
WESTMOUNT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION MEETING

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

Attendance: Catherine Bouliane, Amanda Beresford, Nancy Anningson, Teresa Orser, Diane Axell, Natalia Diaz-Insense, Alex Smith, Julia Blandford, Tonya Malay, Stacie Rimmer, Sean Flemming, Naomi Shelton, Amanda Seymour, Brenda Hawley, Leanne Andreczyk, Julianna Boyd

MINUTES

1. **Approval of Sept. 28, 2015 meeting minutes - Motion to approve**
Approved: Sean Flemming **Seconded:** Amanda Beresford **vote: All for/0 against**

2. **WSA Positions available**
 - *Clarification - Julianna Boyd is available to provide event support but is not the event coordinator.*
 - *WSA Newsletter Editor: open – newsletter doesn't have to be once a month, could be quarterly, provide an update on WSA events and volunteer opportunities.*
 - *Grant Coordinator: open – to research potential grants and help make applications.*
 - *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 maybe Stephanie Rice, too much for a time commitment. Natalia might start a job. Will need lots of help this year. Last week in Nov 23-27. Alex can help in the days. Lunch time help. Two or three days. Still need a Co-Chair. Post a notice on the website.*
 - *Naomi will do a write up on all open positions to be used in the newsletter, on the website and on Facebook.*

3. **Action Items Carried Over/Updates**
 - *WSA's objectives this year*
 - *Technology – One objective this year is to look at providing support for technology in the classrooms. The school technology committee will provide a summary of what technology would be most useful (ie LCDs or iPads). LCD's would be good for each classroom. The Board isn't supporting the installation anymore – the cost is \$1,000 for equipment and installation. There are LCD projectors in the grade 3-6 classrooms but the younger grades don't have them (approx. 6 classes that don't have them). Ms. Bouliane will ask the tech committee to provide a report for the WSA to outline their needs.*
 - *Water Fountain - One WSA objective for this year is to get 2 new water fountains in the school. Details on cost etc were discussed at the Sept. 28th meeting.*
 - *Quad improvements – another objective this year is to complete the quad improvements. Tonya talked to Linda Mosher last week and we are able to tweak the details of the funding request. Ms. Bouliane is ready to move forward with the installation - 3 picnic tables in the senior quad and a long bench, the junior quad would get a long bench and a turf area. The picnic tables and benches will be cemented into the ground to be sturdy and permanent. They will be burn proof. All cost, including install is covered by*

the grant from Linda Mosher - \$7,500 approx. Lighting at night might be an issue – Ms. Bouliane will look at a work order for spot lights with cages.

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

- There are new rules from the School Board regarding funding requests. You must submit a form with the receipt. There can only be WSA items on receipt. Can't use credit card – only use cash or debit. Not allowed to use credit cards with point rewards. Nancy will look into alternative (maybe a WSA credit card) and provide more information.

- **As of October 26, 2015**

Current in the bank: – \$9,378 bank – the includes the quad money but it will be a clean in and out.

Cash Outflows:

- The pre-pay for the symphony has been paid but will hopefully be reimbursed if the \$5,00 grant comes through. If it doesn't get covered by the grant then we'll move this item to the contingency fund. There is \$4,530 - class trip budget, this doesn't include symphony.

Cash Inflows: Fall Fair \$2,670.29 – This has HST which we will get back. It also includes the Scotia match

Motion – to approve the Treasurer's report

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

5. **Funding Requests**

- \$55 (float for the book fair) – Natalia Diaz-Insense, the float for the start-up on the book fair.

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

- \$170 (book fair vouchers) – Natalia Diaz-Insense requested book fair vouchers for students who can't buy their own books. WSA supports this annually. \$5 vouchers – can only be used for books not posters.

Approved: Leanne Andrecyk **Seconded:** Amanda Beresford **Votes:** All for/0 against

- \$1,100 (Breakfast with Santa start-up) – Teresa Orser, food and initial costs for breakfast with Santa.

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

- \$201.25 (maritime reptile zoo) – Amanda Seymour (gr. 4) and Julie Doucette (gr. 3 -4) requested support to purchase workshops to support habitats in science.

Approved: Amanda Beresford **seconded:** Leanne Andrecyk **Votes:** All for/0 against

- \$\$73.31 (earphones for Razkids) – Amanda Seymour requested support to fund 2 sets of earphones for students to participate in the RazKids listening program.

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

- Up to \$50 (Mrs. Tupper Flowers) – Diane Axell will purchase a card and flowers from the WSA for Mrs. Tupper.

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

- \$50 (Trinkets to Treasures start-up) – Juliana Boyd, start up costs – wrapping paper etc. .

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

6. **Principal's Report** - Catherine Bouliane

- The assessments for grades 3, 4 and 6 are finished. They went well.
- The average class size this year is 21.
- The cross country students did really well and there was lots of parent support.
- Two Right to Play athletes visited the school and spoke about their experiences in Africa.
- The Fall Feast was a success. There was lots of family support for this event.

- ON Oct. 9 the school participated in Jump Rope of Heart with a presentation and all the classes rotating through the gym. WSA may consider supporting the cost for skipping ropes next year.
- The afternoon of Oct. 9th was the school's PEBS assembly. We celebrated the recipients of our random acts of kindness as well as Iwalk winners. There was a random draw from each class of those students that waked or wheeled to school. The students and teachers played a game of basketball.
- Oct. 15th was Rock Warriors for grade 6– 2 other schools participated – Duc d'Anville and Colby Village. WSA provided snacks.
- The school practiced bus evacuations this month and that went well. These must be done by law.
- School activities this term include: made science, bricks for kids, Music IQ, multicultural club, Choir, band, cello and violin, as well as Making Tracks.
- The Remembrance Day ceremony will be held at 10:50 am Nov. 10 in the gym. Parents are welcome. Students are encouraged to wear Girl Guide or Scouts Canada uniforms.
- Sarah Myers was the fisheries grand prize winners. She is in Grade 6 Fougere. She designed a picture for the theme. The prize was \$200.
- Yoga – WSA is not funding. It has to be like other activities and by paid for by parents.
- Ms. Tupper will be out for at least another month.
- The Bayside deposit is due soon.

7. **8 WSA Event Reviews & Updates**

- Book Fair Nov. 23 – volunteers needed. Natalia will circulate a schedule. Natalia will work with Nancy to get the float. The book fair must be set up on Nov. 23 but school is closed. The fair will open on Tuesday, Nov. 24. The goal is \$3,500. \$3,000 minimum to get 60% return. WSA usually approves some for vouchers for kids who can't afford some. \$5 for books only not for posters.
- Breakfast with Santa – Teresa and Diane are co-chairs. They plan to cook the pancakes from scratch this year. The sausages will be cooked the night before.
- Trinkets to Treasures Dec. 1 – need volunteers for set up and tear down. Collecting donations and wrapping paper. The gym will be booked off from 6 pm the night before. Set-up coincides with WSA meeting so we can all help.
- Oval – We will book a trip to the Oval for the whole school for the end of January if we get the \$5,000 grant.

8. **Other Business**

- Website updates – Amanda Seymour is doing the website updates. Thank you
- Cash for class – This would provide up to \$200 for every teacher (they must still provide receipts but not have to submit a funding request). There is a budget for classroom supplies. Special supplies bucket – could it come out of that. We should communicate the funding request process better with staff. Cash for class would help support teachers with the purchase of smaller items such as pencil sharpeners that add up over time.

Motion – to include a line item for Cash for Class, within the overall budget each year, that provides pre-approved spending for each class up to \$50 - with reimbursement provided to the teacher after submission of receipts.

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

- Peace garden update – two parents fixed up the garden and it looks great. There is no parent to lead the garden activities. Teachers would like to use it if there is a leader.
- Ideas from Australia – Tonya shared some ideas from Australian schools to make the start of school more festive.
 - Back to school fiesta – an event first thing in September, the second week of school.
 - Morning music – play music for 5 minutes until the second bell. Helps to know if the bell has rung. Sets a good mood before students enter school. Logistical issues. Anne works with grade 6 students for announcements. Could grade 6 students include it in their announcements? Who will supervise the students? Potential for holiday music - Festival music, must include all major holidays. Who will que the music up? Leanne volunteered to

do it at Christmas. Only 5 minutes. Should be respectful of all holidays. Ms. Bouliane will speak to Anne D'Eon to get her thoughts on this.

- Sock hops – can we have a sock hop once a month in the gym?
- Fun Fridays – WSA would like to encourage more fun Fridays. Maybe once a month – last Friday of every month. The money raised is for the *Me to We* initiative. Maybe WSA could match some funds? Maybe pre-school music could be played on fun days. Ms. Bouliane will bring it forward with staff. Fun days help build a feeling of community.

9. Motion to Adjourn @ 8:30 PM

Approved: Naomi Shelton

Seconded: Amanda Beresford

vote: All for/0 against

Next Meeting:

Monday, Nov. 30, 2015 @ 7:00 pm School Meeting Room

Tight agenda so we can assist with Trinkets and Treasures set-up