

Willowbrook Public School Council Meeting

Date: Tuesday, Jan 17/23

Time: 704 pm start

Attendees: Alex Pancharovski; David K., Naomi, Grace, Pooneh, Aliya, Sepideh, Mahkameh, Katy, Sonya

Motions

- Approval of Nov 3/22 minutes
 - Motion to approve minutes by David Kreuger; all in favour, no abstentions
 - Motion passed

Pizza

- system is running smoothly
 - Is there any feedback from parents? Admin has not heard anything (just scheduling questions)
 - minor timing issues resolved
 - going well—thank you, Pooneh!
- will continue into another session; no change in options/delivery plan
 - need backup for Pooneh for new session; will need to know if someone on Council can be backup → Katy can be backup; will just need advanced notice
 - ask Emily to send out communication to parents for pizza orders this week (just one more order for the rest of the year); set up Cash Online accordingly
 - will add in buffer time → next pizza plan will go from Feb 17-mid-June 17
- received quote for G8 grad, which indicates an increase in food costs
- teachers can schedule pizza helper tasks to avoid repeats

Treasurer's Report

- Summary:
 - Gross Account Balance: \$12,768.01 +145.63= 12,913.64
 - Net Account Balance: \$ 5,896.32 (deducted : \$5,000 saving + \$2568.48 Pizza Expenses)
 - Bake Sale: \$837
 - Direct Donations: \$145.63(\$150 less 3%) it is not added to the account yet (only 2 donations) + \$1370 (reported on Jan 18/23)
 - Estimating another \$4000 to come in next pizza period

Administrative Team Report

- Energy during Dec was great with winter concert and bake sale
 - Reached max occupancy limit for winter concert attendance
- Winter break to March break is most academically-intensive time at school
- G4-6 homework club started today; will continue till March Break
 - if necessary to extend club time, possible to do so
 - G7/8 homework club also started today
- Pay-for-programming

- Programs are starting up, like the babysitting program
- Martial arts lunchtime program is continuing; seems to have a healthy base of students
- sent out registration for families for next session
- Art is starting on Monday; Chess is starting on Tuesday; Coding starting on Wednesday; Mad Science may be starting up soon, as well
- families are reaching out to inquire about subsidies so Admin is working with vendors to help
- Sports teams
 - Junior vball starting; tournament on Jan 25th and 30th for boys and girls
 - Intermediate basketball starting; Willowbrook will be hosting the area tournament → Kids will be selling snacks/pizza on that day 😊
- Teachers are working on wrapping up term 1
 - Friday is a PA day to collate their information and assessments
 - Report cards sent out week of Feb 21
 - Will send home a printed copy
- Feb 22: Pink Shirt Day
 - Years ago, bought pink shirts for everyone; considering purchasing new ones for students (may ask families to subsidize costs a bit \$5?)
- Black History Month in Feb
 - Once again purchased Black excellence program, which includes assembly
 - Speaker booked to come in May, focusing on anti-bullying and relationships
 - Stornaway hasn't decided what they will be doing for PRO Grant
- EQAO notices from last year have gone out to students (delayed compared to previous years)
 - Willowbrook will get a detailed report on how student data; hope to receive the report ahead of Feb 3 PA Day to help with school strategy session and triangulate data
 - May 10-June 14 (G3 and G6 students affected)
- Gauss math contests
 - Completed: Beaver computing contests
 - ❖ COUNCIL ASK for Gauss: \$344.67 includes shipping + tax
- G8 Snack Shack
 - G8s are taking a real leadership role with this initiative
 - Able to offset costs for G8 Grad by \$75-\$100
 - Some slight concerns around the amount of sugar/salt being introduced, so may need some tempering
- G8 Grad
 - Exploring renting a room at the Mandarin buffet on Woodbine; <\$40 for the room for dinner after the grad ceremony
- Clothing
 - Some conversations around perhaps changing the Willowbrook dragon mascot from staff and older students
 - Finalizing survey to solicit opinion from staff and students
 - Staff like alliterations (Willowbrook Wizards/Warriors etc.)
- Staffing updates

- Ms Huang had to take early leave; Mr Spinello was successful candidate to take over Kindergarten
- Community class staffing change as well, as one staff member has left the board
- Staffing process has also started (influenced by Kindergarten registration, French immersion, etc.); will get school population numbers soon, which determines staff numbers
- Not sure if government will continue with virtual schools
- G8 movie night
 - ❖ COUNCIL ASK: License is about \$400—would Council subsidize \$200?
 - Want to host 3 movies (primary, junior, intermediate)
 - G8s would take leadership in planning the movie nights
 - License is valid for one year
- Field trips
 - G2, 4, 7: outdoor ed field trips are being planned
 - ❖ Council is willing to help subsidize field trip costs (transportation costs)
- Arts Night in the spring
 - Headed up by Ms Parina
 - Showcase K-8 talent
 - May consider selling tickets

Commented [NG1]: Alex: Please confirm spelling

Fund requests list

- transportation (\$1500; \$1500 remaining)
- library book case? (\$1000)
- Gauss (\$344.67)
- 50% of movie license (\$200)
 - Council approved releasing funds totalling \$2044.67
 - Alex to communicate to teachers that council would appreciate if they explored field trip options (theatre, Science Centre, ROM, etc.)
 - Alex to confirm Ms Yen still needs \$1000 for the bookcase
- lice check: if we look for lice, we will find it
 - revisiting this as there are more funds in the account; but advised that it is not good value for money as kids don't have to isolate if they are found with lice

Fundraising

- Direct donations
 - Consider timing (earlier i.e. before Dec) of when it is sent so it is not buried by other communications
- Raffle
 - City of Markham confirmed that a license was needed
 - There is a cost for a license

PRO Grant

- \$850 for grant
- application has to fit grant criteria, focusing on helping marginalized communities
- Consider social media/cybersecurity speaker, Paul Davis

- Sepideh reached out and he is available to present to G3-8
 - Alex would prefer to include the whole school
- consider tying in parent workshops with the 3 movie nights
 - multicultural events are more successful and meet PRO grant criteria to engage marginalized communities; knowledge building, and are culturally responsive
 - tile creation activity
 - Indigenous drumming circle/art workshop

Milk Program

- Ready to go; vendor confirmed they will deliver during school hours
- Will coordinate with pizza communication; have to see if total costs for both items will be a large ask from families

Next Meeting: Thursday, Feb 16/2023