

West St. Paul Parent Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, April 9th, 2019

Attendance:

Elana Spence, Carrie Tanchak, Cheryl Rajfur, Tanya Kohut, Sapna Hees, Ashpreet Maan, Kim Winzoski, Faygee Hecht, Sharon Salemi, Ryan Ward, Alice Darchuk, Lisa Davis, Lisa Whiteside

Call to Order and Greetings:

Meeting called to order by Carrie Tanchak at 6:28 pm.

Adoption of the Agenda:

Motion made to accept the agenda by Elana Spence, and seconded by Alice Darchuk.
Motion carried.

Adoption of the Minutes from March 5th, 2019:

Motion made to accept the minutes by Faygee Hecht and seconded by Lisa Davis.
Motion carried.

Administrative Report:

- Quick report regarding the Play Space project.
 - The school did a survey with the students and with the parents who attended the Parent Teacher Conferences.
 - Overwhelmingly, the students want swings and a hill. The middle school students also want a beach volleyball court.
 - Tanya and David have met with Taylor Bishop from Evergreen, and she is drawing up plans.
 - The “easy to do” projects will come first and a plan for future development will be made.

- There was a threat on social media that was found by RCMP last week. The RCMP brought it to the attention to the school, and have investigated. It was determined that there was no danger to the students or community and a letter was sent to parents.

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Executive Reports:

Chair:

- No report
- Discussion Point: Should we continue the early start time for the AGM next month?
 - We determined that we will meet at 5:30, with a 5:45 start time for the meeting.
 - Supper will be provided.

Vice Chair:

- No report.

Past Chair:

- Not present.

Financial Report:

- There was a very small change to last month's financial report.

Motion made to accept the financial report by Elana Spence, and seconded by Lisa Davis.
Motion carried.

Fundraising: Craft Sale

- Nothing new to report.

Fundraising: QSP

- Nothing new to report.

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Hot Lunch:

- Two upcoming dates:
 - April 24th
 - May 8th
- Pita Pit supplied us with one order form with the two dates. The order form has gone out to students.

Play Space Report:

- Update was given in the Administrative report.

Ongoing Business:

- None

New Business:

- ➔ Presentation made by Kirsten Marquardson, Learning Support teacher in the school.
- She presented on the benefits of coding and how she is training students and teachers within the school to code and use STEM products, like the Sphero.
- Some of the benefits of integrating this type of learning into the classroom include:
 - persistence/ patience/ resilience
 - problem solving (debugging)
 - design process
 - visible learning
 - completing tasks and chunking
 - speaking in a universal language (binary code and others)
 - predictions
 - critical thinking
 - production, not just consumption
- also brought our attention to websites like Hour of Code and places like the Apple Store that allow for trying these devices out

- ➔ Presentation by Ryan Ward, parent
- He is interested in creating a robotics club here at the school. He has volunteered for the Manitoba Robot Games, and is eager to promote STEM and have students become more active in learning these important skills.

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- The competition has been around for 24 years, and is an annual competition, strictly for students in school.
- Look at mbrobotgames.ca for more information.
- Ryan has connections with those who can run the program and provide materials; he is interested in setting up an evening class once a week here at the school, starting in the fall.
- He is looking for support from the school, as well as a space to hold the meetings.
- It is important that STEM programming is happening within our schools to prepare our students for the future.
- Could be for students of any age, but will probably start with Grades 6 – 8
- There will be a cost – approximately \$100-\$150 per student, per session. We may have to consider subsidizing the cost so that every child has a chance to participate.
- Ryan will put the proposal together and approach Tanya and David with those details. We will go from there.

➔ Funding Request by Ryan Smithson

- This has been made to purchase jerseys for the middle year's basketball teams.
- One set of 14-15 uniforms will cost \$1000.
- They should last 5 – 10 years.

Motion made to accept the funding request by Elana Spence, and seconded by Ashpreet Mann. Motion carried.

➔ Possible involvement of PAC at the upcoming Kindergarten Open House.

- Wednesday, April 17th from 5:30-7:00.
- More information to follow.

Adjournment:

- A motion was made by Alice Darchuk and seconded by Lisa Davis to adjourn the meeting at 7: 12 pm. Motion carried.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, May 7^h 2019 @ 5:30 pm in the staff room with child care and supper provided. Meeting will start at 5:45 pm.