

WEJ SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
January 20, 2015

Attendees

2014-2015 Executive:

Megan Cornell	Co-Chair
Marilyn Burans	Principal
Sandie Cramm	Arc Transition Team
Vanessa Sully	Secretary

Lili O'Reilly
Petra Thelen
Elysa Esposito

-6:30 Meeting called to order

-Megan wanted to amend the agenda to add SLP (School Learning Plan) before any other business.

SLP

-Elysa Esposito - Gr. 6 French Immersion
Wants to make reach of SLP more broad. Include everyone; early child educators, all staff, etc.

Technology rules. Not enough oral communication.

-develop critical thinking/creative thinking through talk. Effective listening.

-First cycle (Dec-Jan)

Focused on subjects outside of language and math (i.e. arts)

-Second cycle

Use data for areas of need and areas of quality. As a school come up with one area to work on by the end of the month.

Get parents and community involved.

-Will be posting on WEJ website.

-SLP focused mainly on curriculum, numbers in the past. This year, wanted to make it more global. Big school. A lot of divisions.

Question: Will the focus be the same year to year?

Marilyn says yes. Staff is on-board. We probably won't be forced to change plan if it's working.

-District review last year.
Language not common thru all divisions.

-Students and staff need to give wordle a name.

Motion: Minutes need to be approved for Nov. 17. Proposed by Lili.

-Ammendment suggested by Sandie; Kung Fu Bistro needed 150 orders to be viable.
-Seconded. Minutes adopted, as revised.

School Lunches Update

-Term 1 (10 weeks)

Milk (at cost)	\$5779.80
Pitas	\$6736.50
Pizza	\$11,252

-Term 2 (24 weeks)

Milk	\$11,424
Pitas	\$12,127
Pizza	\$27,000

Profit -

Pita	\$3,144
Pizza	\$14,545.50

\$17,708.50

-Brian received concern from parents who didn't get a chance to order. Will probably open it up again.

-Numbers are down from last year. School population the same. Because of this, it's probably not a good idea to offer a 3rd option at this time. Also, Grade 7-8 will be leaving next year.

Motion: -Lili made motion to transfer \$15,000 from our profit for school to use.

-Vanessa seconded. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report

(Per email)

- Total funds \$56,505.78. Still some expenses to be paid.
- Suggests we do 2 cheques of \$10,000 each for Term 2 to pay for pizza and milk.
- For Net Profit giving back to the school, her estimation is we should be able to hand back more than \$20K. To ensure the fund being used within the school year, it is time for us to transfer some now. I'd think we can transfer anywhere up to \$20K.
- Grants of \$1500 received already. We should put them to use asap.

Fundraising

- Movie night on Thursday, January 15. Over 200 kids. \$572.94 profit. Pizza is very popular.
- December movie night. Less than \$200. Approx. 120 attendees.

Chinese New Year

- Middle of February. (Thursday before family day weekend)
- Put it out to school community but got a luke warm response. Overshadowed by Christmas possibly. Will follow up.
- Parents can come in traditional dress to talk about Chinese New Year to the kids.
- Possible in-school celebration.
- Lady from Kung Fu Bistro has a full dragon suit.

Boundary Review/New School Update

- COW, Committee of the Whole approved keeping status quo for school boundaries and programs for September 2015.
- Boundary is supposed to be set by September but there is no new school.

-Boundary meetings will be starting up again.

-Terry Fox/Second Line is possible new location. School board is in agreement. Developer and city need to work out their issues. School will not be open until 2015-2016 school year.

-Although not meeting the September, 2015 opening deadline, Ministry has indicated Board won't lose funding for the school.

-Another French school will be opening in Kanata South. Losing a lot of students to Catholic School Board.

EOM Transition

-2 students per class went to Earl of March

-Parents info session will be in April

-Parent/Student event in August. BBQ?

-Staffing. HR. Teaching federation will visit WEJ and Leacock in February.

-Will assess logistics, furniture audit, inventory, etc.

-Has new security upgrades. Fitness studio going in.

-FT Vice Principal needed, not PT.

-Parents don't provide school supply. We need to provide.

-Start time 8:40 am.

-End of day. May be a 10 minute change in dismissal for grades 9-12. There is one door and there are 1000+ walkers, bicyclers and student drivers.

-Where will they eat? Mr. Harris - need cafeteria for all to eat. They only have 20 minutes.

-Sandie will send out some pics.

Principal's Update

Principal's Report January 20, 2015

December and January

- W Erskine Johnston's Food Drive Campaigns were a resounding success. We delivered food baskets to the Kanata Food Bank and to families in need at our school.
- Wonderful Intermediate Holiday Band Concert at the Earl of March
- Standing room for our Kindergarten/primary/junior Holiday Concert
- Enrolment is 703
- Kindergarten Information Night – Thursday January 22 at 6:30 re new kindergarten students thinking of coming to WEJ.
- Kindergarten registration begins week, Monday, January 26th.
- Report cards for SK to Grade 5 go home Wednesday, February 4th
- MFI Information Night Thursday, February 5 at 6:00 p.m.
- Transfer period runs from February 9 – 20. We can accept transfers for students if we receive allocation space.
- Earl of March Grade 8 Information Night, Thursday 22 at 7:00
- Two student reps from each grade 6 and 7 class, along with the same groupings from Stephen Leacock and Roland Michener attended a preliminary transition Field Trip to the Earl of March on January 9th. Jon Harris, Principal of EOM, along with teachers and high school students made them feel at home. Activities included: thinking about items for a time capsule, seeing the plans of the new school, a tour of the construction site, lunch in the cafeteria with grade 12 students sitting and talking to them about the EOM, games in the "big" gym and a chat session with grade 9 students, school motto, school code of conduct. The students have now shared their experience with their classmates and will be taking comments, questions back on a return visit.
- More transition activities are in the planning phase – such as a parent evening (April), BBQ with students, parents, teachers
- EOM transition meeting Monday January 19th, Superintendent, Brett Reynolds, Principals and teachers from WEJ, SL and RM, Trustee Christine Boothby, Facilities, School Chairs and transition representatives. Discussion items included: construction schedule; EOM renovations; upcoming logistic meeting with WEJ, SL; HR and staffing of teachers; EOM start time 8:40; students will eat in the cafeteria.

Other Business

-Girls on the Run Ontario Presented by Dale Winters & Nancy; Head coaches (Didn't sign in. Sorry if spelled wrong)

-Works as afterschool program in 95% of schools.

-Girls (Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8) train for 5K over 10 weeks, twice a week.

-Ends first week of June. Will have a non-competitive run/walk.

-Need 8 girls minimum. Cap at 20 per program.

-Curriculum is tight and must be followed exactly. Teaches self-esteem and self-discovery.

Girls are also supposed to develop project to improve community.

-Need 2 coaches at least to run program. Could possibly use Grades 8-12 volunteers as cheerleaders. Will also need parent volunteers.

-\$139 per child. Fee goes to schools, insurance and supplies.

-In need families have resources. No girl will be turned away for financial reasons. As the program grows, we can fundraise.

-Kanata Race Day is in June. Offers 1K, 5K and 10K.

-Meeting adjourned.