



W. Erskine Johnston School Council Meeting Agenda November 17, 2020

6:30pm – 7:30pm (Online-Google Meet)

Agenda

- Welcome - Nupur Chakravorty
- Approval of Agenda - motion approved
- Principal update (Colleen Irvin):
 - As you know we had one positive case of COVID-19 last weekend. We worked closely with OPH all day Sunday to determine how to proceed, and it was very effective. It seems that we were able to contain the case and that no community spread occurred within the school. Kids and teachers are coming back to school later this week.
 - Report cards are coming out this week and teacher interviews will occur next week (Starting Thurs 26th). This Friday, interview booking will go live on Friday at 12:00pm
 - School budget - much lower than previous (based on the number of students in our school - \$18k) We may get a carry-forward but not yet sure, should find out by the next meeting in January.
 - School spending: online resources for teaching staff, french resources, RAZ kids, brain & brain pop, gym equipment. Some money was given to school by the council last year but we didn't get to spend it before we left in March, so we used this money for some of the above items.
 - Future ideas for spending:
- Vice Principal update (Sean Davidson):
 - Bully prevention & awareness week: reviewing W.I.T.S program, daily announcements, reviews in classrooms, poster contest (look on Twitter!)
 - Buses: the striped bus was leaving late but we were able to work with OSTA to adjust the buses and it is arriving and leaving on time now by 4:00pm.
 - Bus safety: OSTA has shared 30 min videos for students for bus safety to review soon
 - Recess: 7 zones in the yard, classes rotate through.
 - Phys ed classes: has been outside to date. We are allowed to bring out sports equipment now (Board approved) which the teachers and students all enjoy. One cohort is using the equipment at a time for a week, and then the equipment is cleaned on the weekend for another

class the following week. We will start using the gym inside, one cohort at a time

- WEJ Spirit Wear - launching today!! Online store, available until Nov.26th to be ready for Christmas (est. Delivery Dec.14). We will re-launch it in the new year for future purchases. A portion of the proceeds will go to the school, and it will be delivered to the school for free and distributed from there. Items (green, yellow, black): WEJ hoodies, polo shirt, t-shirt, toque, sweatpants, zip sweater, crewneck sweater. <https://www.shopgadar.ca/collections/w-e-johnston>
- Teacher updates (Aniqua Khan)
 - Virtual Parent-Teacher night in October - some did google meets, powerpoints and videos.
 - Halloween - low key, students liked being in costume, teachers had themes (primary teachers were all Gnomes, office staff were construction workers, everyone had fun!)
 - Remembrance Day - no assembly, we had a virtual ceremony put on by the Board. Diverse student artwork & performances; Last Post played by a highschool student; it was very engaging and amazing. Here is the link to the youtube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7VjwHKna8&feature=youtu.be>
 - Food Drive - organized by Bell High School, boxes will be placed around the school and we can bring in non-perishable items, runs from Nov 24-30th. Mrs. Lewis is organizing this
 - Food Bank Fundraiser - Mr. Whiting's class is making masks with WEJ logos to sell, and all proceeds will go to be donated to the Food Bank. The class is learning all about how to build a business, creating a website and a podcast.
- Financial Update - Saami Hamid
 - Opening balance: \$10,758.64
 - Refunds still need to be made to some for hot lunches back last spring: \$5051.55
 - Projects (ongoing): playground mulch: \$2000
 - Cash/bank/paypal floats: \$1000 (for paying website, etc)
 - Available: \$2707.09 for spending
- Projects/Items to fund - right now no items on the list, will get input for next meeting in January (Colleen)
- Fundraising Events:
 - Jojos Pizza nights - November 24th & December 16th - advertising to be sent out shortly
- General Discussion - If anyone has any ideas of events we can do virtually (ie. like the Paul Davis seminar), please bring them forward to the council (Tom Holloway)
- Parent Questions: will children be able to leave their belongings at school (ie. indoor shoes/boots, coats, snowsuit, hats/gloves) when winter starts? → Yes, details are being ironed out. All students will have a cubby or locker

(spaced out by cohort) and will be able to leave belongings there. They will still bring backpacks into the classroom to avoid leaving the class for supplies.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:30pm

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, January 19, 2021: 6:30pm

Link: <https://meet.google.com/hze-wgzv-vis?hs=122&authuser=0>