

Westboro School Council

School Council Minutes-November 22nd, 2023

6:30 p.m. School Library

**indicates written report/attachment provided*

Attendance

Parents: Christan Rasmussen (Chair), Hilary Schmidt (Vice-Chair), Carrie Bounds (Secretary), Mallory Jackson, Cristina Fehr, Allison McColl, Allison Usher, Connie Romaniuk

School Staff: Mike Lastiwka (Principal), Tracey Prouse (Vice-Principal), Cindy Wheeler (KG)

Others: Trina Boymook (Trustee, EIPS)

- 1) Call to order at 6:33 p.m.
- 2) Review of the Agenda
Agenda approved as presented.
- 3) Approval of the minutes from October 18, 2023
The minutes were approved as distributed.
- 4) Communakit demonstration: Connie Romaniuk
 - <https://communakit.com/>
 - Three separate kits specifically dealing with English speech, thought pattern, and sentence structure. Connie gave a thorough demonstration on the benefits of the kits and how they can be used not only individually, but in a classroom setting.
 - The school currently owns two full sets of kits
 - Parents can purchase kits if desired for personal use.
- 5) School Council Engagement Grant: Christan Rasmussen
Some ideas being considered include regarding pediatric neuropsychology (ADD, ADHD, etc) and how that affects our children, and us as parents. More on that TBD.
- 6) EIPS Trustee Report: Trina Boymook* see attached
- 7) Admin Report:
Mike Lastiwka- Principal
 - Approval for parents to provide half the financing for new iPads for the teachers (to replace the smartboards that are slowly dying out) went through, and they've already arrived in classrooms. Both teachers and students are equally excited about all the new uses the new iPads have in the classroom.
 - As previously mentioned, all student info is archived through the iPad system to be accessible when needed
 - Our PAT results showed that our schools' Standard of Excellence in every area was higher than the provinces average which was exciting to see.
Tracey Prouse- Vice Principal
 - Spirit Wear
 - We now have our own spirit-wear shop: <https://westboroelementary.entripyshops.com/>
 - On-demand ordering
 - Multiple brand names, all available in Westboro colours only
 - Free shipping over \$119.

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- After \$1000 is purchased school-wide, Westboro receives a 10% rebate on future orders.
- Reading week follow up- a large number of students have signed up for library cards through our free library card program.
- Halloween- A big thanks to Hilary Schmidt for organizing the scavenger hunt.
- Remembrance Day- our ceremony this year had a lot of community member help which was pretty amazing to see.
- Fall Break- seemed to come at a good time this year with all the colds and flus running throughout the school. Everyone stay rested and stay healthy!
- It was also just Bullying awareness week and Metis week- teachers were given resources to distribute throughout the classrooms.
 - Constable Matlock came to talk to the whole school about achieving kindness and getting along.
- Track team tryouts have started- Go Warriors!!
- Volleyball started on an intramural level with exhibition games as an intro into Jr. High sports.
- Earth Rangers presentation- a charity that transforms your kids' environmental concerns into positive action to become animal saving heroes.
- Art Cards- kids received sample cards to bring home & ordering instructions were included.
- Report Cards will be up for viewing on December 1st.
- Christmas Concert- mark your calendars for a special evening of fun on Dec 6th from 6:30pm - 7:30pm at The Park Church. More information to follow.
- We are also collecting currently for the Christmas Bureau

8) Teacher Report

Cindy Wheeler- Kindergarten

- Reminding us that Pancake and PJ Day is the last Friday before Christmas Break, but Kindergartens are not at school that day. Let's please organize a special time for these kids to participate in this activity before the Holidays. *advised by the Parent's Society that Kindergarten is scheduled for PJ's & Pancakes on the Thursday.
- Is hoping to discuss the possibility of acquiring more equipment for Track and Field Day.

9) Open Discussion

- A parents requested a fundraiser for the STEPs and PLACE students to purchase a bike for their students to utilize.
- Further discussion with school staff is required regarding a classroom specific fundraiser.
- It was noted that any fundraiser not benefiting the school as a whole is required to be separate from the Parent's Society due to Alberta fundraising society regulations.

10) Next Meeting:

Wednesday, January 17th, 2024 at 6:30pm

11) Adjourned at 8:36pm

- The Superintendent is currently reviewing the additional information she requested to determine what her French Immersion secondary recommendation to the Board will be. The earliest that we could see this recommendation coming forward is the December 14 Board meeting. I will have a better idea of the timing of the recommendation coming forward will be December 7. Time will be allowed to ensure we have the best information in front of us to the best decision for the program and EIPS as a whole.
- School Assurance Reviews will be starting up next week. Westboro will be on November 27 at 1pm at Woodbridge Farms. School Councils are encouraged to have representatives attend along with your school administration.
- The Board hosted the Education Critic and Sherwood Park MLA today. We arranged a few classroom visits at Davidson Creek and Bev Facey, to highlight class size and classroom complexity and its impact on outcome for students. Very productive meeting as we covered, Board autonomy, school construction, red tape, funding formula, high school CTS funding and Puff funding.
- The Minister spoke at the Alberta School Boards Association Fall General Meeting November 20. He shared in interests to work collaboratively with Boards as we are experts of our local context. He also highlighted the priority to build schools, as well as modernizations.