

École Van Wallegghem School-Parent Council

Meeting Minutes

Date: January 10, 2023

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: École Van Wallegghem School (Library)

PAC Executive Members in Attendance: Wil Hedges, Wendy Schultz, Shelley Bertrand-Meadows, Michelle Chay, Rochelle Reynolds, Taz Lakhani

Administration: Sharon Labossière (Principal), Carrie Lourenzo (Vice-Principal)

Parents in Attendance: Kaleigh, Kristyn, several names not indicated on sheet

Call to Order: 7:14 p.m.

-A motion was made to adopt this evening's agenda. Moved by Shelley, seconded by Taz. All in favour, no one opposed. Carried.

-A motion was made to adopt the minutes from the November 8, 2022, meeting. Moved by Wendy, seconded by Shelley. All in favour, no one opposed. Carried.

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A. Parent Council Initiatives:

1. Chair's Report-Wil Hedges

- i. Nothing new to report this month.

2. Lunch Program-Shelley Bertrand-Meadows

- i. The Lunch Program is approaching the mid-year point. Invoicing for first term was completed today so parents who have chosen this option will be receiving their invoices soon. This is only for parents whose children have periodically stayed at school during lunchtime and have not paid full time registration fees.
- ii. The program continues to look for Adult Lunch Supervisors (ALSs). As is normal, we have had some ALS leave and new ALS (some university students) join us, but we are still short-staffed. **Action: Sharon to add this call for supervisors into school messages. If interested, contact Kathy McTavish through the school.**
- iii. New ALS are required to take the Commit to Kids online course before being hired but Sharon has agreed to let new supervisors start (and do their training after) due to the need.

- iv. Centralization of the Lunch Program: No further news yet. Parent Council will continue to oversee the program for the time being.

3. Fundraising Chair-Vacant

- i. Rochelle organized a meeting with parents interested in forming a sub-committee for fundraising. Several parents seemed interested in joining and shared their thoughts.
- ii. Two VW parents, Kristianne Dechant and Carolyn Harris took on the winter gift card fundraiser. The cards earned \$38,330 but we get back \$1397.25. This money will go into the restricted lunch funds (not general operations).
- iii. The Glenlea Plant fundraiser is our next event. Kristyn has offered to take this on.

4. Lindenwoods Fall Classic Run-Rochelle Reynolds

- i. **The date is planned for October 1, 2023.** This run helped to fund our red structure at VW and supported various breakfast programs in the division. Money for the race comes from the restricted fund, which was started many years ago to fund the race. Since then, a lot of money has been raised.
- ii. **Please consider joining this committee!** We are still in need of more members to help fulfill all the roles. If we cannot get new members to join, the committee will make this year's race the final one and end the event.
- iii. The committee has met again to start planning and organizing the event. There are many things that need to be paid for well in advance (first-aid, city permits, medals).
- iv. \$210 was paid to go toward the sanctioning of the race through the Manitoba Runners' Association.
- v. *Motion: To allow the committee of the LWFC to spend up to \$5000 from now until October 31, 2023 toward expenses related to the race, with funds coming from the Restricted Funds account only. Moved by Michelle, seconded by Wendy. All in favour, no one opposed. Carried.*

5. Social Chair's Report-Vacant

- i. The first event planned will be Staff Appreciation Week in March (week of March 13-17). March will come up very quickly. **Action: Everyone try to come up with ideas for this event, as there is no one in charge.** Michelle is willing to help organize this event.

6. Education and Communications Chair-Michelle Chay

- i. The second event of the year took place this evening. Ward 2 Trustees were invited to talk about school divisions and education in Manitoba. It was a successful event with around 13 parents who attended. Next year, the plan is to host the same event but in February to see if this increases parent attendance.
- ii. For March/April: The third event will be about Internet safety and security.

7. Site Report Chair-Taz Lakhani

- i. Sharon and Taz met to discuss where exactly the land needs to be leased for the new play structure. The plan is to renew the old lease for the land.
- ii. Taz met with Obby Kahn to talk about grants to apply to. The Arts and Culture grant will be opening up soon. If successful, we would have 2 years to utilize the grant. They will give half of what the PC can contribute.
- iii. Could we apply for grants that are for non-profit organizations? Action: Wil to check to figure out what our status is. Action: Wil/Rochelle to talk to a Linden Meadows parent who would also have this information.

8. Treasurer’s Report-Wendy Schultz

- i. Some new activity in the accounts this month. \$210 was taken out for the LWFC for the MRA fee. \$100 was taken out as a gift toward the presenters at last months’ Mathematics evening.
- ii. We paid \$51.25 for the bank fees as we have a limit on how many deposits can be made each month. This was due to the 71 e-transfers coming in for the gift card fundraiser. \$4.95 is what we normally pay in bank fees. Next year, a suggestion is to try to straddle orders over 2 months to keep the transactions down.
- iii. Investing the funds: Not easy to do because this is a business account. Action: Wendy and Wil to go into bank and add the gift card fundraiser to the \$65,000 for the play structure. They have been attempting to meet with TD Bank for months to get our accounts in order and it is not an easy process.
- iv. As of January 2023, here are the account balances:

TD Bank Balance:	\$106,780.73
Restricted Funds:	\$13,489.18 (Race) \$66,397.25 (play structure)
Total Restricted Funds:	\$78, 699.18
Unrestricted Funds:	\$26,894.50
Mutual Funds	\$3495.44

9. Other Business

- i. Parent Council Website: Still on hold
- ii. Grade 8 Graduation: has had preliminary conversations. More information to come!

Executive Portion Adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

B. Administration Report

Sharon Labossière (Principal) and Carrie Lourenzo (Vice-Principal) reported on the following:

Thank you to everyone for making a great family/school connection and for wanting to know us. We value connection.

Celebrations: The band concert went very well. For most students, it was only their second performance ever. It was the first concert in 3 years. K-5 Concert: Some logistical concerns were sorted out. 900 people came to Soul Sanctuary! Thank you to Mr. Plett, Mr. Neufeld, and the staff who all came together and worked tirelessly for months! We were able to give extra tickets to those who asked. Thank you to the secretaries for their work in checking in with families to see if they needed more or less tickets.

Events: Mme Beauregard (Teacher Librarian) recently celebrated the Winter Solstice with the students. She celebrates many events that we do not always think of. Presently, the focus is on how we honour our ancestors and be a good member of the planet. Students learned to say hello in Ojibway to go along with Diversity and Inclusion month.

Fun Lunches: They have been going well and are enjoyed by students.

Upcoming Events: I love to Read month will take place soon. The theme is "Stories connect us" February 9 is the Pembina Trails Sings event. Festival du Voyageur will take place in February. Feb 2 (evening) and 3 (morning) will be reserved for Tri-conferences. The Grade 8 Ski Trip will take place in February. Dance in the Park is set for June 2 with June 26 as the rain date. Grade 8 farewell is the scheduled for June 27.

Future News: School hours will be changing next year, though we do not know if this means an earlier or later start. This is due to bussing issues. There is no more land to park the buses due to exponential growth in the area and the goal is for buses to do a double loop.

Staffing: a half time staff member was added. Ms. pankratz has been co-teaching and working in classes with higher numbers. Another EA has been allocated. Carrie and her team wrote a grant to the Teacher Idea fund for \$75000 with a focus on phonological awareness. An EA rehab

has been hired to work specifically on this concept (and only in this role). This is a one-time amount.

-Adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

****Next Meeting: February 14, 2023****