

# West St. Paul Parent Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

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**Date:** Wednesday, April 10th, 2024

## **In Attendance:**

Christine Collings, Dayna Trann, Amber and Aaron Ayres, David Ingram, Brianne Lisecki, Alex Yuen, Michelle Kippen, Gural Kaur, Tammy Harder, Mandy O'Brien, Jenny Macdonald, Lisa Whiteside

## **Call to Order and Greetings:**

- Meeting called to order by Christine Collings at 6:03 pm.

## **Adoption of the Agenda**

- Motion made to accept the agenda by Dayna Trann; seconded by Brianne Lisecki. Motion carried.

## **Adoption of the Minutes from March 12, 2024:**

- Motion made to accept the minutes by Amber Ayres; seconded by Alex Yuen. Motion carried.

## **Administrative Report:**

- Portables - The portables will be delayed.
  - There is not enough electricity for the 2 portables; the division is working on this and have put their proposal to the province for funding.
  - The two classes that were going into the portables will start in the library.
  - The library is moving into the hallway area, outside of the current library. Even when the portables are ready to go, the thought is that the current library will continue to be used as a teaching space, and the new library space will stay where it is.
- The new provincial government has a goal of limiting class numbers in grades K - 4 to 20 students or less. That's not possible for us yet, but that is the goal going forward.
- The division knows that we are full and continues to be concerned about our space issues. Therefore, those who move out of catchment will be asked to register at their new schools.
- Current enrolment: 608 students - and 5 more starting in the next few weeks.
- Admin is starting to make their staffing plans; no details yet.

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- Current changes: Mr. Smithson is now the Acting VP at Morrison, in May, Kwaku Andoh will be joining us as a new Phys Ed teacher in May.
- Retirements: Mrs. Walker
- There is a lot of waiting: we don't have any new information about daycare plans, provincial highway plans, etc.

But there have also been a lot of positive things!

- Today was International Day of Pink and there is a really vibrant feeling in the building.
- There was an assembly: partly, it was a celebration of our many dance groups. We now have 5 dance groups (Tap Club, Gr 1-2 Gidda, Bhangra, Boys, Bhangra Group, Jigging).
- The kids were really excited and PAC helped purchase many of those dance outfits.
- There were student emcees: from Gr 2, 4, and 5. Wow!
- The kids were taught about Vaisakhi and Eid.
- Kevin Chief and the members of the C-Weed band were there! Big deal!
- Tomorrow is the Day of Dance at SOPAC. Parents and grandparents are encouraged to attend. There will be some video available, but not the live feed.

Middle Years News

- April 17 - Gr. 8 band concert/ festival - there will be a \$5 fee for entry (festival decision, not going to the school)
- May 29, 30, 31 - Arts in the Park - held in the field behind Maples Community Centre (no specific schedules/ times yet)
- June 5- Middle Years activities
- June 25 - Gr 8 camp at Camp Assiniboia
- June 26 - Gr 8 farewell dinner and dance at Aki Centre
- June 27 - All Middle years to Access Centre for activities
  
- there are also new plants being ordered for the garden boxes, and a new plant stand for inside!

## **Executive Reports:**

### **Chair:**

- Christine went on a field trip to the Aki Centre this week. It was really neat to see what's there and the progress that has been made over the years (greenhouse path systems, building, gardens, etc.)
- Everyone is encouraged to go and check it out.
- The school is encouraged to do some planting, and the Aki Centre can send out their seeds to the schools. There is already an order placed by some of our teachers to get those seeds/ plants. The school already has some wonderful garden boxes available, thanks to the middle years students who do TAS!

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## **Vice Chair:**

- No report.

## **Past Chair:**

- Not present.

## **Financial Report:**

- Current balance: \$36 878.09
- We tried to sell candy and chips, etc. at Parent Teacher
  - We made about \$100 in profits.
  - It was a bit of a learning curve, but now we know how much to order.
  - It was also an important way to be visible during Parent Teacher and allowed us to have conversations with parents.
  - We still have a box and a half of chips left. We are going to sell it to the school for staff meetings.
- A motion was made by Dayna Trann to sell the chips to the school. This was seconded by Brianne Lisecki. Motion carried.

## **Fundraising:**

- Amanda couldn't be here today
- Fundraising orders are coming in. We could use a couple of people to help count money.
  - Tuesday, April 23 - AM
  - Volunteers: Amber, Kenisha, Brianne, Amanda
- May 9 pick up (3-5 at Access Centre)
  - Volunteers: Amanda, Christine, Amber, Brianne

## **Hot Lunch:**

- Hot lunch has been going well. Kenisha and Brianne continue to run this.
- We're getting lots of students who are assuming days opposite pizza are McDonald's. For next year, we need to communicate more about this, and it would be helpful to be able to offer hot lunch each day.
- This means that we need more people to help hand out orders and deal with issues. We can certainly continue to ask for more volunteers.

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- Also, some parents are asking about other options, including maybe healthier options? (Pita Pit, etc.). We have done that research and the cost was a big deterrent. However, if others are interested in offering this, they are welcome to do that.
- Healthier alternatives? - What about a platter of sandwiches, or family style dishes (like lasagne, chicken skewers, etc.). This would require someone to serve it.
- What if we put out a survey in September? We can lay out dates, ask about food choices, prices, and put out a call for volunteers.
- This is something that we can arrange for September, and include a survey to get parents' ideas and thoughts.
  - If we do this in September, then we can go into October ready with the hot lunches.
- We also considered what some of our Indian population might be interested in and asked for input:
  - perhaps samosas, springs rolls, noodles, or stuffed naan
  - we can look up some ideas and get some names of restaurants for specific options and prices

### **Fundraising: Craft Sale**

- So far, we have 25 people asking for applications, and that's only in the last two days, so it's a good start!
- We plan to have 58 tables in the gym and perhaps another 8 tables. Right now, that will be a max of 65 tables.
- The cost is \$30 a table plus a donation to the silent auction. The group will then make packages to auction off.
- We will also be asking for donations; we can then advertise their business, etc.
- None of the tables will have access to electrical power.
- Name of the craft sale? - The West St Paul School 32nd Winter Craft Sale.

### **Ongoing Business:**

- Staff Appreciation
  - Ninja coffee maker - and a whole lot of things! - are ready to go
  - We will write a thank you card, and set it up tonight .
- Is money available for things other than the classroom teachers? We could certainly support other groups, initiatives, etc.
  - We will ask for another wish list from teachers next year.
- Kindergarten Welcome Night
  - volunteers: Lisa, Amber, Aaron, Kenisha & kids

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- 6 pm - for about 1 hr; we'll arrive at 5:30 pm to set up
- Lisa will bring candy and guessing sheets.
- Amber will bring tattoos and sponges.
  
- Report to Community / More Visibility & Transparency
  - Lisa showed the various documents (Power Point, report, and display board) that she has so far.
  - We will leave the amount of writing, and leave more transition time on the PPT. We will also add more pictures.
  - We will also add a call for volunteers.
  - We will take a group picture at the AGM.
  - Candace/ Brianne- co-treasurers
  - Lisa will need about \$100 for printing, laminating costs, etc.
  
- Christine Collings put forth a motion to allow for up to \$100 for printing costs. Dayna Trann seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  
- AGM - Meal
  - We will hold the meeting at Red River Hall
  - We will do more advertising to encourage people to come out.
    - Lisa will send out the Elections notice again.
    - Kenisha will put together posts on Canva.
  - We will serve pizza, salads, and drinks to the attendees and kids who come.
  
- Christine Collings put forth a motion to allow for up to \$400 for food costs. Dayna Trann seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  
- Grade 8 Farewell - PAC will provide a cake to congratulate the students
  - plates/ forks/ napkins - 2 sheet cakes
  - Dayna will order this from Costco
    - Lisa Whiteside put forth a motion to send up for \$150 for cakes and items for serving. Kenisha Choo-Yick seconded the motion. Motion carried.
    - It should say "Congratulations from PAC"
  
- Retirement - Amber will present us with an idea of what to purchase on behalf of PAC - for next time.

## **New Business:**

- Dayna and Christine are working to meet with the Forest Park PAC group. This is still being arranged.

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- MB Parent Council - we are not registered with them yet, but Christine will be looking into that.
- All executive members are required to do a report for the AGM.
- We also got to see the many Thank You notes from the various classrooms. Awesome!

### **Adjournment:**

- A motion was made by Kenisha Choo-Yick to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 pm. Seconded by Christine Collings . Motion carried.

**Next Meeting: AGM on Wednesday, May 8th @ 6:00 – 7:30 pm  
with meal and child care provided.**