

WEST ROUGE JUNIOR PUBLIC SCHOOL

October 12, 2016

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

Attendees

Monique Ziezold, Helena Ashberry, Ted Vine, Carol Foote, Anita Klubal, Darcie James Maxwell, Carmela Graham, Kerry Haines, Heather Alousis, Nadia Taylor, Stephanie Battrick, Pooja Chaudhary, Vanessa Martin, Rebecca Forsey, Traci Arroyo, Kim Stewart-Strong, Jacqueline Abel, Franco Genco, Jeya Nadarajah, Kirsty Savoie, Megan Thompson, Sonja Mutapovich

The meeting was called to order at: 7:10pm

1 Welcome and Introductions

2 Previous Minutes

- a) Previous minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the last meeting

Motion: Carole Foote

Second: Anita Klubal

Motion passed unanimously

3 Principal Report

- a. Slo Pitch – teams are doing very well. Junior Girls won in the Final against Fleming and the Junior boys won their first Final in Division 2 and are progressing to the Conference Final
- b. School Improvement Plan (SIP) – There are three main areas this year our Director would like us to focus on:
 - i. Equity,
 - ii. Achievement in Literacy and Numeracy using technology to increase our standards,
 - iii. Well Being.

Equity – The school has clear procedures that encourage students, parents/caregivers, teaching and non-teaching staff to work together to address school climate issues. We will focus on some basic expectations such as walking in the hall, standing quietly for ‘O Canada’ and being silent when the PA system comes on.

Well-being – We have purchased the ‘Mind Up’ curriculum from Scholastic and the teachers will be discussing mindfulness and the lessons from the ‘mind Up’ curriculum in our PLC’s this year. A video was shared with the members of SAC ([Why Aren't we Teaching You Mindfulness?](#)). There are 15 lessons in the curriculum in total and students will be given one lesson a week starting at the end of October. The curriculum is broken into three age-appropriate stages: Kindergarten-Gr 2, Gr 3-5 and Gr 6-8.

- c. EQAO – the results from last year’s testing were once again very solid. The most important numbers to Mr Vine are the comparison statistics i.e. the students who wrote the test in Grade 6 that were at West Rouge in Grade 3. This gives an indication of how they have fared after four years at our school. Out of a total of 20 students who wrote both Grade 3 and Grade 6 tests as members of West Rouge School 12 students went up one level, 3 students went up 2 levels and 1 student went up 3 levels. 4 students decreased by 1 level (one from 4 to 3.9 and one from 3-2.9), 3 of the decreases were in Math and 1 in writing. Out of the 60 tests written (3 per student) 40 of
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the scores maintained the same level.

d. Budget Requests – the following funds were requested and approved:

- I. Technology – 10 refurbished laptops @ \$325 each and 10 iPads @ \$400 each = total of \$7250

Motion: Carole Foote

Second: Jacqueline Abel

Motion passed unanimously

- II. Dufflebag Theatre – 1 production @ \$800

Motion: Monique Ziezold

Second: Anita Klubal

Motion passed unanimously

- III. Buses for School Trips – 11 classes @ \$400 each = total of \$4400

Motion: Darcie James Maxwell

Second: Pooja Chaudhary

Motion passed 9-2

- IV. Scientists in Schools – 2 per class x 11 @ \$200 each = total of \$4400

Motion: Nadia Taylor

Second: Heather Alousis

Motion passed 9-2

- V. Discretionary Classroom Allowance – 16 @ \$150 each = total of \$2400

Motion: Nadia Taylor

Second: Carole Foote

Motion passed unanimously

Considerable discussion took place regarding increasing the technology budget to increase the availability of laptops and iPads to the students with acknowledgement that technology and coding in particular are very important to the students future. It was agreed a clear understanding of current availability and future aims was required. Alternative options such as the purchase of cheaper refurbished laptops (although these won't be supported by TDSB maintenance contracts) and fund raising specifically for technology are to be explored.

- e. Aussie X – We will be purchasing the 3-time deal from Aussie X that includes a module on Dance, Mindfulness/Yoga and Sport together with the parent/community session. This will be partially funded by the \$1000 grant obtained this year.

4 Co-Chair Report

- a. Council By Laws – a revised set of laws was distributed and reviewed and voted as approved.

Motion: Anita Klubal

Second: Darcie James Maxwell

Motion passed unanimously

- b. Spirit Wear – the order has been placed for the school clothing and is due in very soon.

- c. Acorn Cards – cards are in the schools and are being worked on by the students. This should happen during class although some are being sent home with the students.

- d. Volunteering – more volunteers are required to assist with events in the school. A discussion took place regarding how to increase awareness of volunteer opportunities. There was acknowledgement all round of how engaged and supportive West Rouge parents are of the school but it was felt that engagement would be increased if parents were more aware of what
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opportunities there are to assist in the school events. A calendar of important dates will be posted on the website and details of upcoming opportunities for parental engagement will be published at large events starting with the Artisan Sale in October. Other suggestions discussed included a Facebook Page for parents and Volunteer Ambassadors assigned to each class to reach out further to parents. Discussions will continue.

5 Treasurer's Report (refer to Treasurer's handout)

- a. All money to be deposited or expenses claimed (with receipts) are to go through the Treasurer – Anita Klubal.

6 Health and Safety

- a. Lice Check

First check has been completed with four confirmed cases of lice or nits.

The Public Health nurse has three more visits scheduled for this school year.

- b. Walk to School Day

First event has been held but volunteer assistance was short of that required to accurately determine the level of participation. The call for volunteers will be issued earlier for the next event.

7 Fun Fair

The first planning meeting has been held and half the rooms already have volunteers.

This year, student volunteers will be provided with T-shirts to clearly identify them.

Funds to purchase 100 T-shirts @ \$4.75 each were requested and approved.

Motion: Monique Ziezold

Second: Carole Foote

Motion passed unanimously

8 Webmaster/Web Admin Report

- a. Teachers list has been updated on the Website
- b. The list Council Members has been updated on the Website
- c. An unsubscribe link to allow users to self-unsubscribe from the weekly newsletters is being developed and will be available soon.
- d. Pizza eForm has been updated and is in use.
- e. Council motion application to allow impromptu creation of council motions and allow voting via email is almost ready.
- f. Future developments are:
 - a. Update of teacher schedules for those not already updating theirs
 - b. Teacher pages to be updated to new format that will showcase the schedule if the teacher is not active on their homepage.
 - c. WRJP 4.0 is under development with a more responsive design and better viewing on mobile devices.

9 Pizza Day

Whilst the online Pizza ordering form is functioning correctly, its introduction is creating some issues. It is not clearly understood that the form must be printed and submitted with the payment. An email is to be resent to get parents to send the forms in which are missing. It was agreed that we should revert to the use of paper forms being issued to all students.

Due to time pressures and earlier lengthy discussions not all items on the agenda were

covered. Any items not discussed will be raised at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at: 8:47pm

Next Meeting - Second Week of November – date to be confirmed.
