

Westminster School Council Minutes

Thursday September 20th, 2018

Westminster Principal/Staff: Melissa Murray, Cheryl Einhorn, Cheryl Ebidia,

Council Members present: Ellen Crackower, Edna Benzaquen, Brandi Sherman,

Absent: Mark Burton, Alice Ko, Diana Mousavi

Attendees: Elise Davidson, Jessica Cohen, Jennifer Libman, Vitaly Panor, Linda Lalani, Lucy Jvascu, Borgden Jvascu, Ahmad Momeni, Samaneh Arbabi, Yana Shimonov

Minutes: Brandi Sherman

1. Meeting was called to order.
2. Review and Adoption of Previous minutes.
3. School Council
 - 3.1. Review of school council positions (elected verses non-elected roles), committees and elections of executive committee:
 - 3.2. Executive members elected as follows:
 - a) Co-Chairs – Diana M. and Vitali P.(voted by all)
 - b) Secretaries – Brandi S. (voted by all)
 - c) Treasurer – Ellen C. (voted by all)
 - 3.2. School Council Purpose:
 - a) To work with the school to communicate and collaborate with families
 - b) Align the funds raised to the school plan
 - c) Plan activities to bring families and the community in to the school
 - d) Advisory body to the school to help support the relationships
4. Committees
 - 4.1. The following committees were discussed:
 - a) Communication Committee – Chaired by Lucy and Borgden, Jessica C. participating
 - b) Fundraising Committee – to be discussed during Octobers council meeting
 - c) Grants – Edna
 - d) Hot Lunch Committee
5. Principal Report
 - a) Great start to the year, September can be stressful month for kids but so far it has been relatively smooth
 - b) September is the time for establishing routines for the students to help lay the foundation for the year
 - c) This year there are 9 homerooms
 - d) The first PA day is a board mandated compliance training
 - Communication of topics is required to be done with the school council as per the board. The agenda for the PA day was shared at the meeting.

- e) Curriculum night October 10th from 6pm-8pm
 - From 6 to 7 the teachers will be presenting in the classrooms
 - 7pm there will be a presentation in gym for all families. Presenters will be “X-Movement”. They are educators from Australia that support student learning through sports and a growth mindset. The program will be explained to parents.
 - i. Support Students with self-regulation – dealing with emotions, anger and frustrations and how to regulate within themselves and the environment
 - ii. There will be a 3 day program and strategies will be taught help learn to up regulate and down regulate
 - iii. Families will be able to access the videos from X- Movement
 - iv. Information for families that cannot attend will be sent out electronically
- f) EQAO scores were released publically
 - Reflects grade 3 and 6 (grades 1 to 3, and grades 4 to 6)
 - Results used by teaching staff to focus learning and improve overall achievement
 - Can see where students had difficulty with questions and comprehension, and areas of strength and need
 - EQAO occurs during a 6 day period of test writing. Westminster has a very small cohort so every student accounts for 2%
 - The day to day ongoing assessment is the true reflection of how students do
 - Reading and writing results for both grades 3 and 6 were successful
 - Math was not as successful for grade 6 student (40% of grade 6 students are English Language Learners which is a contributing factor)
- g) Math has been a focus in the school for the last 2-3 years
 - Math is everywhere children need to learn it not just for the classroom but for whats around
 - Children are starting to make connections outside the classroom
 - The information we gather about what/how our students are capable of is used to help

6. Treasurer’s Report

Not discussed

7. Other Business

- a) Autumn Ball
 - Potential extra hour for grades 6, 7, 8
 - October 24th is the potential date
 - Sandra E. will lead the planning activities along with Jessica C. and contact entertainment vendor
 - Can sell some food and little gadgets to fundraise.
- b) Will utilize EDSBY for school council communication
- c) Hot lunches planned – Tuesday-Shawarma, Wednesday-Pizza, Friday – Boston Pizza.
 - Using LunchBox Orders. – Calendar to be ready on September 25th. Notices to go home to families and orders will start to be delivered week of October 9th.
 - Pizza Lunches on Wednesdays
 - Lunch Lady also delivers to the school
 - Milk program was discussed, but no decision was made as to if and when the program will be implemented

8. Upcoming Events

- a)** September 24th - PA Day
- b)** October 10th – Curriculum and meet the Staff night from 6pm to 8pm
- c)** October 22nd – PA Day
- d)** October 24th – Autumn Ball

9. Meeting Adjourned

Next meeting October 17th at 6:30pm