



# Westminster Public School School Council Meeting Minutes Wednesday November 28th, 2018, 2018

Start at 6:30

Westminster Principal/Staff: Melissa Murray, Cheryl Ebidia,

Council Members present: Diana Mousavi, Sandra Eamor, Ellen Crackower, Jessica Cohen, Lucy Ivascu

Attendees: Jessica Cohen, Zheng Zu, Lucy Ivascu

Start at 6:30

## 1. Approval of October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Minutes: *(VOTE Required)*

Minutes approved Sandra and Jessica:

## 2. Approval of Treasurer's Report: *(VOTE Required)*

Prepared by Ellen Crackower (with office staff: Kim Mueller)

- So far revenues up to Nov 8 after balance is 671.69
- Total balance 2470.41
- We sold all the extra fresh from the farm, so revenue will be calculated for December (approx. \$75)
- Treasures report approved by Diana, seconded by Jessica

## 3. Co-Chair's Report:

- Autumn Ball review and feedback –parents indicated they liked it and would like more events like it
- Can we option bring in other food options (kosher)?
- Preparing our own food would need food safety training and food allergies
- School Council Forum feedback (Oct. 29) –school chairs, council members, workshops about what is a school council,
  - Diana as a PEAC did a workshop on school council (School Council 101)
  - Melissa sat on Edsby session – lots of glitches still happening. There is a major change for Edsby (the board is the primary customer) really responsive to what we feedback we are giving. How are users using it? What kind of notifications can be used, how can we link in from emails. Communications with teachers, is currently shut off, but teachers can open it on an individual basis.
- On our school message we can put down that parent council has Edsby representatives who can bring issues/concerns to Edsby committee
- We can set up a training session for parents on Edsby – Kim is also supporting helping parents learn how to navigate the apps.
- School Council Parent Survey for fundraising events (will review with item #6)

## 4. Principal's Report:

- Land Acknowledgement – All assemblies are started with this conversation, this is printed and posted on main entrance to school to acknowledge the land we are on.
- Passed out the slide that the kids will see: two treaties that impact us in York regions we are treaty 13 in this region

- Truth and reconciliation calls to action to have students and communities become aware to ties to the land that we work, live and play on
- Script developed with elders in the community that students are starting to use – what does truth and reconciliation mean – in the past decisions made that had massive impacts
- Land acknowledgement read
- Educational partnership with Chippewa's of Georgina Island - Each reserves have rights to negotiate with district school boards to have education provided, our teachers go there from k to 6, grade 7 and 8 students cross over and board during the week to attend school. Students move into Sutton high school.
- Add on to acknowledgment as to why we do this acknowledgement
- Interesting conversation as a staff – Negon St. Claire, activist and doctorate in history and education – very knowledgeable of indigenous people in Canada – working with board members to discuss with how we are educating our students
- Principal's Profile (Review & Approve) – Diana and Brandi working on it, touched based, need to be finalized, will end out for review to council prior to finalization
- Staff professional learning outcomes (October 22<sup>nd</sup>) – student led conferencing, positive feedback, 25 contractors here starting to replace window
- Every Student Counts Survey (Nov. 12-30) – 30% k-6 completed survey online, board rate approx. 40% School level data will be returned after February.
- Student Lead Parent Teacher Interviews (Nov. 22 & 23)
- Student Council representative(s) – still working on getting representatives – students are working on a fundraiser which is directing their attention and focus –
  - Fundraiser is bracelets (custom designs) – ready for the holidays, raise funds and food drive with expectation that funds raised would go and support the food bank
- Windows replacement update
  - one hiccup after the other – supposed to be 5 rooms in, none are completed, two rooms begun neither finished, no work today, maybe tomorrow.
  - Looking for weekend work, which is more beneficial because of ability to work. Not tolerating safety or not knowing what is happening – need to ensure safety of children.
  - Meeting with project manager to outline concerns, and complexity moving forward that curtain windows that connect four classrooms which means 4 classrooms are impacted and need to be accommodated elsewhere is difficult. Can't move classrooms for weeks on end – need to be assertive in discussing the plans.
  - Continual messaging on Edsby to inform parents of what is happening and how to access entrances throughout the construction project.
  - Projected to be completed January if they worked every day, and over the break
  - Can't work below -10 or during rain or potentially during snow/blowing snow – classrooms have no windows for 4-6 days during the change
- 4 compass points – 4 priorities of the boards – (refer to handout) achievement term removed and replace with "success" – what does success mean to individual students
  - Each of 4 areas are goals (refer to handout)
  - How do we make sure the questions we are asking students are relatable, and how we are connecting to the math. Kids are working on a growth mindset in math
  - Relationship building with families and communities

- Student voice and learning and decision making – conversations on how we reflect our students abilities
- Ethical leadership – what does this mean, how do you know, how do you measure
- Administrators meeting occurred yesterday – how do we make the plan come to life at our schools
- Every weekly memo this is presented, and trying to anchor it in for conversation
- Fundraising wish list presented –
  - Contribution towards agendas
  - Purchased 400 leveled texts – purchased through Nelson – each book is approx. \$25 – bought level 1, 2 and 3, would like to purchase additional levels
  - Readers who are strong, we have a gap that needs to be filled.
  - Outdoor equipment – balls and equipment for classrooms that can be taken outside (softer balls, skipping ropes, tennis balls)
  - Need to purchase from approved vendors – soft balls
  - Can donate tennis balls and ropes
  - Technology - Board has signed new contract with HP – matched \$2.50 from board for every dollar contributed by the school, goal of trying to get 1 chromebooks/ipad for every 2 students
  - Equity and inclusivity – teachers met with first nations advisors, very early conversation about project with a few classrooms bringing truth and reconciliation to life – create footprints to recognize we walk the land and put phrase so students can walk in the footsteps
  - The top priorities would be: technology and learning and teaching (agenda, levelled texts and outdoor equipment)

#### 5. Action item considerations and updates:

- Hot lunches – not very successful, very low numbers
  - End the LunchBox program at end of December. Revisit hot lunches again in the spring
- Status of Grants
- Metro Food Grant– Application must be submitted by end of Dec
- Project Fresh from the Farm update (delivery on Nov. 28) – delivered and picked up today – next year, propose to start much sooner, give parents more time to order

#### 6. Proposed future School Council events and dates

- Results from surveys given out to families – second survey done online and in hard copy
  - 48 responses
  - Number of events – willing to attend 3-6 events or more per year (50% 3-6, 30% one a month)
  - Average amount comfortable to spend - \$2-4 14%, \$5-10 35%, \$10-20 35%)
  - Types of events – 12.5% anything, 50% interested in spring/summer fun fare dance, 40-50% games night, painting,
  - 30-40% fundraising
  - Comments – Children's art exhibition, pajama day, school museum, flea market, QSP, spring fare improvements, direct donations, grocery store gift cards, silent auctions
- School Council events can be on Wednesday Nights as we have the permit
- Suggested Activities included:

- Martial arts night – trainers to demo or a weekly class – logistics for weekly class during the school day is difficult because gym is utilized at lunch for clubs – can do it on a Wednesday night (grade 1-8)
  - Zumba instruction
  - Writing contests – write poem, story, creative submission, choose winner for each classroom – pay \$1-2 to enter, prizes donated
  - Gift basket raffle for holidays
  - Lunch Recess – could we do craft/art classes – offered for 8 weeks, \$72 for the period
    - Art club is starting – parent is an artist, will start in week and a half during school hours
  - QSP – Cookie dough, magazines - yes
  - Halenda's – prepackaged pepperoni sticks
  - Flip give – Sandra to set up
- Proposed Upcoming Events approved:
    - Movie night on January 23rd
    - Martial arts Night – Feb 6<sup>th</sup>
    - Spring Fare Date – June 5th tentative

Adjourned at 8:25pm