

Westmount School Council Meeting - October 2022

Date: October 12, 2022

Location: Video Conference

Time: 7:00 PM

Chair: Roti Akinsanmi

Council

Vice-Chair: Kim Anthony

Treasurer: Navdeep Kailey

Secretary: Thomas Chan

Communications Director: Kathy Good

Fundraising Director: Laura Teterenko

Parent Engagement Director: Ashley Wilford-Matthews

Special Events Director: Ameet Kooner

Director-at-Large: Terri May

Director-at-Large: Melissa Wolsey

Administration

Superintendent: Dr. Myra C. Hood (could not attend)

Principal Elementary Campus: Hal Curties

Principal Mid-High Campus: Graeme Finlay

Student Council Representative: N/A

Recording: [Link](#)

1. Introduction of new School Superintendent - Dr. Myra C. Hood

We will delay introducing the Superintendent because she is meeting with the School Board.

2. Approval of minutes from Sep 21, 2022

Thomas Chan motion to approve AGM minutes approve. Ashley Wilford-Matthews second.

3. Student Council Report

N/A

4. Reports from Council

a. Fundraising Report - Laura Teterenko

- Stampeder parking - Have raised about \$4,000. Have two more games in the regular season. Could potentially get couple playoff games.
- Bottle drive will be schedule for October 27th. Jill will be putting out a request for helpers. If you cannot make it that day, you can contact Skip the Depot directly.
- Two separate casinos coming up. These are quite a big deal, because the school can raise up to \$60,000 at each casino. The Elementary campus casino will be held Oct. 28th and 29th. The Mid-high campus casino will be held Nov. 13th and 14th. Newsletter will have more details.
- Keep an eye-out because we will have a few initiatives in the future.

b. Parent Engagement Report - Ashley Wilford-Matthews

- Hosted the first in-person Coffee at the Mid-High. Lot of parents attending. Will keep coffee talks monthly, but this year will be alternating in-person and online. First in-person Coffee Talk for the Elementary campus will be this October 14th. Next Coffee Talk for the Mid-High will be October 28th.
- Kindergarten Orientation was held on October 11th. Some common questions were “What inside out means? and the Philosophy of the school?” Was a great session for kindergarten parents. Parents got into breakout rooms.
- Plan to have a parent engagement session before the end of the year.

c. Treasurer Report - Navdeep Kailey

- Ending balance for the last fiscal year was \$41,167.
- Lot of input goes into the budget from the principals, Executive Board Members, Administration, etc.
- Revenues come from direct donations, WestJet raffle, Stampeder parking and bottle drives. There are also seasonal fundraisers, such as the cookbook last Fall. Forecasting total revenue of \$33,000 vs.\$30,145 from the prior year.
- Council expenses - try to do one big event each year. Last year we had the year-end event at the Elementary Campus. Other expenses includes staff appreciation, volunteer recognition and speakers for parent engagement sessions. Proposing \$7,050 council expenses for this year.
- School admin expenses are requests from both the principals. Class room is the largest \$15,000 plus pizza for parent teacher night.
- The other major costs is Field trips, Camp Kiwanis and. Mid high 15,000
- Total expenses 48,050. This is higher than last year at 45,698
- Our ending balance will be 26,117.

Question

Peter - Thank for all the effort to not only raising the money, but allocating the funds. Why does the budget not include casino funds?

Nav - The school would reach out directly to the Westmount Charter School Parent Fundraising Society (“WCSPFS”) for the casino funds.

Peter - Is that because AGLC is more stringent with casino funds?

Nav - Yes, the AGLC is more stringent on with the casino funds vs. the funds raised by the Westmount School Council

Allison - Curious about the WestJet raffle. Last year you budgeted \$10,000, but it only brought in \$3,000. Is there a reason why we are budgeting \$10,000?

Nav - Due to the license requirement the WestJet raffle the funds are held by the WCSPFS and spent as they occur. The value shown in the budget if from the other fund raising that occurred.

Ashley Wilford-Matthews motions to approve the budget. Allison Reine second.

Kimberly Hui president of Westmount Charter Elementary Fundraising Society (“WCEFS”). Gives us two opportunities to get into the casino. Having first casino at Cowboys casino on October 27. Need 36 volunteers, including back up volunteers. New to many of the

volunteers. Would like a loan of \$2,000 for day-to-day operations. Would be paid back when AGLC deposits the funds in early January.

Kim Anthony motions to approve a loan to from the WSC to the WCEFS. Kathy Good second.

5. Principals' Report

[EC Principal's Report](#)

[Mid-High Principal's Report](#)

a. Elementary Campus Update - Hal Curties

- Encourage parents to look at the principal report. Incredible art work being done at the elementary campus school.
- Thanking school council for the incredible amount of work and generosity. We as campus really benefit. Makes the experience for students richer. Thank you to Kim and the people that helped for setting up casino night.
- Started Regrouping for math last week. Do pre-assessment and then put them in groups based on needs and at the level they are currently at. Will do the same with language ours shortly. Students will be regrouped for the first time in three years.
- Update around the mystery of the fallen TV. Have 8 illustrated stories to judge from. The stories will be judged by office staff and looking forward to do that.
- Full Terry Fox day for the first time in a long time. Ton of parent volunteers. \$4,838 has been raised, close to goal of \$5,000.
- Had a great Coffee talk Friday September 23rd. Hoping parents can join on Friday for an in-person Coffee talk.
- Had a meeting with the new Kindergarten parents on October 11th. Wonderful event that allowed parents of gifted children going through a similar experience to meet
- Principal Graeme and I had a rich meeting with Roti and Ashley. Set some direction for the year and looking at things for the year jointly.
- Had a couple of days to discuss Truth and Reconciliation. Bruce Starlight, elder from Tsuut'in Nation, set up a teepee in the Dusty Rose gym, which generated discussion at home and in their classroom.
- First bad weather drill (tornado). Students leave classroom and sit in the hallway. Whole drill takes 3-4 minutes.
- Lots of first year student teachers from Werklund School of Education visiting both campuses. Walking through the classrooms to get a taste of what it is like
- LEAD is starting this week. Friday afternoon elective that students take. Ready to go for the first semester. Thank you to Colleen Groot.
- Pay tribute to lunch supervisors. Have an amazing group that supervises morning recess and lunch. Staff appreciate the opportunity to have an uninterrupted lunch time.

b. Mid-High Campus Update - Graeme Finlay

- Report focused on student activities
- Students are organizing and signing-up for clubs. Historically, students were brought into the gym for the club fair, but have shifted to a digital version. Students and parents can both take a look at the clubs. Clubs are one of the strengths of Westmount. Many of the clubs are run by high school students.
- Have had a number of wonderful outdoor education trips led by Mr. Manning.

- School G is new learning management system. PowerLearn is discontinued. Hope to create a one stop shop for parents with School G. The grading program is insufficient in School G and it is not the greatest communication tool. Have moved grading back to PowerSchool.
- Last week was World Teacher Day. Thank you to WSC, we were able to provide coffee and treats to all the staff.
- For middle school students we have used some of our guest speaker fund for Mr. Pickle. He comes in and brings in different math puzzle for different classes.

Roti (comment) - Spirit of tonight is thanks.

6. Call for Volunteers

a. Alumni Relations - Kim Anthony

- Meeting with Julie Jansen to get the status of alumni relations. Seeing where the WCS can be helpful and add value. Really want to help connect alumni with each other and students. Alumni coming back to talk to current students about post-secondary education. Looking for volunteers to help out. Really excited, because its an area of great opportunity.

b. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (“DEI”) - Roti Akinsanmi

- Build a working group for DEI. Parents that have experience in this area. Looking to support DEI efforts at the school.

7. Closing Remarks

Meeting Adjourned - 7:50 PM