59 - released back to council
Feb. 1/23	Recess Equipment Refresh			-300.00			Originally committed at Feb. 1/23 council meeting
Mar. 1/23	Year End Party			<--			Commitment remaining was \$437.75 - released back to council
Sept. 26/23	JV Voyageur Transportation (Gr. 6 Grade Trip)		-459.72	<--			Originally \$700 committed - Invoice #137035
May 3/23	Locks & Cakes			-500.00			Originally committed at May 3/23 council meeting
Sept. 2023	Herrele's Fundraiser	654.75					Sold 135 boxes @ \$35. Profit of \$4.85/box
Sept. 28/23	Mabels Labels	63.32					Mabels Labels
Sept. 26/23	PRQ Grant - Ripple Effect	332.02					Reimbursement #12076
Oct. 2023	Boo Hoo Yahoo breakfast		-53.94				\$56.17, less GST rebate of \$2.23 - Cheque #400000040531 - Tonya Seip
Oct. 2023	WEFI donation	96.25					CR1024 JV R10474131
Oct 18, 2023	Current balance	\$1,146.34	-\$513.66	-\$3,800.00	\$8,562.62	\$4,762.62	*Actual account balance not confirmed in financial records system.

Ongoing Fundraisers – Tonya

- Our ongoing fundraisers are Mabel's labels and Fundscrip
- When purchasing from Mabel's Labels, you can indicate you are supporting Westvale PS and we receive a portion of the amount of the same.
- Fundscrip allows you to purchase gift cards and then use those gift cards for everyday purchases; a portion of each gift card is received by the school (amounts vary by vendor from 2% to 7% approximately).
- Should send out a school day about these

- Two other possible ongoing fundraisers are:
 - Flip Give
 - Elmira Charity services

WRAPSC – Naeem

- They talked about best practices, including keeping good meeting minutes.
- They spoke about voting and other council formalities, which Westvale does very well.
- They did a survey of parents around the board (via the WRAPSC mailing list). The survey was for parents of all ages (primary through high school) and was around school safety (asking parents, how safe their kids feel at school). The results were surprising: 50/50 safe/unsafe. Meaning half of the responding parents felt their kids were not safe at school.
- They also talked about how school councils can spend their fundraising dollars (community events, literacy events, etc.).

Community and Fundraising Events - Tonya/Steph

- Movie Night
 - Will take place on November 23rd
 - Doors open at 6:30 pm
 - Sheena purchased 4 bags of popcorn for \$171.71; 50 servings per bag.
 - We need volunteers for popcorn but also for supervision, as there was a lot of unsafe behaviour last year. The movie will be interrupted if we cannot control those behaviours this year.
 - We also need volunteer for Quiet room (room 18). Bobbie Joe will take care of wolf printouts for the quiet room activity.
- Used Book sale March 5th – 6th, more details to come from Liz.
 - We made about 1k last year, this is one of our only fundraising activities this year.
 - Mary Sue will to order some tables for this event from the board.
- Science Fair will be April 25th -26th – More details to come from Kathleen
- Fun fair will be June 20th – More details to come from Bobbie-Joe and Sheena
 - Some food trucks have been booked already
 - Bobbie-Joe booked kono pizza, schmuck truck, and looking is for other food trucks (los rolling tacos, ice cream). Not sure if food truck vendors will agree to come if we have 3 food trucks plus ice cream, or if we need to keep it to 2 food trucks plus ice cream.
- Chick Hatch is planned for May 29th
 - Steph to mentor someone else to take over next year as this is her last year at the school. If you are interested, please reach out.
 - The eggs are “set” 21 days before the hatch.
 - The variety of chick is still to be determined. We are looking to find a home for the hatched chicks, and can work with the preferences of the person receiving the chicks when selecting the variety.
 - Rodriguez Farm was suggested as a possible place for the chicks to go. They have kits and will give you eggs, then take the chicks back once hatched.
- Herrle’s Produce Box Fundraiser
 - This was a very fast turnaround fundraiser, which only ran for 5 days.
 - It was very well received and is something council would like to do again next year.

- We made approximately \$4.85 on each box sold and sold 135 boxes, totalling about \$654 in profit for school council. This is the first time council has been asked to pay the processing fee on school day of 2.9%, which reduced the profitability of the event. However, it was still a great success!
- Thanks to everyone who purchased boxes, and to all our volunteers!
- Special thanks to Marisa Moser for bringing this fundraiser to our attention.
- Four All Ice Cream
 - Ice cream parlour in Uptown Waterloo.
 - They offer custom ice cream flavours.
 - They will come into the school and brainstorm with the kids about themes that tie into our new mascot and the values that they have (e.g. integrity or inclusion and how that might translate to an ice cream flavour).
 - Kids go back and brainstorm as a class about what flavour they want to propose. Each class submits one idea, and Four All will evaluate all of them for feasibility and palatability and create a short-list of 4 flavours.
 - The 4-flavour short list is then voted on by all students, and a “Westvale Wolves” ice cream flavour will be created! This ice cream recipe is saved on file and can be ordered as part of an event we host in the future.
 - Halal and vegan options are available as well as GF. If the chosen flavour is not vegan, we can offer one of their standard vegan flavours as an alternative. The custom flavour can either include dairy OR be vegan, but it cannot be offered in both formats.
 - Overall this process takes about 6 weeks, and it’s FREE to the school to have them come in and do this activity.
 - The fundraising aspect of it comes from being able to sell a variety of sizes to Westvale families. There is a small 125 ml size, a 1L and a 2L size. They arrive with coolers filled with dry ice on the day of the pick up so the ice cream stays cool for families.
 - 125ml – cost is \$2.75, suggested resale is \$5
 - 500 ml – cost is \$8.50, suggested resale is \$12.50
 - 1 L – cost is \$20, suggested resale is \$25
 - Note that prices will likely change in 2024; these are 2023 prices
- Giving Tuesday
 - Last year we sent out a school day with the WEFI link and an invitation for donation on Giving Tuesday and raised about \$400
 - This year it’s November 28th
 - It was suggested we try this again this year, and also create a QR code to WEFI account link, and post it at all of our events.
- Vendor Fair
 - It was suggested we could do a vendor fair on the same day as another event
 - We can set up at 3:30 as long as it’s not in the gym, but we think we might need the space in the gym to run the event.
 - Starting in January, the daycare will only run until 5:30, so this may give us earlier access to the gym.

Next Meeting Date – November 15th, 2023 from 6:30-8:00 pm

Future Meeting Dates – January 17, February 21, April 17, May 15, and June 19