



WESTMOUNT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION MEETING

Monday, Sept. 28, 2015 @7:00 PM School Library

Attendance: Catherine Bouliane, Leanne Andrecyk, Amanda Beresford, Nancy Anningson, Janet MacNeil, Teresa Orser, Diane Axell, Natalia Diaz-Insense, Brenda Hawley, Wendy Power, Stephanie Rice, Kara Allen, Alex Smith, Julia Blandford, Tonya Malay, Stacie Rimmer, Trish Forbes, Karen Howatt, Shanda LaRamee-Jones, Kathy VanBuskirk, Michelle Watson, Maurina Fougere, Sean Flemming, Julie Chisholm, Ian MacRae, Naomi Shelton

MINUTES

1. Approval of June 1, 2015 meeting minutes (via email)

Approved: Teresa Orser Seconded: Naomi Shelton vote: All for/0 against

2. Welcome & Introduction – Tonya Malay

3. Positions available

- WSA Newsletter Editor: open – doesn't have to be once a month, could be a quarterly publication. Also, get updates posted on the website.
- Grant Coordinator: open – will help research grants available and apply
- Communications Coordinator: Stacie Rimmer
- Event Planner: Julianna Boyd
- Fundraising in-school coordinator: Amy Currie (Mable's Labels, wreaths, fund-script, tanners recycling)
- Committee Chairs – the following committee chairs are looking for someone to work with them this year, learn the ropes and take over next year.
 - Trinkets to Treasures - Julianna Boyd
 - Book Fair Chair- Natalia Diaz-Insense
 - Breakfast with Santa
- Members at Large:
 - Amanda Beresford – appointed for a 2 year term
 - Sean Flemming – extended for a 2 year term

4. Current Business:

- Water Fountain update: Ms. Bouliane spoke with the Board. The cost of the fountains is \$2,000/fountain – total of \$6,000 for 3 fountains. The installation is free. Stacie is looking at sponsorship. The school would have to pay up front out of the instructional account and then the WSA would pay back. There is an opportunity to have a ribbon cutting and thank you plaque for sponsors. Stacie will look for three organizations to give \$2,000 each. The fountains are the type that can be used to fill water bottles and drink from.
- Scooter rack update: Natalia Diaz-Insense reported that she spoke with Linda Mosher about assisting with scooter racks. Natalia was waiting to see what funding Ms. Mosher could provide for the quad improvements before making an ask regarding scooter racks. Some of the current bike racks are rusty and broken so they could not be recycled as scooter racks and may need to be removed for safety. The quote was \$800 for 2 scooter racks. Natalie will follow up with Ms. Mosher.
- Quad improvements: The WSA would like to improve the quad areas for P-2 and 4-6 because there is not a lot for the kids to do and they sit on the ground. Tonya has a

cheque from Linda Mosher for \$7,500 that is ear marked for benches and picnic tables. The question is, can we use this money for different purposes? Tonya will check.

5. **Treasurer's Report** – Nancy Anningston

- Nancy present a financial summary for 2014-2015 as well as a chart to show the expected annual expenses and a draft budget for 2015-2016
- **As of Sept. 1, 2015 the bank balance is \$10,004.27**
- The anticipated expenses for 2015-2016 are approximately \$27,650.00
- The anticipated fund-raising revenue for 2015-2016 is approximately \$23,250.00.
(Please see attached draft budget below)
- There is a difference of approx. \$4,000 but the expenses are estimated and could be lower.
- Class trip costs are \$10-\$15 however bus costs have gone up. We may consider asking for \$5/child for some trips.
- Yoga is a \$2,000 expense and isn't available for all kids. The parents can pay like other program.
- Bayside may not be as expensive this year due to less children. (\$8,000 - \$6,000)
- Removing \$2,000 for yoga and changing the estimate for Bayside to \$6,000 will balance the draft budget for 2015-2016.

Motion – Remove the \$2,000 yoga expense, change the estimated Bayside expense to \$6,000 and approve the draft budget for 2015-2016.

Approved: Diane Axell **Seconded:** Leanne Andrecyk **Votes:** All for/0 against

Please see the motion below regarding draft budget

6. **Funding Requests**

- Previously approved via email - Curriculum Night snacks, up to \$75 – requested by Alex Smith (actual cost \$57)

Approved: Teresa Orser Seconded: Naomi Shelton

- \$200 (Terry Fox and Road Warriors) – Grant Walsh has requested support for Terry Fox t-shirts and snacks to support road warriors.

Approved: Diane Axell Seconded: Leanne Andrecyk Votes: All for/0 against

- \$1,270.20 (RazKids computer reading program subscription) – Brenda Hawley and Julia Blandford has requested this on behalf of the whole school. This will provide 10 subscriptions to RazKids to allow 360 children to have access to on-line reading at school and at home.

Approved: Naomi Shelton Seconded: Natalia Diaz-Insense Votes: All for/0 against

- Brain Pop – the school will check to see if the Brian pop subscriptions are still valid. Chris Cocek used to renew this annually. These annual subscriptions benefit the whole school and should be considered in the budget as an annual cost.

Motion – to add back the \$4,000 back into the draft budget to allow for additional annual expenses with the understanding that some estimated expenses may be lower than anticipated.

Approved: Alex Smith Seconded: Naomi Shelton Votes: All for/0 against

- Up to \$400 (Canadian Readers, Currents 4 Kids, What in the World) – Maurina Fougere requested support on behalf of the school for subscriptions to Canadian Reader, Currents 4 Kids and What in the World.

Approved: Seam Flemming Seconded: Alex Smith Votes: All for/0 against

Funding Requests Continued

- \$92 (classroom resources) – Maureen Higgins

Approved: Natalia Diaz-Insense Seconded: Diane Axell Votes: All for/0 against

- Room Dividers – Ms. Bouliane requested support to purchase room dividers for the new meeting room. Approx. \$100/divider. She was asked to look at other options and come back.
- Refrigerator – an industrial refrigerator is needed because the milk fridge is gone. There was a discussion about looking for cheaper alternatives. Ms. Bouliane estimated the cost to be approx. \$1,000. This item was put on hold until other options can be explored.
- Up to \$1,000 (Field trip to the French musical) – Ms. Finlayson has requested funding up to \$1,000 to support a field trip for all students in grades 406. The ticket cost is \$7/child. The total cost is \$12/child with ticket and bus. 140 students will attend. They will be asked to provide \$5 each to cover some costs.

Approved: Alex Smith Seconded: Diane Axell Votes: All for/0 against

- \$83.44 (classroom expenses) Julie Doucette has requested \$83.44 for book shelves.

Approved: Alex Smith Seconded: Teresa Orser Votes: All for/0 against

- \$376.77 (Mini iPad and air server) – Helen Totton has asked for funding to buy a mini iPad (\$364.77) and air server (\$12) for her grade 5 classroom. This is an item she uses every day. There was discussion regarding the fairness of this request given that it only provides access for one classroom. There are some iPads available at the office for use by all teachers. Some teachers have their own. If purchases for Ms. Totton the iPad would stay at Westmount, if she purchases herself it will go with her at the end of the year. The WSA decided to consider the funding of iPads as a larger special project for the future to ensure access for all students.

This funding request was denied.

- \$208.95 (10 dual language books) – Shelly Manthorne has requested funding to purchase 10 dual language books to be available for all students in the school.

Approved: Leanne Andrecyk Seconded: Alex Smith Votes: All for/0 against

- \$920 (symphony NS performance for all students on Sept. 30) – Ms. Tupper booked a performance for the whole school with Symphony NS in anticipation of receiving the \$5,000 school grant. The grant has not come in yet. If it does the \$920 will be refunded to the WSA.

Approved: Diane Axell Seconded: Leanne Andrecyk Votes: All for/0 against

- \$142.56 (Grade 1 pictures of students holding chicks)– Ms. Higgins and Ms. Mullenger requested funding to provide 5x7 photos of grade one students holding their chicks. The WSA decided 4x6 photos are cheaper and should be used, therefore the total should be less.

Approved: Nancy Anningston Seconded: Diane Axell Votes: All for/0 against

- Yoga, 6 sessions, \$60 – It was decided that parents should cover the cost of this program like other special programs (Mad Science & Bricks for Kids).

WSA will not provide funds for yoga this year.

7. **Principal's Report** – Catherine Bouliane

- Beginning of the year – the start of school was smooth. The staff's work goals are:
 - Writing goal - literacy with attention to organization of ideas and conventions
 - Math goal – problem solving and communications with operations.
- Staff & configurations as of Sept. 24th
 - Primary Gibson – 21 students, P/1 Boudrea – 19 students (10 Ps, 9 1s), ½ Higgins – 20 students (15 1s, 5 2s), 1 Mullenger – 22, 2 Hawley – 21, 2 MacLean – 22, 3 Blandford – 22, 3 Hasler – 23, 3/4 Doucette 14 (5 3s, 19 4s), 4 Seymour – 23, 5 MacRae – 19, 5 Totton – 20, 6 Bouliane/Doucet – 22, 6 Fougere – 24.
 - Music Mr. Cochrane and Mrs. Poitier-Jones, Phyed Mr. Walsh, French Mrs. Finlayson, Art Ms. Keenan, Ms. Cochlan Resource, Ms. Chisholm Learning Centre, Mrs. Dietrich ELT – Ms. Hawley 20% ELT, Ms. Manthorne EAL Teacher, Ms. Lavers Librarian, Ms. Pecknold Violin, Mr. Burke Band, Ms. MacLean Cello, Ms. MacNaughton head lunch monitor, 7 EPA's. Mr. Shitangsu Excel Head, Ms. Putnam YMCA Immigrant Worker.
- Sept. was stand up to bullying day – individual classrooms did activities and everyone got a bracelet.
- School photos were taken on Sept. 16th
- Iwalk is coming on Oct. 5-9th – classes will record when students walk to school.
- Terry Fox, Sept. 25 – students watched a video and walked outside.
- Clubs have started – mad science, bricks for kids, music IQ, cross country. Still to come – multicultural club, Spanish club, Making tracks (biking), Intermural.
- Lunch program – met with two companies to look at providing lunch orders – Tiny Feasts Chadwick and Dinner Envy. Dinner Envy was chosen and will start the week of Oct. 19. Information and order forms will go home to parents.
- Mike Program – The school has discontinued the milk program. There were only 40 children receiving milk and they didn't drink it. Teachers saw this program as wasteful and messy. Parents voiced their concerns about the loose of the milk program.
- Class Parents – The teachers would prefer to continue as is with classroom communications.
- \$5,000 school grant – the school board said the grant was coming this year but there has been no word yet.

8. **WSA Event Updates**

- Fall Feast Oct. 8 – Leanne Andrecyk provided an update on the planning for the Fall Fair. She circulated the volunteer schedule via email. A float of \$2,000 is required to buy food and supplies. Amanda has donation boxes in the school lobby to collect costumes and skates.

Motion: provide \$2,000 for supplies and float

Approved: Diane Axell Secoded: Amanda Beresford Votes: All for/0 against

9. **Other Business**

- Nova Scotia Federation of Home and School Associations Conference – the conference will be held at Cambridge Suites. The price is \$25 for the first participant and \$10 for the second.

Motion: provide \$35 to support two participants

Approved: Alex Smith Secoded: Diane Axell Votes: All for/0 against

Motion to Adjourn

Approved: Diane Axell Secoded: Natalia Diaz-Insense Votes: All for/0 against

Next Meeting:

Monday, Oct. 26, 2015 @ 7:00 pm School Library

***Please see attached draft budget below**

**Westmount
School
Association
Draft Budget
for 2015-2016**

ANTICIPATED EXPENSES

Description	Details	Estimated cost	Notes
Class trips/purchases	\$15 * 302 students	\$4,530.00	
Extra Transportation funds		\$2,000.00	
Bayside		\$8,000.00	
Special supplies for classrooms	\$10 * 302	\$3,020.00	
Clubs, in-school improvements (garden, etc.), breakfast program, primary welcome, etc.		\$500.00	
Costs for track fees, equipment for Christmas concert, etc.		\$1,000.00	
Police checks	20 @ \$30 each	\$600.00	
Special projects (water fountains, scooter racks)		\$6,000.00	
Yoga		\$2,000.00	
		\$27,650.00	

ANTICIPATED FUND-RAISING (revenue)

EVENTS

	Costs	Funds Raised	Surplus/ Deficit	Notes
Fall Fair	\$2,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00	
Trinkets to Treasures	\$150.00	\$800.00	\$650.00	
Breakfast with Santa	\$2,500.00	\$13,000.00	\$10,500.00	
Family Dance	\$1,700.00	\$1,000.00	-\$700.00	
Spring Fair	\$4,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$7,000.00	

OTHER FUNDS

HST	\$0.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	rebates
Parent contributions	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	shared exps.
Grants	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	estimate
Other fundraisers	\$900.00	\$1,500.00	\$600.00	Wreaths, Bulbs, Mabel's Labels, etc.
	\$11,250.00	\$34,500.00	\$23,250.00	