



WGH Parent Council Meeting

January 10, 2023

In attendance: Shruti Sharma (Chair), Ami Shah (CoChair), Swapnil Sharma (Parent School Advisor/Grade 3 class rep), Marie McKay (Director), Christina Oxamitny (Secretary), Erinn Marten (supporting Grade 5), Chauntelle McCallum (Director at Large), Kriscinda Maki, Mr. Thomas (Principal), Ms. Hiscock (Vice Principal)

1) Meeting called to order by Shruti: 6:04

Land Acknowledgement
Introduction of all present

2) Review of Agenda

3) Approval of November meeting minutes:

Motioned by Swapnil, seconded by Marie

4) Principal Report by Mr. Andrews

There was a meeting on Friday with the City for the plans for the park on the school property. Budget has been approved and will be built this summer. There is an inclusive focus, equipment for students in wheelchairs/wagons, built in communication equipment for nonverbal students/deaf/etc.

Location: planned beside the small park, towards school. This may impact location for soccer for students in Grades 1 and 2, however other locations are available for this activity. This new addition may also replace the current outdoor classroom, or allow this to be refurbished.

Drainage: finger drains implemented summer 2022 to solve drainage issues noticed previously in that area.

End of Nov-finished up volleyball season (boys won city championship, girls placed 2nd). Basketball teams will be selected by the end of the week, and there will be a Grade 5 only team.

Christmas concerts went well (3 nights worth). WGH is exploring having the Early Learning Concert during the day to help with staffing/help with the younger students in the future.

Movie night went on in December and families had fun. For a cold day, the space worked well and kids enjoyed cuddling in their blankets. The canteen went well, and candy was a big hit.

- Future considerations:
 - May also include payment when you RSVP.
 - Before Christmas was a good time, as it gave students something to look forward to.
 - Next one maybe February?

RCMP came in and gave an anti-bullying presentation which was very well received.

Trustee visit to the school showcasing Indigenous Kinship Club with knowledge and culture being shared, as well as showcasing extracurricular activities.

School wide breakfast was a big hit. Thank you to the first responders who served and Cora's for providing food at a discount!

DANCEPL3Y was a huge hit at the school! (Sponsored by WGFORS)

Coming Up: Winter Kinship Club Night, Multicultural Showcase, STEM programming from Westwood in the next month, robotics starting soon (Mr. Andrews taking over!)

5) Presentation on Black Canadian History by Ms. Hiscock

Focus on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Inspiration Republic will be returning and will be showcasing Canadian Black History. This is about a 60 min presentation for grades 4-6 on 3 Black individuals and their contributions.

6) Yearly Budget Overview by Mr. Andrews

10500 for TOCs and Temp CUPE (numbers based on previous years usage)

72, 611 for services/contracts

121, 789 for supplies, materials and equipment

Total budget 299, 400

The school can generate funds outside of this for space rentals, but there is a joint use agreement with the municipality so the city gets funds for use during the week (city reciprocates by paying for parks infrastructure and maintenance). For private bookings, contact Mr. Andrews or Ms. Meiko.

7) Transportation Meeting: was attended by Kriscinda Maki. This was scheduled during school pick up at WGH (2:30-3:15), so many parent's voices were lost/missed. The plan will be for feedback to be taken from all 16 schools.

8) Update on Joint Network meeting (November 8th) by Shruti Sharma

Full minutes will be on the school website.

Highlights: roles of trustees, new Alberta curriculum (K-6) and will be finished as of 2025. There will be new terminology for assessments (big visible change for parents). AERR results updated. Trustee engagement clarification-we can invite them to Parent Council meetings, but they do not automatically attend.

Next meeting: February 7th, 2023. Discussion topics: How have the School Council tried to increase engagement? Movie Night, Halloween dance, class representatives, Indigenous Liaison nights

9) Update on Parent School Council page on school website by Shruti Sharma

This has been updated so items linked from all social media (do not have to sign in to social media sites to see content).

10) Use the ASCA grant: Shruti Sharma and Thomas Andrews

\$500 in funds is available to use at our discretion for use this year. ASCA has 2 hour virtual workshops throughout the year (dates preset, but most available monthly). Funds should be used for learning/advancement of the council throughout the year. Funds can also be used for other items (ex. Indigenous knowledge sharing).

Funds can be accessed through Ms. Meiko (who applies on our behalf) once fund allocation is decided upon

11) Roles and Responsibilities on Parent Council/Class Representative by Shruti Sharma

Shruti chatted with Trustee Spargo, who recommended reaching out to Tracy Towe for contacts at other schools. This is a new initiative for our school and other schools can help provide guidance/best practices.

Current idea: Class representative is a parent volunteer who represents the class at meetings, as well as for an event (or helps coordinate volunteers from that class). They can also include a note in a weekly email, however representative emails may not wish to be shared due to privacy concerns.

Discussion of creating a “comment box” for parent feedback on school website (including class or student/parent name to help address concerns). This is to be created in collaboration with Shruti and Nazia.

12) Next meeting: February 7, 2023

13) Meeting adjourned: 7:22 PM