

WEJ SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 18, 2014

Attendees

Brian Turner	Co-Chair
Megan Cornell	Co-Chair
Maggie Huang	Treasurer
Shelley Ma	Secretary
Joanne Irwin	Arc Transition Team
Marilyn Burans	Principal

Sandie Cramm, Inna Gershtein, Jennifer Ljungstrom, Diana Lloyd

Welcome

Megan and Brian called meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Agenda

Agenda was approved by Sandie Cramm and seconded by Joanne Irwin.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

November Meeting Minutes approved by Sandie and seconded by Joanne with corrections.

January Meeting Minutes approved by Joanne and seconded by Megan.

February Meeting Minutes approved by Megan and seconded by Jennifer.

All were in favor to approve the above three minutes.

Volunteer Recognition

Megan Cornell on behalf of the 2013-14 school council recognized Diana Lloyd for her outstanding volunteering work in this school year.

Update on Activities of Council

Communications Committee

Brian Turner updated on council communication status. Currently Council has more than 300 subscribers for newsletters which are over 70% of the school community. The committee will stop sending paper handouts and use emails to reach out to parents instead.

Diana suggested committee to post this information on council website homepage.

Events

Megan spoke on the events.

- Movie Night

Thanks to the committee members and all the volunteers involved, Movie Night on March 7th with the Movie “Frozen” was a big success once again. 380 tickets were ordered on line. Compare to last movie night, this time was more orderly. Kids had a great time enjoying the movie.

There were people came to the movie without having kids attending WEJ. They were closed monitored throughout the night. For future movie nights, committee will specify that only family with children attending WEJ are to be allowed in.

First movie night in November had \$25 shipping fee only and was free of charge on copyright. 2nd Movie Night had \$73.45 copyright and shipping cost.

For future movie night, Council will prepare to encourage more donations of attendees.

- Rummage

There are interests in Rummage sale. Possible date will be in early May. The format of the sale could be renting tables from WEJ Council, or donate items to be sold by Council. It could also be a garage sale and/or include BBQ. Megan has noted that we should contact Lone Star to find out if they have a truck for BBQ.

Parent Resource Library

Jennifer Ljungstrom updated on the subject.

We had got donated shelf for the Parent Resource Library. Grant of \$1000 for current year has received. 40 books are purchased with the cost of only \$84. They will soon sorted out and open to parents.

Fundraising

Pita Pit Update

Brian spoke on the subject.

Pita Pit lunch has on average around 160 student orders on Tuesdays. It has now running smoothly and has received a lot of positive feedbacks from parents.

Upcoming Lone Star Fundraiser

Megan spoke on the subject. The date is set to be on April 29th.

Feedback from last time is that to suggest having it as a whole day event. Then parents work nearby can go for lunch on the day as well.

Also to better estimate number of families participate, Council will consider sending home tickets so that Lone Star can have a better idea of staffing level.

Fund raised by various events will be used for school book purchasing and technology update. On March 26, school board will clarify technology use in school.

Treasurer's Report

Maggie reported as follows:

Opening Balance Sep, 2013	\$2,180.66
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Income

Interest	\$0.50
Parent Involvement Grant	\$500.00
Parent Reaching Out Grant	\$1,000.00
School Council Raised Funds	\$2,996.21
SUM	\$4,496.71

Expenses

Walk to school	\$179.85(Chq.125)
Volunteer Recognition	\$30.00(Chq.127)
Transfer Funds to WEJ	\$2,000.00(chq. 134)
PRO-Books	\$84.00(chq. 135)
SUM	\$2,293.85

Balance	\$4,383.52
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Pita Pit Lunch program raised amount will be available soon.

Grade 8 Graduation

Megan Cornell spoke on the subject.

Council will send letter to Grade 7 parents for volunteers. At least 4 or more adults are needed to help out for the event. Sandie will forward past year budget and process.

The graduation date will be on Thursday, June 16th.

Inter-School Council Update/Boundary Review

Sandie Cramm gave an update on the subject.

Boundary Review

Boundary Review is on hold for now due to the fact that the proposed new school site on Innovation Drive is to be reassessed.

Transportation

The school board had sent out Notice for Transportation change by Oxford. It should have no direct impact on WEJ students. However, neighbouring school George Vanier will have a later school bus schedule which will be only 5 minutes apart from WEJ's. It will create a big issue for WEJ parents dropping off or picking up students.

Megan will contact George Vanier School Council to discuss the issue.

Earl of March Transition

ARC transition team had requested separate bell times for Junior and Senior. With transportation changes, it may have an impact on how it to be executed in Earl.

Communication meeting is scheduled on June 14th 12-2pm. Parents are encouraged to attend and raised their concerns.

Principle's Update

The principle Marilyn Burans gave an update for the month. The school will hold a Walkathon for CHEO on May 13th.

Other Business

Internet Safety

Sandie Cramm raised concerns on Internet Safety for students. Google Cloud is widely used and mistakenly considered as "not public" which was not true. Sandie shared an article regarding the school use of Google Cloud and concerns about security given some of the personal information students were writing and using Cloud for storage of their work.

Here is the link of the article:

<http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/google-admits-mining-data-students-through-apps-education-tools-1440388>

Full article is also attached to the minutes.

Agenda Item for next meeting

Jennifer Ljungstrom mentioned that traditionally WEJ School Council spent around \$100 each year to purchase for Spring Balls for the school.

Meeting adjourned around 8:30pm.

Attachment

Google Admits Mining the Data of Students Through Apps for Education Tools

*Anthony Cuthberston
March 14, 2014 17:29 GMT*

Google has acknowledged gathering data from millions of student emails through its Apps for Education suite of tools which are used by schools around the world.

An ongoing lawsuit filed against the California-based company for improperly scanning private emails has been described by the plaintiffs as crossing the "creepy line", according to court documents.

Now a spokesperson for Google has reportedly acknowledged to the American education news website [Education Week](#) that the search giant "scans and indexes" the emails of all Apps for Education users, of which there are 30 million around the world.

Related

- [EU to Take Further Action in Google Privacy Row](#)
- [Google Education Launches 'New and Open World for Learning'](#)

The data is apparently collected via an automated process that cannot be turned off for purposes that include potential advertising.

Google has refused to comment on whether the scanning of emails is used to build profiles of students using its [Apps for Education](#) kit, however it did deny that the data was used to target ads to specific users.

'Two parties at fault'

Privacy advocates have criticised the practices of data collectors like Google for abusing the rights of children and young adults through its own educational services.

"It's harder for children to give consent than adults and even harder when the tools they are given to use are given to them by education departments and schools," Jim Killock, executive director of **Open Rights Group**, told the **IBTimes UK**.

Despite stronger privacy laws in the UK and Europe, Killock argues that not enough is being done to protect the rights of citizens when using US services like Google.

"Young people from the UK and Europe are being asked to sign up for US services without being told how they might be using and collecting their information."

"Another way to monitor us"

Nick Pickles, director of Big Brother Watch, told **IBTimes UK**: "Google's business model relies on building up an ever more detailed picture of who we are and what we do on the web. Scanning emails is just another way to monitor us in more detail and it is no surprise that children are not immune to this sort of tracking."

Pickles went on to say it raises serious questions about how "you protect the privacy of young people who are not old enough to make an informed choice about how they share their personal information and highlights the dangers of schools and other public authorities using services that do not have adequate privacy rules in place."

There are over 30 million users of Google's Apps for Education programme, which includes Gmail accounts for students and staff at educational institutions.

"There are two parties at fault here," Killock added. "Organisations like Google who are collecting the data are obviously to blame but so are the schools and institutions who are not prioritising the privacy rights of children in their care."

Too big to sue

Google has previously argued that it is too big to face a lawsuit representing hundreds of millions of Internet users.

The ongoing consolidated action lawsuit, combining several lawsuits filed against the company in recent years, has accused Google of violating US federal wiretap and privacy laws by surreptitiously building profiles of its users through data mining.

The plaintiffs argue that each person affected by Google's controversial practices is entitled to \$100 in damages for every day that Google was in violation of their privacy.

If successful, the case would therefore potentially cost the company trillions of dollars.

Copied from:

<http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/google-admits-mining-data-students-through-apps-education-tools-1440388>