

School Council Meeting Minutes September 19, 2017 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Executive Attendees for 2016-2017 year

Chair: Lisa Vandermeer

Vice-Chair: Daniela Humeniuk

Treasurer: Wendi Mosher

Secretary: Sarah Futterer

Volunteer Coordinator: Lisa Nicol

Multicultural Arts Coordinator: Sarah Futterer

Spring Fling Coordinators: Daniela Humeniuk and
Nicole Duguay

Director at Large (Outreach): Pam Cameron

Principal: Megan Egerton

Vice Principal: Monik Beauchemin

School Board Trustee: Theresa Cavanagh

Total number of persons present (including above): 20 parents and 2 staff including 4 members of outgoing executive

1. Welcome and introductions (Lisa Vandermeer)

- All parents introduce themselves and tell grades of their children. Nametags for everyone.

2. Volunteers for 2017-2018 (executive and committee leaders)

- Statement of what the purpose of the council is and how to participate at all the different levels
- This year at parents suggestion, we posted a google document online for increased ease of access for all parents/guardians to nominate themselves for parent council executive and leadership positions as well as a description of all roles.
- Nominations from google form, and in person at the meeting:

Chair: Lisa Vandermeer

Vice-Chair: Daniela Humeniuk

Treasurer: Maggie Green

Secretary: Sarah Futterer

Fundraising Coordinator: Winkey Wong

Communications: Jen St-Pierre

Volunteer Coordinator: Lisa Nicol

OSASC Representative: Mohamed Sofa

Movie Night Coordinator: Nicole Duguay

Multicultural Arts Coordinator: Sarah Futterer

Spring Fling Coordinators: Daniela Humeniuk and Nicole Duguay

Director at Large (Outreach): Pam Cameron

Director at Large (Active Kids): Julie Findlay

Director at Large (Student Well Being): Tricia Ross

Director at Large (School Garden): Carley Schelck

Active Transportation Representative: vacant

Community Representative: vacant

- Liz Burgess motions Approval of 2017-18 Slate, Steph Duffy seconds motion. 20 parents vote in favour with 0 against and 0 abstentions.

*Tricia Ross will help to find a community member for missing role.

* Cindy Rutley willing to shadow Nicole for movie night coordinator this year.

* Laura Olac available as back up secretary should Sarah not be able to attend.

3. Principal/Vice Principal report

- New Hiring –
 - Kimberley Kennedy has been hired to replace Kayla Jackson for classes 2B, 2C and 5A
 - Leticia Nicols has been hired as a .5 EA to support the Kindergarten to grade 1 needs and Patrick McGarvey is now Full Time as an EA for the grades 2-6
 - Office Assistant has now been hired. (Diana took a position closer to her home). It is a half time position as we have dropped under 600 students and Maggie will be in the office in the morning. This means that Jennifer will be running the office solo in the afternoon. Parents are asked to be mindful of that when calling the office.
- Introduction of a Gaga Ball pit for the primary/junior yard. This is a fast paced bordenball style game with fast in and out of players and simple rules so that all grades can participate. This will provide some more constructive/organized recess activities for those that are looking for that.
- Picnic tables have been added to the yard as well as the front area and are working wonderfully at creating great community/chill out spaces for kids, staff, bus drivers, and parents alike. More tables on the way for the front. Exploring ways of having the tables secured in the front so they don't disappear.
- Continuing again with the Student Council this year in order to encourage kids to have and express their own voices (concerns, ideas and thoughts)
- Library was painted over the summer – brighter colours that coordinate with the new furniture
 - New tall tables will be added as workspaces(to use with tall stools)
 - Green screen is already set up in the back room
 - Mr. White is taking charge of the “technology advances” for both staff and students and so far has introduced google classrooms as well as Google Read and Write.
 - There will be an ongoing emphasis on media literacy and safety
- Mr. Millen will be running First Canada Lego Club
 - 12 children will be chosen from grade 3 to compete with this program
- Jen St. Pierre has volunteered to run the Lego club for grades 1-2 (which runs during a specified recess time)
- OCDSB has been emphasizing the skill set that children will be graduating with when they leave high school. WAPS is incorporating these skills into their monthly assemblies. Hoping to include more student presentations in the assemblies.
- Last chance to order pizza/subway/milk for lunches is Monday Sept 25
- Verification student forms need to be returned ASAP
- Communication from the administration will be coming home via regular weekly or bi weekly emails. Please email the principal if you have not been receiving these updates (megerton@ocdsb.ca)
- Mrs Morris is coordinating the Terry Fox Run
 - Thursday sept 28th 9:15-10:15
 - All parents welcome to show up to help or run too

- Kids to wear crazy socks that day as a fun component to the run
- \$2 donations welcome and encouraging parents to make this as an exchange for a task/chore/helpful act at home.
- Renovations update
 - The number of schools from the Western Area school review that required renovations was under projected and therefore there are still lots of ongoing renovations at all schools.
 - Over the summer the new Autism program classrooms got renovated (these were two of the original kindergarten classes)
 - Accessibility has been a focus for the school with accessible doors and exits into the yards finished, a wheelchair lift to the library level
 - More hooks have been installed on the 2nd floor as well as around the school.
- 7/8 reno changes
 - waiting to hear from the board if we qualify for small/compact lockers for the 7/8s (their wing will most likely be the classrooms around the library). Depending on what the board says, the discussion will be taken to both the students and parents to determine what is best for the masses (hooks or lockers). Based on our hallway size, lockers will be the narrow 7-8 inches lockers.
 - room 137 will be turned into a permanent science lab
 - portable #4 will be turned into a permanent music room
 - discussing with Woodroffe HS to bring 7/8 students to utilize their shop rooms during the high school exam period
- Autism program explanation
 - Moved from Leslie Park which closed.
 - 2 classes of 6 students each
 - one is JK-2 class, one is a 3-4 class
 - there are 2 EA's and 1 teacher per class
 - Students will be invited to join in school wide activities that are appropriate
- Giving grade 1-6 students all access to the yard continues in its second year of testing and seems to be going very well. There has been a decrease in incidents on the yard.
- October 6th PD day – AM will be spent by staff working on a Wellness plan for the school community (both staff and students). Parents are invited to join in for the first hour to voice their thoughts and ideas (8:30-9:30) or to send in thoughts through the council (parents can email woodroffecouncil@gmail.com)

4. Financial Report (Wendi Mosher) – see slides attached

- Approval of last years Budget
 - i. Fundraising and spending about on par with what was estimated from previous year
 - ii. 15 Vote to approve the budget
- Show briefly the “estimates” for this years budget but no time to effectively discuss. Delaying full discussion to the Oct 10th next meeting

5. Proposed calendar of events for 2015-16 (Lisa Vandermeer)

- Moved to present at the October meeting
- First movie night is September 29th at 6:30 – Boss Baby
 - i. Tickets sold at the door only - \$5 cash and includes popcorn
 - ii. Looking for volunteers to help with the baked treats table and to bake goodies for the movie night
- IWalk day is Wednesday Oct 4th

- i. School will look at doing their own walking to school day later in the month to encourage staff to meet students at certain “drop points” so that more families can participate

6. Fall Family Dance – October 20th at 6:30 in the gym

- This is the dance that has happened previously in March.
- We are moving it out of this time frame to increase our fundraising in the fall so we have a better idea of what funding is available to spend as well as to alleviate pressure on volunteers in the springtime
- Looking for a lead to take this on ASAP as well as volunteers to help at the event. More info to come.

7. Chalk it up

- Lunch before recess
 - Concern is that students are complaining they fill sick because they are eating and then heading outside to play hard for recess time, esp now with students running Cross Country.
 - Admin response – there were many incidents last year on the yard because of ‘hungry-anger’ behavior. This year there are none such incidents so far. Also recess supervision is not possible with the opposite schedule
- Lack of Grade 3 class to home French books
 - In grades 1 and 2 there are book in the bag programs so why does it not continue in grade 3?
 - Answer – principal has taken this to the staff for a solution because this is something that should be solved. Reading continuity is key! Will keep parents posted on solution.
- Trips to NAC – can this be organized this year?
 - A few parents feel that this is an important experience (actually attending a performance in a real theatre as opposed to plays coming to Woodroffe)
 - Admin agrees but the bus + ticket cost is extremely high for this to happen. Will look into grants and programs that decrease the costs to our students.
- End of year grade 6 trip to “Cosmodome space camp” in Montreal
 - Brought up by a number of parents who were questioning why this didn’t happen anymore as they felt that it was a great experience and that it supported the curriculum
 - Admin explains that this trip in the past was quite inequitable for families as the expense was very high and not all families could afford to go. Having anything school sponsored as accessible to ALL is extremely important. Also explains that it does not support the curriculum and that the facilities are out of date to what children can now experience in other places closer to Ottawa (museums, etc...)
 - Admin also shares that last year when talking to all the outgoing grade 6s that the space camp was not on their top 5 of options as compiled by them and instead chose to do the full day Carleton sports camp where they learned all sorts of different sports together.
 - Many parents at the meeting chimed in to share their experiences from their older children’s past years trips. Most were unenthusiastic about going again.
- Crossing Guard at Woodroffe in front of school – this is something that parents need to call 311 to request. Looking for support for the library to ‘porkchop’ area. This is an issue that the neighbourhood community association is also discussing with the city.
- Request has gone to OCDSB Facilities to have our soccer field repaired. We hope to push this soon as it would be great to have access to the yard when the 7/8s are here. This hopefully will include roto-tiling

Chair adjourned the meeting

Next meeting – Tuesday October 10th at 6:30 – 8:30 pm