

WRB - School Council Meeting

Attendance: Dianna Wright-Drzazga, Meagan Hawkshaw, Christine Patterson, Vanessa Hurley, Nicole Basque, Angie Jarvis, Atousa Faraz and Michelle Walbank

Nov 1st, 2021 - 6:30 – 8:00 PM

1. **Welcome**
2. **Principal's Report**

Excellence in Teaching and Learning

1. Staff are currently reviewing new diagnostics assessments to support in planning responsive math instruction for students.
2. Support for families / parents in the area of mathematics - item in November newsletter - Fun Math Practice [TVO mPower - Build Your Child's Foundational Math Skills](#)

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

1. Staff are looking at ways to support all students in feeling welcome and included in the W.R. Best school community through inclusive teaching and classroom practices. This week is Treaty Week and staff have been exploring resources to talk about treaties and the land.
2. Librarian - continuing to purchase additional resources and showcase current resources in the library that highlight Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion (EDI)
3. Next steps - school EDI team to look at best practices for teaching EDI school wide and in classrooms
4. Our Grade 7 classes will be having a presentation from Michele Newton titled "Our Mosaic Lives" where she will share her lived experiences to Black History & Culture. Currently looking into bringing in a guest speaker for all students - if council has any suggestions on presenters/speakers please let me know.

Well-Being

1. Learning Series for Parents (information in newsletter); visit <https://bit.ly/3jGaC74> for more information and to register
2. Cyberbullying - sessions for students ([Paul Davis](#))
 - a. Grades 7-8 - Nov. 9, 2:05 pm
 - b. Grades 4-6 - Jan. 3rd, 12:30

Community
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Progress Reports - coming home Thursday Nov. 4th 2. Parent Teacher Interviews (next week) - Nov. 8 - 12 3. Math Anxiety Is Real. Here's How To Help Your Child Avoid It. - Article shared with staff which may be helpful when meeting with parents/guardians during upcoming 3-way interviews. 4. Remembrance Day - Nov. 11 - Virtual Ceremony 5. Picture Day - Nov. 4th 6. Book Fair - November 24-26
Other Items
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Newsletter going home today; contains information about self-isolation protocols for non-vaccinated students following travel

3. Chair Updates

a. Science night –

-Discussed interest amongst parents that were in attendance. Each child who registers gets a bag of materials to do various science-related activities, virtually, with a presenter through Zoom.

-Well received last year, great feedback.

-Cost is \$300 for 15 students. Can use fundraising money or ProGrant funds. ProGrant is money from the Ontario Ministry of Education, to be spent on activities that involve/enhance the school community.

-Passed the vote to proceed with planning for science night in January, using ProGrant funds.

4. Financial Updates –

-Fundscrip balance end of October 2021: \$107.75.

-Hot lunch program will be up and running soon, more to come.

-Couple of requests for school purchases; school staff would like to purchase license for online reading program. Remaining technology dollars from previous years fundraising could cover the cost. School staff would also like to make a donation to the poppy association, as was done in 2020. Both requests passed the vote.

-Discussed and agreed to move the money from field trip account into presentations category; \$1.072 in field trip account.

5. Sub Committees

a. Fundraising

- i. Fundscrip - Letters went into reusable bags to homes. Labels will go home in school agendas by end of week. Nicole will create a letter for Christmas blast by mid-November. Dianna will send out email to families as well.
- ii. Colts tickets – Able to sell tickets, our game is booked for February 3rd. Michelle will lead the promotion in preparation for the Christmas season.
- iii. Wine Survivor night – no longer needed as a fundraiser.
- iv. Spring fair – hope to do a get together in-person. Will start preparing for it, with hopes to bring aspects of November Bazaar to the spring fair.
- v. Big Box fundraising – greeting cards, birthday, all occasion cards. This can be a back-up fundraiser if we cannot do a spring fair.
- vi. Corporate baskets in March – this can be incorporated into the spring fair.
- vii. Using local vendors – Bradford Greenhouses donates to local schools when families purchase flowers; Mabels Labels, Indigo- Chapters may as well. Council members will contact vendors and bring it forward to next fundraising meeting.
- viii. Hot lunches - Mandatory that we go through a program called Lunch Box. They have set pricing which is more than typical hot lunches in the past. Plan to start with subs and pastas.

b. Year book

-Getting a lot of photos. School pictures are being done this year so it will make it easier. Leftover books have been returned.

6. Old business

-Reusable bags went home to families; council members helped pack them. Good feedback from families. Will need to discuss what will go in the bag for new families coming into the school, in 2022.

7. New Business/ Questions

- a. PIC meeting – Megan, Atousa and Christine attended and shared insights on what they learned from sessions (fundraising, equity, diversity and inclusion, mental health supports). Can submit requests for topics you are interested in for future meetings. The school mental health Ontario website has a wealth of info and resources <https://smho-smso.ca/>; suggestion made to send link to parents in an upcoming newsletter.
- b. Discussed changing council meeting dates to one week before the new month, so council updates can go into monthly newsletters from principal. Agreed to start this after December meeting and will give families notice.
- c. Haven't heard any updates re: indoor sports or swimming lessons, or any field trips out of the building.

8. Upcoming Council Dates: Mondays @ 6:30PM – Dec. 6, Jan. 24, March 28, April 25, May 30