



WESTMOUNT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION MEETING

Monday, Jan. 25, 2016 @ 7:00 pm School Meeting Room

Attendance: Catherine Bouliane, Nancy Anningson, Teresa Orser, Diane Axell, Natalia Diaz-Insense, Tonya Malay, Sean Flemming, Naomi Shelton, Brenda Hawley, Ian MacRae, Julia Blandford, Stephanie Rice, Stacie Rimmer, Amanda Beresford

Regrets: Leanne Andrecyk and Alex Smith

MINUTES

1. **Approval of Nov 30, 2015 meeting minutes** (approved via email – Jan. 15/16)
Approver: Sean Flemming Seconded: Teresa Orser Vote: All for/0 against

2. **Pending Action Items Carried Over/Updates**

- Water Fountain Funding approval (\$6,000)
Ms. Bouliane reported that to replace the fountain with a taller fountain for water bottles the construction would be required opening up the wall. This would increase cost because of asbestos - \$2,000/fountain and \$5000 to install, plus tax. WSA approved \$6000 but that won't cover the cost. If it was regular installation then the school board would cover it but these are special fountains. \$1500 to go towards projects from neighborhood Westmount fund. Stacie Rimmer reported that RBC won't fund it. Stacie is now looking for other types of water fountains with a different profile to limit construction.

Update (via email Feb. 4, 2016): Ms. Bouliane sent an update via email that a gooseneck faucet can be installed on the existing fountains to allow them to fill water bottles. The cost is \$40/faucet. The School Board may be able to complete the installation over March break.

- Capital Project Subcommittee - There was discussion regarding the need for a subcommittee to review options and pricing for capital projects (such as - water fountains and technology) and then present options for the WSA to vote on. This would help the WSA to be more efficient. Technology would be a big consideration for the Capital Project Subcommittee. The school would provide recommendations the future of Westmount technology over the next 10 years. The subcommittee would look at all large capital projects and determine the funding needs. Annual subscriptions and licenses would also be considered. In June the WSA executive will meet with staff to organize a draft budget for September. The subcommittee would provide ideas on how to prioritize the WSA money. Tonya volunteered to be the lead to start the subcommittee.

Motion – to form a subcommittee to look at capital projects and priorities for WSA funding over the next couple of years.

Approved: Diane Axel ***Seconded:*** Sean Flemming ***Vote:*** All for/0 against

Update: On Feb. 24 Leanne and Brian Andrecyk volunteered to chair the Capital Projects Subcommittee.

- Quad improvements update - Ms. Bouliane reported on the quad project. Lighting issues had been previously raised as a concern but it is not an issue because the lights are brand new. No changes required – the lights are all new LEDs. The senior quad will get 3 picnic tables, all cemented that can't burn. Teachers will be able to do classes outside. There will also be a long bench for seating. There was a concern regarding snowplows but the school will use flags to show where the benches are. The junior quad will get long benches, snakes and ladders and checker boards, and a corner of AstroTurf. The school has received the money from Linda Mosher.

***Motion** – to go forward with the quad improvement project and get the items installed that we have the funding for.*

***Approved:** Diane Axel **Seconded:** Teresa Orser Vote: All for/0 against*

***Action item** – Ms. Bouliane will place the order for the equipment needed.*

3. **Treasurer's Report** – Nancy Anningson

- This report is to December 31, 2015, as is the updated financial document attached.
- **Bank balance December 31, 2015: \$19,848.18** (remember that \$7,217.40 is a grant for 'quad improvements' from HRM – subtracting that out leaves us funds in the amount of **\$12,630.78**)
- **Trinkets to Treasures** - This event was a great success once again. In addition to be really fun – the event only cost \$92.93 (with HST rebate subtracted) in expenses and the revenue we deposited was \$911.80, for a total fundraising revenue of \$818.87!
- **Breakfast with Santa** - As of December 31, 2015, we had a total expenditure of \$1,343.43 and total funds collected from the fundraiser (so far) were \$7,323.55. At Dec. 31 – we anticipated a few more dollars to be collected and then we were anticipating \$4,000 for the Scotiabank Scotia Match. (Big thanks to Steve Smith and the team at Scotiabank!). When we subtract expenses from the total revenue, we will have a final total of approx. \$10,015.12!!!! – Internal employee program Steve will add an extra \$1000 to the total.....
- **Other** - The 'much hoped for' grant Westmount Elementary had applied for came through and the School was able to reimburse the WSA 'class trips' category the full \$920 for the Symphony Nova Scotia event in September 2015. We also had an unexpected refund of \$203.55 from a school trip from last year, so I've put that in the class trip budget. We have 556.80.....
- **Orange** – funds we've put in but haven't yet used. Do we want to repurpose.
- **Wreaths** - After the last report, another \$180 came in for the wreath fundraiser. This means that total funds raised from wreaths (after expenses and adjusting for HST rebate) will be \$1,335.90. (ACCURATE #).....
- **Concerns** – special supplies for classrooms almost out. Clubs and in school improvements almost out of money there.

Please see financials below

**Westmount School Association
Dec. 31/15 Financial Update**

EXPENSES				
Description	Details	BUDGET	ACTUAL	Difference
Class trips/purchases	\$15 * 302 students	\$4,530.00	\$3,973.20	\$556.80
Extra Transportation funds		\$2,000.00		\$2,000.00
Bayside		\$6,000.00	\$500.00	\$5,500.00
Special supplies for classrooms	\$10 * 302	\$3,020.00	\$2,668.67	\$351.33
Clubs, in-school improvements (garden, etc.), breakfast program, primary welcome, track fees, equipment for Christmas concert, etc.		\$1,500.00	\$1,403.33	\$96.67
Police checks (10 to date)	20 @ \$30 each	\$600.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Special projects (water fountains, scooter racks)		\$6,000.00		\$6,000.00
Contingency Amount		\$4,000.00		\$4,000.00
		\$27,650.00	\$8,845.20	\$18,804.80

ANTICIPATED FUND-RAISING (revenue)	Anticipated Costs	Anticipated Funds Raised	Anticipated Surplus/ Deficit	Actual Surplus/Deficit
EVENTS				
Fall Fair	\$2,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,378.57
Trinkets to Treasures	\$150.00	\$800.00	\$650.00	\$818.87
Breakfast with Santa	\$2,500.00	\$13,000.00	\$10,500.00	\$5,669.92
Family Dance	\$1,700.00	\$1,000.00	-\$700.00	
Spring Fair	\$4,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$7,000.00	
OTHER FUNDS				
HST refunds	\$0.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,365.60
Parent contributions	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$0.00
Grants	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
Other fundraisers (Wreaths, Mabel's Labels)	\$900.00	\$1,500.00	\$600.00	\$1,332.99
	\$11,250.00	\$34,500.00	\$23,250.00	\$11,565.95

HST rebates may cause balances to adjust slightly

NOTES:

Reconciled Dec. 31/15 balance = \$19,848.18

NOTE: This balance includes the \$7,217.40 for Quad Improvements

NOTE: BwS is awaiting final deposits and Scotia Match \$4K

4. **Funding Requests**

- \$500 pancake breakfast – The school needs \$500 to support the pancake breakfast on March 9th. Ms. Bouliane will get the supplies.

Motion: to approve \$500 for start-up costs for the family valentine dance which includes \$250 for the DJ.

Approved: Teresa Orser **Seconded:** Amanda Beresford **vote:** All for/0 against

- \$500 Family Valentine Dance - Amanda Beresford, for start-up costs to cover food purchases and \$250 for the DJ.

Motion: to approve \$500 for start-up costs for the family valentine dance which includes \$250 for the DJ.

Approved: Diane Axel **Seconded:** Teresa Orser **vote:** All for/0 against

5. **Principal's Report – Patricia Tupper**

- China project – hosting 8 students from China March 19 – June 19th. Here for 3 months. Host families are needed. The students are in grades 5 & 6 but they will be involved in activities with the whole school.
- Ms. Bouliane – attended a computer science conference in Florida. A lot of info on aps and chrome books and coding for girls.
- Primary registration started Jan. 18. It is early this year. So far we have 8 primaries. There is a French emersion meeting Feb. 4.
- Julie Doucet – is going on maternity leave. Nicole Purvis will replace her.
- LCDs – there are 4 classrooms without LCDs. This is something the subcommittee could consider. Classes use LCDs every day. The cost is \$1700 for each unit not including electrical installation – approx. \$6600 in Total. The school would like the WSA capital group to consider funding LCDs.
- The holiday concert was very well received.
- Peace assembly - Wed. Jan. 27 at 11 am – parents are welcome to come. The children will be drummed in and peaceful doves will be awarded.
- Oval – Friday Jan. 29th – many hands are needed to tie skates. Buses will arrive around 10 am. Parents are asked to meet us there.
- \$5000 grant for school activities – This will fund activities for the whole school focused on art, culture and physical education. The school has arranged a snow sculptor for March. In February there will be an African NS singing group. Mr. Walsh has arranged a Frisbee demo and Grade 3 will do bowling. There will also be Move & Grove in February.
- Other activities at the school – brick for kids, mad science, and immigrant families group. We would like to do more to get immigrant families involved in volunteering for events. The will be cupcake decorating for grade 6, multicultural club, and basketball for new players as well as an open gym for basketball league players. All the days and times are on the on-line calendar

6. WSA Positions available

- Update on vacant position message – looking for volunteers
- Community grants – Natalia will volunteer
- A co-chair is needed for breakfast with Santa
- A chair is needed to the Book fair next year
- A co-chair is needed for trinkets to treasures – Amanda volunteered to help Julianna
- There are two member at large positions open

7. WSA Event Reviews & Updates

- Oval Skate trip – it was decided not to do hot chocolate and focus volunteer efforts on skate tying.

8. Other Business

- Music IQ – Nancy was interested in knowing why the MusicIQ program isn't offered in the school any more. Westmount had MusicIQ but now don't offer it any more. There was concerns with the program and alignment with music outcomes so the school was not able to offer anymore. Parents expressed concerns that there was no musical options for children in younger grades. Maybe we can look for another options next year.
- School musical – Tupper is doing Peter Pan. There was a discussion if this might be an option for our school. The school will look to see if there is an option for a spring musical.
- Pajama Day – There will be a PJ day in March with the pancake breakfast.

9. Motion to Adjourn @ 8:30 PM

Approved: Diane Axel Seconded: Nancy Anningson vote: All for/0 against

Next Meeting:

Monday, February 29, 2016 @ 7:00 pm – school meeting room