

West St. Paul Parent Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025

In Attendance:

Christine Collings, Dayna Trann, Theresa Pihulak, Vanessa Cecchini, Brianne Lisecki, Eleanor Laminger, Amanda Kruger, Amber and Aaron Ayres, Kristy Arbeau, Alana Woods, Lisa Whiteside, Tammy Harder, David Ingram

Call to Order and Greetings:

Greetings and call to order at 6:01 pm.

Adoption of the Agenda

- Minor changes to the order of the agenda. Move the Lion's Club presentation to the beginning of the meeting.
- Motion made to accept the agenda - with changes - by Dayna Trann; seconded by Vanessa Cecchini. Motion carried.

Adoption of the Minutes from January 14, 2025:

- Motion made to accept the minutes by Amber Ayres; seconded by Amanda Kruger. Motion carried.

New Business -

- **Presentation by the Lions Club** - Patricia, Glen, Jay

Background:

- Lion's Club has been in West St. Paul since 2009
- they are a service organization and made up of all volunteers
- they do Chase the Ace on Thursdays to raise money
- they already help the school out each year
 - in the past, this money has been used for e-readers, books, uniforms, milk program, breakfast club, etc.
- they also help out with sending kid(s) to camp
- they host a Peace Poster contest; Anna is this year's winner

Funding opportunity:

- they here to see what they can help us out with
- there is opportunity to apply for a grant to Lions International - dollar for dollar -

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- ie. \$15 000 donated here - and then Lions International would do \$15 000 (US) - but takes 2 years to access that money
- OR we could access a 1 year grant for \$1000 - and could that do now (no wait)
- they want to be involved in the school community and help out with some of our events

Administrative Report:

- current enrollment: 602 students
- admin has met with the superintendents' teams to determine staffing for next year
- 2 portables should be here next September; so admin requested for 2 new teachers
- this alleviates some of the pressure in the building
- David asked about the portables today; the division is still negotiating with Hydro; they are now looking at possibility of underground wiring
- the portables will go north of the four that are there now
- the province put out a request for proposals for feasibility studies (consulting) for the daycare; they will then work with the school division to determine next steps
- another 2 portables have been requested by the division
- On Fri, Feb 28th, the school will host the Human Library: there will be lots of visitors reading books to our kids
 - lots of fun activities for I Love to Read Month
- March 11th - report cards are available online
- Parent Teacher interviews: Thursday, March 12 (evening) and Friday, March 13 (day)
- The school is working towards having an assembly for Black History Month; they are getting more student voice to help plan
 - possibly just for the middle years grades; speakers include a rapper (former student) and some community leaders
- UNESCO club presented at a teacher PD day; it was well received
- students are doing the Jack Frost Challenge
- lots of indoor recesses - the kids want to get out! David or the other principals make the call when they are outside at recess. There is no specific number or policy about "too cold," but is consensus among the adults

Executive Reports:

Chair:

- No report to make

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Vice Chair:

- No report to make

Past Chair:

- Not present.

Financial Report:

- Current balance is \$40 700
 - McDonald's money is accounted for but will have to be paid out for the rest of the year
 - this total includes the Shelmerdine cheque

Fundraising:

- Krispy Kreme fundraiser
 - we need to give the store a week's notice for numbers
 - mid April? - possibly April 17th
 - we pre-order and we pick up - we can then have people pick up
 - we set the price: we need to make the form and can charge whatever - \$15 seems like a good price (\$16 at the store)

Hot Lunch:

- McDonalds is all set and ordered for the year
- Subway - last day was yesterday and counting is on Thursday
- alternating - 1 Subway and 1 McDonalds; with pizza as well. We have reached our goal of Hot Lunch every Wednesday!

Ongoing Business:

- Teacher Wish List
 - a group of PAC members had a very good discussion two weeks ago about the wish list

A motion was made by Dayna Trann to spend \$13,300 on the following items:

- a contribution to the new gym mats (\$6000)
- items for Math, including stackable blocks, scales, etc. (\$2000)
- one set of decodable books (\$1500)

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- \$100 for each member of the teaching staff to spend on items that will be used by students (\$3800)
Seconded by Amber Ayres. Motion carried.
 - David - showed us a picture of the mats with the WSP logo. They will look very cool and are expected by the end of April/ beginning of May.
- Further discussion of items for the future:
 - bleachers or benches? - something to think about/ talk about in the future
 - scoreboard
 - David will talk to Phys Ed teaching staff on opinions.
- Our sports teams need jerseys again. May ask the athletes to buy their own?
- Lions Club
 - maybe we can ask them for some help with items?
 - ie. scoreboard? basketball hoops?
 - we can certainly ask them to be part of our Family Fun night, dances, etc.
 - We would like to ask them for \$1500 to purchase another set of decodable books.
 - Christine, Dayna, and Lisa will draft an email or letter to make this ask.
- Middle School event?
 - May 30th - Can we help out with the BBQ?
 - we can discuss in April
- Spring Event?
 - not sure
 - would have to be in April, before spring sports start
- Constitution
 - revisit next meeting
- PAC Table at Parent Teacher
 - Thursday evening - Lisa
 - Friday morning - Alana ?
- PAC table at the Kindergarten Welcome evening - May 7th - evening
- Are we making interest off of the money we have in our account?
 - it's all under one bigger school account/ umbrella
 - our money does accrue interest, but is directed to the principal's discretionary fund

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Adjournment:

- A motion was made by Christine Collings to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 pm. Seconded by Dayna Trann. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 @ 6:00 – 7:30 pm
with child care provided.**