



W. Erskine Johnston School Council Meeting Minutes October 16, 2018

6:30pm – 8:00pm (School Library)

Attendance:

1. Principal Update

Information Items:

- We have received our Operating Budget of \$52 158 but have not yet been told our carry-forward deficit amount from last year. We will have our account adjusted by the amount of the deficit in December.
- We have received great news that our gym will be painted starting this week! It has become chipped and is in dire need of painting. We are going to revive our school colour of GREEN and run it in a stripe around the room to match our beautiful stage curtains.
- We are going to rearrange all our tech devices on Friday, October 26 and issue them directly to the classes. We are going to itemize and re-distribute our Chromebooks and iPads evenly among our classrooms.
- We look forward to seeing everyone on Halloween Family Fun Night!
- **EQAO** – Our results are public on the EQAO website. Our staff examined them in detail on our October PD Day and used them to determine our future academic goals for our school.

Overall Results:

- Grade 3 reading up 10 percent to 92
- Grade 3 writing up 4 percent to 89
- Grade 3 math up 5 percent to 82
- 17 – 21 percent higher than the province in all three categories

- Grade 6 reading down 1 percentage point to 94
- Grade 6 writing up 1 percentage point to 97
- Grade 6 math down 4 percent to 79 (Board at 51 and Province at 49...so we are 30 percent above the Province.

- 12-30 percent higher than the province in all three categories

Observations:

- More girls at level 2 in math, boys and girls performing at the same levels in reading and writing
- More grade 6 boys at level 2 in reading and writing
- More grade 6 girls than boys at level 2 in Math

Next Steps

- Address this through continued work on mathematics across the school, all staff and all students
 - PD at our PD Day and staff meetings
 - School Learning Plan focus is math (understanding numbers and problem solving)
 - Example – Number talks (focus on mental math and explaining your thinking – e.g. $32 + 59$ – how many different ways can you do this?)
- The Board has moved to School Cash Online - a new financial system to receive payments.
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3. Teacher Rep Update — see Annex 1

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4. General discussion

- “House activity: they will have a play day in grade 3 to induct them into a house. Grade 4-6 is participating.
- Hot Lunches update: Summary provided, 8k this term which is 1k less than last year in comparison. Many variables could be at play.
- Financial update: Summary provided, no events so far, signing authority switch over is under way with the bank, as it does with a new council and year.
- Special event ideas: open to the floor:
 - January 24th could be an evening. We discussed dances, movie nights, academic nights (pro grant and council paid). Paul Davies was suggested as a cyber security speaker. Sharon Rankstein is a speaker that does a learning styles speech and raising responsible children speech. We are waiting to see if we are receiving to PRO grant (parents reaching out).
 - More event suggestions: Arts night (recess guitar club, recorders, drama club, etc), International evening (country representation tables with food, or traditional dress, passport concept), Science fair (K-6; parents may want to volunteer, faculty could be involved on a volunteer basis, ribbon or certificate could be awarded). The council does a bunch of raspberry pi 2b’s that could be used for a programming

night. Idea for an Art Night in December which would have an auction component (silent auction). Trivia night (parents v teachers?).

- Funding ideas; sports jerseys and Penney's for sporting events (25 jerseys) pricing still needed (jersey could be around \$1,000 approx), epon smartboard for the library "epon brightlight". (Approx \$1,600). Outdoor recess equipment hopefully by spring. razkids has historically been funded by the council. Extra circular equipment needed (chess, recess guitar club, etc).
 - Motion to fund razkids: passed (Grades 1-3) go ahead and purchase. Final price to come, council has an expected cost of \$800-\$1,000.
 - Motion to fund jerseys and pinneys: motion passed, estimate to follow.
 - General discussion: member was not aware that what the board pays for and what comes out of the school budget and what the council supplements.
 - Book sale by the council, showcase the student book that was published.
 - We will look at selling the book as a fundraiser.
- Meeting adjourned Next meeting Nov. 20th

Annex 1

Field Trips		
Event	Grade	Description
Parliament Hill Thurs. Oct 18	5	Tour of parliament hill Topic: canadian government
Ottawa Pops Orchestra at Centerpoint theater Monday, Oct 22nd	6	Watch a performance for Ottawa Pops Orchestra Topic: music appreciation
Walk to Beaver pond Fri, Oct 19th	4	A nature walk to the local Beaver Pond as part of the Habitats and Communities Science unit.
Clubs and Sports Teams		
Junior boys bordenball team	4, 5, 6	Tryouts are underway to compete in the tier 1 regionals beginning of December
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Cross-country team	3, 4, 5, 6	Students are competing in meet Tues Oct 23rd at Walter Baker Park
Junior Intramurals	4-6	The grade 4s have been introduced to their House and the competition it starting this week with Bench Ball ("Ballon Gardien") as our first event. Students accumulate 1 point for every player who shows up, points for speaking French and sportsmanship. Intramural events happen every Tuesday and Thursday 1st recess in the gym. Students need to listen carefully to announcement to know when they are playing. Events are runned by our grade
Drama club	5, 6	Students are learning how to participate in improvisation. Topic: Drama which builds confidence and public speaking
WE Club	4-6	Students come together to discuss and put together fundraising initiatives to make our world a better place. Currently, our club is putting together a Food Drive for those affected by the recent tomado On Oct. 31, participants will have a presentation by SchoolBOX, an organization dedicated to making education possible for children in Nicaragua. WE club usually meets 1st recess, Wednesday in library
Recess guitar club	1-6	All students are invited to play/learn guitar (and other instruments) and sing. The club performs during Remembrance day ceremony, winter and

		spring concert, and other musical events in the city
Lunch monitors	5, 6	Changes 4 times over the course of school year, 2 students per primary classroom help supervise and assist students during eating time
WITS leaders	4, 5, 6 1-6	WITS leaders have been trained and are out during their scheduled time at recess to help fellow students
Peer tutoring	5, 6 to help students in grades 3-6	Students have until this Wednesday to hand in their application to become a tutor. The program will be up and running by beginning of Nov. Peer-tutoring will run during 1st and 2nd recess in library, same time as Homework Club.
Primary and Junior Chess Clubs	1-6	As the weather turns colder...Primary and Junior Chess Clubs will start the week of Nov. 5th in Mr. Jackson's room during afternoon recesses. Grades 1-2 (Mondays), Grades 4-6 (Tuesdays & Thursdays), Grade 3 (Fridays). Junior players can earn House points for participating. Chess Clubs will run until the Spring.
Primary Walking Club	1 & 2	Students meet Ms. Gallaway on Fridays for fitness and fun!
Special Events		
One Night Fundraiser at Chapters...	k-6	...was a great success and fun! We raised \$992 in a Chapters Gift Card for new books!! In a week or so, we will receive word on the results from WEJ Adoption from Chapters. We were given an extension of a week due to the tornado. We will pass on the results the minute we will receive them.
Swim to Survive Oct 12, 19, 26	3	Mandated by province of Ontario for all students in grade 3 to learn basic survival skills around water. Will be scheduled throughout the school year into the spring.
Ottawa Public Library visits WEJ	1	Children's library will bring story time to the classroom!
Pumpkin Walk at WEJ Thurs. Oct 25th	k-6	Each class will be decorating a pumpkin to be part of our Pumpkin Walk. Tickets are currently on sale 3 for \$1.00.
Halloween Family Fun Night at WEJ Thurs. Oct 25th	k-6	Staff are working hard to put together a night that no one will forget. Students can participate with their family in this fun-filled night: pizza, games, costume competition, Pumpkin Walk or take a scary photo with you family. Students can pre-order pizza, drink and entry tickets until this Fri Oct 19th. Funds raised will go towards out

		anti-bullying program and music program.
Humane Society presentation at WEJ Thurs Nov 8th	1	Students are introduced to a dog buddy in the classroom and prepared for interactions with dogs, learn about dog needs and behaviours and about dogs as pets.
Remembrance Day Ceremony at WEJ Mon Nov 12th	1-6	Some classes are putting together a song or poetry to commemorate our veterans and current soldiers. Ceremony concludes with our moment of silence.

