

# WEST ROUGE JUNIOR PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Wednesday April 21<sup>st</sup> 2021 – 7pm

## SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

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### Attendees

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Michael Murphy, Inder Singh, Alison Koukal, Carla Scirocco, Jackie Ventresca, Charlotte MacQuarrie, Rupinder Brar, Leah Denov, Tiago Do Couto, Laura Driscoll, Alison Haines, Rebecca Forsey, Stephanie Tomlin, Quathar Jacobs, Jackqueline Abel, Anita Klubal, Carm Graham, Ashanthi Au

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### Chair – Carla Scirocco

- Welcome
- Next Meeting
  - Wednesday, the 19<sup>th</sup> of May 2021, 7 PM

### Principal's Report – Michael Murphy

#### 1. COVID and School Closure Update

-Cases were rising in schools across the system in March and April which ultimately led to the closure of all Toronto schools on April 7<sup>th</sup>

-This included cases at our school. We had a total of 4 cases. All are now resolved and everyone is healthy which I am happy to report

-Process for remote learning is the same as January- 225 minutes of synchronous learning per day for grade 1-6 students and 180 minutes per day for kindergarten

-We will have a common school wide lunch from 11:50-1:00 each day

-Please communicate with your child's teacher if you need any support. We recognize that the challenges each family faces during this time differs from house to house and we are here to be flexible and helpful as best we can to make this work and to support all students

-Attendance is required to be taken each day at 9:00 am and 1:00 pm. Please email Mrs. Allen, your child's teacher, or call the school for any known absences. This will avoid getting an automated call

-We will continue to find ways to connect as a whole school through virtual assemblies, morning announcements, guest presenters etc.

## 2. Staffing Update

-Proceeding with staffing process for next year on the assumption that life will be more normal. Staffing with all West Rouge teachers returning and students returning who are at virtual school this year

-Our staffing allocation is based on a projected enrollment of 295 students. We will have 17.5 teachers which is status quo so we are not in a surplus situation

-We will have two Autism Intensive Support Programs

-3 Kindergarten classes (1 capped at 15 students with no ECE and 2 capped at 29 with ECEs)

-5 Primary classes (capped at 20 students each)

-1 grade 3/4 class (capped at 23 students)

-4 junior classes (no cap however projected to be between 24-26 students)

## 3. Graduation

-Our grade 6 farewell will be virtual this year

-Would like to discuss SAC increasing funding for graduation to the usual amount given. A reduction was decided upon in the fall given there is no need for gym decorations, cake etc. however it is felt that we need to find ways to make this special for our grade 6s and finding the cost of usual items like t-shirts and yearbooks has increased due to COVID

## 4. Technology Grant

-Our school applied for a technology grant with a proposal looking at a partnership with outdoor spaces in our community like the Rouge Park and connecting to real world issues like parking, accessibility etc. Using technology to address these issues, build prototypes of solutions, and use media software for presentations and PSAs related to the project

-We were one of 5 schools selected for this grant! We are awaiting word on the total amount we will be receiving

## 5. Athletics

-We spent \$2800 as a school for Athletics accounts for all students this year for a one year subscription

-We need to make decisions about renewal so any feedback from a parent perspective on whether you and your children found this beneficial would be appreciated

**Teacher Representative – Jackie Ventresca**

<b>Class/Club/Committee</b>	<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Wellness Committee	West Rouge Tree of Life: Wisdom  Wellness Wednesdays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School wide focus based on the 7 Sacred Teachings</li> <li>• “Wisdom” for April</li> <li>• Recognized students receive a spirit badge that is placed on our Tree of Life</li> <li>• Student achievements are read over the announcements</li> <li>• Grade 6 class providing a school wide wellness activity each week (cooperative games and other activities)</li> </ul>
Equity Committee	Initiatives Supporting our 2020/21 Equity Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BIPOC Canadian Literature Study               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The West Rouge Reading Challenge (full school)</li> <li>○ Junior BIPOC Novel Study (4-6)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Virtual Assemblies	Monthly virtual connection and collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade 6 MCs and co-ordinators of student work being showcased</li> <li>• Open submission of work</li> </ul>

**Treasurers - Alison Mitchell & Alison Koukal**

- We have approved spending for discretionary fund for teachers. Unless teachers use it we will have that extra money. Given what we have approved so far, there is still an expected balance of \$5500 (after the \$800 for graduation). So even if we approved higher graduation fund we will have more left.
- Mike: More comfortable taking the incremental \$ for graduation from garden fund. Spending is more for T-shirts and year book which itself total \$800 before taxes. Rebecca and Anita back

the idea of increasing the grad fund. Mike: We will be looking at local business so the money will stay support.

- Motion for approving \$1200 for graduation committee. Lean motions, Rebecca seconds, **all approve.**

### **Health & Safety Representative- Jacqueline Abel**

- Online baby sitting course and stay safe course. Course and a session attended by students and family members. With the stay at home order there will be parents who are staying at home but some going back so some children are home alone so there may be a need for stay safe course.
- \$60/course. Baby sitting 3 days in 2.5 hour increments. Stay safe is a 2 day course with 2.5 hour increments.
- Sessions taking place in June, July, August.
- Should we be promoting this?
- Rebecca: enrolled son, feedback good. Steph: great idea, why wouldn't we do it?
- Taking that as a go ahead to draft a quick note. To send the blurb to Nadia/Quathar.

### **Community Representative – Anita Klubal**

- Will be forwarding invitation to a session of diving deeper into land acknowledgment.

### **New Motions/Other Business - Charlotte MacQuarrie**

- Fundraising idea RE: Spirit Wear
- Walk through design, costs and potential pricing.
- Ms Allen does school cash online. Difficult part is to set-up.
- For treasurers, they have to sift through the money to figure out profits.
- Charlotte will deliver or parents can pick up from her doorstep.
- Steph: like the idea, change the logo? Price seems expensive.
- Mike: reached out to the same company that's doing grad shirts. They will do a t-shirt for \$10. When we last did it, it was a lot of work. We have no doubt it will be well received again.
- Mike: Concerned about changing the logo. We may want to look at it deeper and reach out to community, probably have a contest within students.
- Mike: Short term – do we want a spirit wear t-shirt drive without logo. Long term – evolving logo.
- Rebecca: we can have a 50 stock t-shirt with a simple design (mask with year 2020-21)
- Jackie: Very important to get student voice in a decision like this as well as community input.
- Mike: We should not rush into this but rather spend time and diligence on the new logo and unveil it with clothing.
- Rupinder: Propose a sub-committee who wouldn't weigh in necessary but build a process to work on a new logo.
- We are holding off on this proposal for now.

Meeting adjourned at 8.16 PM