

Woodman School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Location: Virtual via *Microsoft Teams*

Attendance*: Brian M, Dave M, Mark M, Marlene K, Tara W, Alice H, Cinnamon B, Hala K, Shefali, Dale L, Olivier A, Kerry D, Kavita J

*Note: the attendance list based on names displayed on *MS Teams* and may not be accurate

Call to order: 7:00 pm

Welcome: land acknowledgement, introductions

Approval of previous minutes: Meeting was November 24, 2023 - moved by Alice, seconded by Tara; all in favour, minutes approved.

Chair report - Tara

Alberta Ed Grant - \$500 “engagement grant” for school community - How shall we spend the money?

- guest speaker options (AI, social media,) - Q attendance, it brings fairly low #'s
- speaker in mind?, indigenous learning, new film by screenagers, speaker for the students that parents can also attend/hybrid, eg cannabis use talk
- community night if allowed?, lots of limitations for the grant
- Help parents navigate courses, improve English and French
- Other schools - share funds and attract more parents; build community - e.g., talk on AI - seems a hot topic among the high school cohort and by our woodman parents too, perhaps local schools will co-host with Woodman

Council Position 2 vacant positions; these jobs are not time intensive

- Volunteer Coordinator needed - is point person for teachers asking for volunteers; sets up the Sign-up Genius page
- Fundraiser Coordinator(s) needed - set up 2-3 fundraisers per year

Fundraising Update

- General account is out of money
- Purdy's done in December - thank you Dave & Cinnamon
- Need a spring fundraiser - Dave is willing to do it, will get some suggestions (sausages?)
- Want to fund March event, Cabane a Sucre; book fair to showcase language books incl. indigenous literature
- Cash call, perhaps do this in the fall, Ed Matters - collects online but takes 5%

Staff Appreciation Dinner - Nicole is the coordinator - it is coming up end of Jan, possible plan is a Taco Bar, sign up genius to be sent out

WMPA Report

- Winter band concert was amazing; \$1000 in donations were raised

Playground Update

Quotes for different options for donor recognition at the Woodman playground to be presented at the February meeting.

Purdy's Update

Council made \$1200

Treasurer's report: Olivier

\$700 in the account, no spending since last meeting

\$1200 from Purdy's raised

Motions to allocate funds:

- Grade nine farewell June 2024 at \$500 - Motion by Tara, seconded by Cinnamon; all in favour, motion carried.
- Prizes/expenses for fundraising competition at \$80 - purchased chocolates and pop, Motioned by Tara, seconded by Cinnamon; all in favour, motion carried.

Principal's Report: Marlene

Woodman Current and Future Enrollment Trends - 502 students

(1) Designated overflow status (Elboya/Rideau Park) - up to 28 per class now; fall class shuffling because of funds for an extra teacher; full schools mean CBE sending students to Woodman

(2) New residential opportunities in neighbourhood - multiple planned high rises all that are likely to feed more students into Woodman; these changes expected to increase diversity of student body

Alberta Education Funding - new grant, *supplementary enrollment fund* given to Woodman and confirmed last week - immigration growth in Canada is highest since Confederation; money will help school cope with influx of students with:

(1) Staffing additions - part time teacher, in-class support kids who need English support (60 new to Canada families at Woodman; 40 students very new to English); will relieve Brian and Tara from teaching so they can get back to supporting teachers as learning leads

(2) Operational budget improvements - complementary courses, money for building maintenance

Understanding CBE Assessment and Reporting – January 30 Report Card Release Date

- Marlene interested in what parents understand and want to know
- Reviewed 1234 scale; students learn the scale; refers to level of the question/task - and quality level of the response; the scale guides their efforts
- Concept of multiple point of evidence when evaluating students: observe how students work, hear what students say about the task/concept, assess their final product
- Students are more complex, assessment needs to be useful, teachers need to work as a team
- Parents please review the report cards with your kids
- Area of growth identified for teachers - templates for tasks/rubric for student and parents to better understand evaluations

Q Why no separate class for ELL (English Language Learning) for all these new to English kids?

A (Brian) for ELL, immersion works well the younger the child is; there is less immersive opportunity in the higher grades, especially high schools; in junior high age, immersion is still best practice/gets better results in developing fluency than the pullout groups

Note, pull out group happens with LEAD program - for ELL kids with significant learning gaps.

New Business

No new items proposed.

Next Council Meeting: February 13, 7:00 pm, Virtual meeting via *MS Teams*

Meeting Adjournment: 8:19 pm