

Plympton-Wyoming Public School Council Meeting Minutes

6th Meeting: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 7pm in the Breakout Room

Attendance: Andy Parnham, Afton Helps, Tammy With, Logan With, Tressa Brown, Valerie Riess, Ashley Armstrong & Theresa Siertsema.

Regrets: Shaughn Morton, Jamie Armstrong

1. Welcome

2. Additions to the Agenda

3. Approval of Minutes

4. Reports

Principal's Update

Shell grant update

The grant is still in place, but we haven't received the \$1000 to put toward the purchase of the FDK yard items because we are waiting for the invoice. Unfortunately, the mud kitchen is on back order, so we need to wait until the mud kitchen comes in so that we can submit the invoice to Shell to receive the grant money. The rest of the items that Mrs. Brown ordered, have arrived.

School cash online

At the last principals' meeting, they received notification that beginning next year there won't be a 2% fee added to the price. Currently there is a 2% fee for every purchase including if you are paying with cash. They are removing that 2% next year. This is good news.

Also, school cash online will be the only option for all non-curriculum related options moving forward. For example, hot lunch day will be by school cash online payment option only, same with the flowerbed fundraiser. However, not necessarily for curriculum related items, for example: school trips. Spirit wear would be included in the school cash online.

There is the argument that some families don't have the internet. This has been discussed and the school board will continue to work with those families.

Parent Involvement Committee hosting Parent Information Nights re: Healthy Relationships

The parental involvement committee put on an evening for parents regarding fostering healthy relationships. Mrs. With attended the evening and commented on the evening. She said the speaker was good. She thought the evening was helpful to an extent and thought that perhaps it would be more beneficial for the kids to hear the speaker's strategies. The speaker spoke about how kids can defend themselves and how they can know what a healthy relationship looks like. She had a lot of strategies and pictures that the kids could benefit from. Mrs. With thought that this would be a great resource for teachers to use at school with the kids when they find themselves in those difficult relational moments. The speaker also spoke about how children can identify a bad behaviour within themselves.

Staffing complement/class organization

Projected class organization for 2019/2020 as well as tentative staffing assignments will be outlined in the June newsletter. It is tentative because there can always be changes throughout the summer and beginning of the school year.

Currently they have 14.5 allotted for staff and they have been granted the same for next year. Currently slated to have 4.5 allotment for EAs. This is an increase from this year, due to current and incoming needs.

Meet the teacher BBQ

A tentative meet the teacher date is set for Thursday, September 19, 2019 from 5-7pm.

It would be beneficial to have spirit wear up and running for ordering at the BBQ.

BBQ should be done by school council. The teachers should be available to meet the families and not need to be concerned about running the BBQ.

School council will run the Meet the Teacher BBQ in September and will communicate by email to get the BBQ organized.

Usually the fire department runs the cooking of the hotdogs on the BBQ, since the school cannot store the propane on site and a firefighter is needed to be present in case of an unsafe situation.

During the first week of school, council will put a request into the newsletter for other parents to have the opportunity to help at the BBQ.

Jobs and items needed for the BBQ:

- Foodland order – one person needs to order the food
- A cooler is needed to keep the hotdogs warm in, once cooked
- paper towels
- drinks
- coolers for the drinks
- ice (the firehall might be able to provide the ice)

A question was raised about what the prices for food should be. It is possible to simply use the flyer from the previous year and keep the prices the same if school council wants. \$2 hotdog, \$1 for pop/water. Last year the teachers did make a profit from the BBQ, even though they weren't intending to.

Upcoming events:

June newsletter and calendar are coming on Friday... June is a busy month! Lots of excursions coming up and year end activities.

-EQAO finishing up this week.

-Character assembly on the 5th of June; trait is: citizenship. Presentations will be done by Mrs. Janzen's class and Mrs. Cran's class.

-Track and field – June 6th at LCCVI

-PA Day: Friday on June 7th

-Pizza Day on June 12th

- Many class trips scheduled for June 14th
- TELP iPads will be collected on June 17th
- The Alice in Wonderland play is June 18th
- The Volunteer Appreciation event is June 19th
- A West African drumming presentation is happening on June 19th
- Primary track and field day on June 21st
- Indigenous Peoples Day is June 21st
- Primary play day will be June 25th
- Last day of school will be June 27th and it will be red and white day to celebrate Canada Day early. Report cards go home this day. Students also have transition visits to their tentative new classroom this day as well.

There is a letter that goes home with the report card to give information about September and the child's specific class and first day plan.

New Kindergartens

The school was just informed that new FDK students will have drop in visits in June. These visits will likely occur near the end of June. They will be casual drop in visits. The information for these visits will be sent to new FDK families as soon as FDK staff and principal discuss when these visits will be and what they will look like.

Mr. Parnham usually has a welcome meeting for new to kindergarten parents in August to welcome the new parents into the building.

The junior kindergartens will be coming starting in September, in 3 days of staggered entry. Usually the most anxious kids begin the first day when there are less children in the classroom. Parents will receive notice of when their child will begin in September. All senior kindergarten students begin on the first day.

Currently there are 25 JKs registered.

Uniforms

We received quotes from Sewlutions in Wyoming regarding jerseys. Mr. Parker and Mme Wolf thought that dry fit t-shirts for volleyball would be good and that the jersey top would be good for basketball. Mr. Parker and Mme Wolf were hoping for adult sized shirts and not necessarily youth sized shirts and Sewlutions confirmed that youth and adult sizes were priced the same.

The jerseys will have the WILDCATS words on the front and then a number on the back. The shirts will be black with gold lettering to reflect the school colours.

Cost:

Basketball jerseys: 12 shirts: \$453.98

Volleyball pro-team t-shirts: 12 shirts \$291.26

\$582.52 (24) volleyball

\$907.96 (24) basketball

\$1490.48 cost for the jerseys. There is likely tax on top of that. We also have a \$250 grant to put towards the cost of jerseys.

There was a question raised around making sure the jerseys are always accounted for and washed properly. Council discussed the possibility of a sign out sheet for the jerseys or a deposit for the jerseys. Another thought was that perhaps the jerseys never go home with the kids but are simply given out before a game and then returned at the end of the game to be washed by the coach. Unfortunately, council can only control so much regarding the jerseys and it will be up to the coaches to make sure jerseys are kept safe.

At Sewlutions there is a set up fee for the logo that is charged only on the initial logo order.

In deciding whether council would be able to fund the school jerseys, a question was raised as to how much funds are currently in the school council account (see treasurer's report for the account discussion).

School council decided yes to the volleyball and the basketball uniforms.

Physical Education Equipment

Mr. Parker has put in a request for some physical education equipment to replenish equipment and add a few new things. He is requesting:

- more shuttles for badminton
- a game ball for basketball
- bean bags
- elephant skinned dodgeballs
- agility hurdles
- 1 agility ladder in a bag
- tennis balls
- sponge dice
- no kink hoola hoops

All these items add up to \$790.00 plus taxes

There are no other requests, at this time, for funds.

There is still \$3200 in the account before the equipment cost would come out.

Mr Parker is working hard to make sure the school is well stocked in the gym equipment department. School Council agreed to pay up to \$1000 for the new gym equipment.

Outdoor yard/kindergarten area

A question arose about whether the kids need more equipment outdoors. After a brief discussion it was decided that the outdoor space is working well currently, with exception to the kindergarten area, which is why outdoor items were purchased for the kindergarten area.

Right now, there is a lot of water in the kindergarten area. It is assumed that when it was graded it wasn't necessarily done properly and the water isn't draining the way it should. The water never dries up completely. It has been addressed, but at this time there is no solution.

IPADS

There was a question about whether the school needs more IPADs, but there will be an extra class set of IPADs being used in the school now with the TELP program over. Kids aren't often asking for technology that the school doesn't have. Generally, there is a good feeling about the amount of technology in the school.

Teacher Representative Update

House colours

Mrs. Brown shared that House colours are going well. She commented on how it's been interesting to watch the groups go up and down in their point totals. The house captains have been great. They just finished up keep calm and relay on where the groups did relay races all recess.

There have been some great spirit days at the school ...especially crazy hair day.

They are beginning to talk to grade 7s about who's going to be house captains for next year.

On the first of June the points will be coming off the bulletin board and then spirit days will continue and houses will continue to get points, but the winners won't be revealed until the assembly on the last day of school.

Track and field

Track and field day was great! Mr. Parker was giving out points towards the school letter and physical education marks for participation. All kids participated in the events. Since all kids participated, there was a wide assortment of kids who won. Many kids who weren't necessarily expected to qualify for the regional meet, did. The school is sending close to 80 kids to the regional meet at LCCVI.

Primary track and field day is coming up and is organized by Mrs. Shain.

Treasurer's Report

\$359.00 has come out of the school council account. As of May 22nd, there was \$5000 in the account.

The flower fundraiser raised a profit of between \$550-\$600. This profit was lower than the profit made in previous years. Some people found that the geraniums weren't as lush as they had been in the past and there was a purple flower that didn't seem to do well. It was said that the planters were nice and the hanging baskets were quite nice as well. People also liked the variety of the flowers. It was said that the ferns were a bit sparse. In previous years, the flower fundraiser has raised about \$1000. Council will have a look at the fundraiser and decide what the plan will be for next year.

At this point there hasn't been a receipt submitted for the flowers given on administration appreciation day, although flowers were purchased and given to the school secretaries. The receipt should be forthcoming.

5. New Business

New Kindergarten drop-ins

As soon as the kindergarten drop ins are organized, families will be made aware of when they can drop in with their soon to be kindergarten students.

Education week and the kindergartens

During education week, the kindergarten classes walked around the community to drop off thank you cards to community groups. The classes were divided up into groups to hand out cards. It was well received by everyone in the community and by the kids. Such a great idea!

Community

The teachers have worked hard this year to create a community feel within the school, because of the two schools coming together. There has been a lot of pairing between classes – older kids with younger kids – to help focus on building community.

The teachers have seen a lot of benefits in blending the two schools. The grade 3s are especially benefitting as they can learn from the grade 4, 5 and 6 students. Mrs. Janzen's grade 2s were able to be paired with grade 7s occasionally, which enabled them to do more than they could before when they were one of only a few classes in the primary school.

Parking

A question was raised about whether the extra parking spaces in front of the school have helped alleviate some of the parking issues and the response was that yes, these additional parking spaces have helped with the parking issues.

Fire incident follow-up

A question was raised about the follow up from the fire incident. The follow up did occur and building services, the engineer and the heating and cooling company have said that all is functioning well now.

6. Adjournment

Next meeting: September 24 at 7:00pm at Plympton-Wyoming P.S. in Room 130 (Breakout Room).