



**Whitchurch Highlands Public School Council Meeting**

**November 16<sup>th</sup> 2017**

**Present Council Members:** Brad Derry, Amanda Van Veen Pirie, Jackie Steinmiller, Cathlin Hennze, Lorie Schoenrock, Anna Trokova, Marlene Foran, Noula Halikias-Mintsoulis, Mel Holmes

**Regrets:** Therese Harris, Robert Carter, Jane Vivian, Ellen Cleverdan, Sara Abdulla

**Non-Council Attendees:** NA

**Approval of October minutes:** Approved by Noula Halikias-Mintsoulis and seconded by Angie Whittick

**Approval of November agenda:** Approved by Lorie Schoenrock and seconded by Jackie Steinmiller

**Treasurer's Report**

- No Treasurer's Report as Robert Carter was unable to attend the meeting
- Report is pulled by Michelle Ho Tom but requires interpretation
- Suggestion to have co-treasurer as backup to ensure coverage and understanding of finances
- Lorie Schoenrock is willing to help as needed

**Principal's Report – Brad Derry**

- Staffing:
  - o Kathryn Berry extended her contract to cover Mrs. Horvath's maternity leave; Mrs. Horvath had a baby girl named Lily
  - o Michelle Sauve's LTO will come to end in December 1<sup>st</sup> when Anna Giannatselis returns from her maternity leave on December 4<sup>th</sup>; Michelle Sauve is expecting in January
- Movement X (dance, fusion and power)
  - o Mixed feedback – some say it went well, some feedback it was boring
  - o May alternate with Jungle sport every other year
  - o Mr. Derry will get teacher feedback
  - o Focus was on all three areas (dance, fusion, power); may focus on only one feature next time to ensure deeper understanding/experience
  - o Aussie X and Dance seem to be most popular
  - o Challenge receiving payment from all parents; approximately \$500 or 50 kids haven't paid; Teachers are unable to pull own class report from School Cash Online
  - o Suggestions - parent needs to print out receipt from School Cash Online and send to teacher as proof of payment, or forward via email; remove from online payment and go back to old school payment; Brad and Michelle will review School Cash Online to better understand
- New system of communication will be rolled out by Board - EDSBY; will be more streamlined and improve communication in the school community; more info to come later this year
- Gifted screening for grade 3s from November 27<sup>th</sup> to December 1<sup>st</sup>
- Progress reports go home November 21<sup>st</sup>
- Parent Teacher interviews on November 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>; confirmation of times have been sent home with students

- Remembrance Day Ceremony on November 10<sup>th</sup> was very well done; grade 3s and grade 8s did a fabulous job; everyone enjoyed the grade 8 play “Archie Dobson’s War”
- Jane Philpott, Minister of Indigenous Services, visited the grade 8s on November 10<sup>th</sup>; they shared their research on residential schools and the pledge they created; Minister Philpott was very impressed with the work they’ve done and moved to tears
- EQAO
  - o results are posted online through school website;
  - o small school/sample size causes challenges with data/results
  - o Drop again in math
  - o Will review and discuss further in January
  - o School Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (SIPSA) includes focus on math

### **Teacher’s Report – Marlene Foran**

- November 2<sup>nd</sup> Ring of Peace
- November 7<sup>th</sup> One Voice conference – mental well-being; great speaker Michelle Cassidy
- Nov 14<sup>th</sup> grade 3s to Heritage School House
- November 15<sup>th</sup> grades 1 and 2 to Splashin Boots
- November 17<sup>th</sup> Student Music Scholarship night at Stouffville District SS; Concert Band is participating; WHPS will receive \$800 for our music program
- Sr. Boys Volleyball – second place in final tier 2 tournament
- Sr. Girls Volleyball – final tournament November 22<sup>nd</sup> at Newmarket High
- December 14<sup>th</sup> Holiday Concert – will be afternoon and evening performances; evening will start at 6:30pm
- Eco Wolves
  - o Board initiative to have no plastic bags in recycling bins
  - o Need to promote litter less lunches
  - o Eco Wolves to investigate if we can get green bins

### **Halloween Night update – Amanda Van Veen Pirie**

- 65-70 families
- About a third paid ahead of time
- Made about \$300
- Suggestions – more activities to keep kids busy
  - o Haunted House in change room
  - o Games
  - o Try to coordinate timing of grade 7/8 dance on same day as community event to utilize decorations, games, etc. from dance
  - o Raffles – reduce number of raffle items or number of tickets sold

### **Invest in Ed – Cathlin Hennze**

- Donations seem to be down this year; approximately \$4500 at beginning of November; usually Parents can give in many other ways at WHPS
- Brad will review donation list to identify any trends in terms of groups contributing (new families, younger/older grades, etc.)
- Suggestions:
  - o Possibly translate info
  - o Communicate where the money was spent
  - o Visual display to show how we’re trending to our goal (ie. thermometer in front foyer; communicate in weekly letter)
  - o Have teachers include in their classroom communications to parents
- Amanda will prepare “last chance to donate” to go out week of November 26<sup>th</sup>

### **Gift shop - Noula Halikias-Mintsoulis**

- December 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> wrapping night from 6-9pm; Noula to confirm
- December 18<sup>th</sup> set up after school
- December 19<sup>th</sup> Gift Shop
- Noula will send message for volunteers to help wrap, set up and assist on shopping day

### **Turkey Lunch – Angie Whittick**

- Sara Abdulla and Lisa Orett will be coordinating Turkey Lunch this year
- Will be held on Friday December 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Shopping has already begun

### **Lakeridge Ski Nights**

- All high risk board activities are significantly under review at this time
- Brad spoke to superintendent about Lakeridge Ski Nights and there were recommendations to change how it operates
- It can be run through WHPS with a teacher volunteer; however a lot of work to ensure the program meets instructional component and physical education guidelines
- Preferred option is to create 3<sup>rd</sup> party group to keep it separate from the school; won't be able to collect payment at the school or through school cash online, needs to be done independently; all communication needs to be sent to board to be vetted and requires 2 weeks; letters/information could still be sent home through school; WHPS can't book buses; would need waivers
- Need to see if there is a parent who is interested in running this program
- Could consider offering it as a community event/family night

### **Wish list spending:**

- Wish list items include:
  - o Author visits - \$1000
  - o TV monitor for front foyer
  - o External speakers
  - o Coding materials
  - o Buses for field trip
  - o Forest of Reading - \$500
  - o Scientists in the School -  $200 \times 10 = \$2000$
  - o Music program
  - o Nurse Shelly – lice checks \$750
  - o Playground maintenance fund - \$2000
  - o Graduation - \$1000
  - o Maker Space – Dash n Dots; iPads (5)
  - o Kindies/Grade 1 – set of iPads (5) in classroom specifically for these grades
  - o Pencil Condenser mikes for stage area – requesting 2; Marlene will get quote
- Cost sharing Technology match with Board – can get up to \$12500 in technology with contribution of \$4166 from WHPS; 2 rounds of cost sharing (November and January); second round opens at end of January however need to act early because funds run out; cost share covers smart boards, rovers, iPads, carts, chrome books, laptops, LCDs
- WHPS is well equipped with tech right now - 40 iPads currently for sign out; 55 chrome books; 30 laptops
- Motion to approve \$4364; \$1614 for technology match (10 iPads and 10 otterboxes \$4840 value, \$2000 for Scientists in the School, \$750 lice checks

### **Council corner updates – Cathlin Hennze**

- Cathlin will provide summary to Brad of key points to include in Council Corner update for Weekly Wolf Howl

### **New Business**

- Discussion around parent communication; include more information in body of WHPS Weekly Wolf Howl, and fewer attachments; not to exceed 2 pages; keep any notices from YRDSB as attachments

- Brad to include upcoming event dates for December in Weekly Wolf Howl (Holiday Concert, Gift Shop, Turkey Lunch)
- Proposed award to honour Jason – discussion postponed to next meeting
- Community Events:
  - o Advertise next event at the current event to keep parents informed
  - o Thursday Gym Nights – make one Thursday a month a community/family night; set up gym for different sports (volleyball, basketball, badminton), bingo, movies, etc; charge \$5 per family
  - o Information nights for parent community – bring in parents to share information about what they do

**Schedule for 2017/2018 Council Meetings:**

Oct 5<sup>th</sup> – Elections

Nov 16<sup>th</sup>

Jan 25<sup>th</sup>

Mar 1<sup>st</sup>

Apr 12<sup>th</sup>

May 10<sup>th</sup>

June 14<sup>th</sup>

Meeting adjourned - 9:10pm

Next Meeting – Thursday January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018