

Westmount School Council Meeting – May 2021 Annual General Meeting

Date: May 12, 2021

Location: Video Conference

Time: 7:00 pm

Chair: Baljit Singh

Council

Vice-Chair: Roti Akinsanmi

Treasurer: Navdeep Kailey

Secretary: Ameet Kooner

Communications Director: Kathy Good

Fundraising Director: Kim Anthony

Parent Engagement Director: Ashley Wilford-Matthews

Special Events Director: Thomas Chan

Director-at-Large: Kelly Poon

Director-at-Large: Dawn Courtman

Administration

Superintendent: Joe Frank

Principal Elementary Campus: Hal Curties

Principal Mid-High Campus: Graeme Finlay

Student Council representative: Parthiv M.

Other

Board Liaison & Community Liaison: Peter Khu

Note: Video recording of this meeting is also available online

1. Call to order and approval of the Agenda

Baljit Singh called the meeting to order 19:03

- Adjustment to Agenda – none.

Motion to approve agenda: 1st Navdeep Kailey, 2nd Kelly Poon, carried.

Comment – Student Council President Parthiv M. is absent today.

2. Chair's Remarks – Baljit Singh

Annual Report – please see letter posted online today.

Thank you to parents, teachers, administration, superintendent, community liaison, and executive colleagues for a wonderful although challenging year. Wishing all the best for September 2021!

3. Approval of minutes from April 14, 2021 School Council minutes

Motion to approve minutes: 1st Ashley Wilford-Matthews, 2nd Navdeep Kailey, all in favor, none opposed, carried.

4. Annual Reports from Council

a. *Treasurer's Report – Navdeep Kailey*

- Annual report will be presented in the Fall.

b. *Parent Engagement Report – Ashley Wilford-Matthews*

- Online town halls in the summer for options in the Fall
- Coffee Talks – monthly; online
 - Questions from parents; Feedback for administration
- Kindergarten meet and greet – October 2020
- Mental Health Sessions with Jill Foreman – recordings are still available
- Physician Information session re: Pandemic – March 2021

c. *Fundraising Report – Kim Anthony*

- Stampeder parking – postponed for the year
- Bottle drives – working with Skip-the-depot. New option: pick up
 - June, October, February, June
 - Over \$3000 in 2020
 - Thank you Jill for coordinating
- Westmount Strong T-shirts
 - Thank you to Kendra
 - Raised over \$2600
 - Designs by students – Sofia (grade 4); Kaila (grade 10)
 - Thank you to administration – online ordering made it very simple.
- Direct Donation campaign
 - Letters to Westmount Families – Thank you for your generosity.
 - Raised over \$20,000
- WestJet raffle
 - Thank you to Roti for getting the WestJet vouchers
 - Underway right now. Goal is \$14,500. Will update final results online and in newsletter
 - Raffle draw on May 27th at the virtual Westmount 25th Anniversary celebration

Thank you to everyone – parents, student, teachers and administration for donating and volunteering during these difficult times.

5. Principals' Reports: – Mr. Hal Curties and Mr. Graeme Finley

- [EC Principal's Report](#)
- [MH Principal's Report](#)

Question: Will there be an online school option in September at Mid-high campus? Elementary?
(G.Finlay) Administration is looking at what school will look like next year. Current budget does not include an online school option. More information to come next week.
(H.Curties) Without additional funding, there will not be an online option in September.

Question: For next school year, will there be a vaccination record or screening for those that choose in-person school?
(H.Curties/G.Finlay/J.Frank) School Admin cannot screen based on medical records due to confidentiality.

Question: Why is there so much difference between what the students are doing online in the SEAL program compared to online for in-person learning student? – in terms of instruction time (C.Thomas-Groot) Students in the SEAL program have had months with online and independent learning versus in-person students therefore a decision was made for online classes for in-person students to log on all day as if they were at school in their classroom for the day. (G.Finlay) They are two different programs – AHL or In-person learning. At-home learning program is what students opted into knowing the commitment. This is a mandatory online training period and therefore the same commitment / support may not be the same.

Comment – thank you to all of you for your support, it sure has been a tough school year.

Question: Is there a chance the school will offer COVID-19 vaccines for students such as in Grade 6-9?

(G.Finlay) we have not heard anything yet from AHS.

(J.Frank) there was discussion about teachers being vaccinated onsite however that did not work out either.

Note: Week of May 25th will have 25th Anniversary Celebrations at both campuses

- May 27th online celebration with parents (video will be presented)
- May 28th will be a birthday party at both campuses with a gift for each student
- Westmount Alumni event on May 26th

Question: If students do not go back to school this year, what consideration is being given to year-end/term exams? Will they happen or not.

(G.Finlay) May 21st is professional development day. Teachers are working on what final exams will look like. Will determine what would be feasible and reasonable for our students.

6. Comments from Superintendent – Joe Frank

- 2021-22 Budget:
 - o Working with the Board and school administration on the budget for next school year. Hope to have it presented to the Board by Wednesday for implementation in the Fall 2021.
 - o Good news budget – funded the same as 2020-21 school year. New funding model would have significantly impacted us however we have received mitigation funding for next year to support us.
 - o Should the pandemic continue, we do not know if there will be an additional funding from provincial / federal government such as funding for additional teachers for online learning.
- Thank you to the School Council Executives for all their work this year, greatly appreciated.

7. AGM – Election for 2021-22 School Year

- a. **Secretary (two-year position):** one nomination received for Thomas Chan - nominated by Ashley Wilford-Matthews and Kim Anthony. Elected by acclamation.
- b. **Director of Special Events (two-year position):** one nomination received for Ameet Kooner – nominated by Kathy Good and Dawn Courtman (by email). Elected by acclamation. – accepted in writing.
- c. **Director of Parent Engagement (two-year position):** one nomination received for Ashley Wilford-Matthews - nominated by Kim Anthony and Kathy Good. Elected by acclamation.

- d. **Director of Communications (two-year position):** one nomination received for Kathy Good – nominated by Kim Anthony and Ameet Kooner (by email). Elected by acclamation.
- e. **Director at Large (one-year position):** one nomination received for Dawn Courtman – nominated by Navdeep Kailey and Ashley Wilford-Matthews. Elected by acclamation. – accepted in writing.
- f. **Director at Large (one-year position):** one nomination received for Laura Teterenko - – nominated by Ashley Wilford-Matthews and Ameet Kooner (by email). Elected by acclamation.

Of note, 2nd Year Executive positions for 2021-22 School Year:

Chair: Baljit Singh

Vice-Chair: Roti Akinsanmi (will move to Chair position for 2022-24)

Treasurer: Navdeep Kailey

Fundraising Director: Kim Anthony

8. Questions

- a. Will at-home learning students get the same 25th Anniversary memento as in-person learning students?
Answer: Yes. This will be coordinated directly with students.
- b. Will it be separate subjects, or all based on home room in the fall?
Answer: planning for both scenarios – cohorting and regrouping. Unsure at this time what the requirements will be for the fall.

9. Special Thank you to Kelly Poon for all your hard work and leadership with the Executive team.

10. **Meeting adjourned** – 8:00pm