



WRPACS General Meeting Minutes

Date: Feb. 17, 2022

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

Attendees:

Leslie Atwell
Cheryl Kuyvenhoven
Mina Petersen
Tiffany Thesen-Yee
Afton Bell
Janet Williams

Nancy Schofield
Sabrina Chapman
Mar Reeve
Ashley Machum
Merlyn Guilderson
Dave Johnson

1. Call meeting to order

Meeting called to order at 1:01

2. Agenda – Additions/Deletions or Adoption

- Playground equipment funding to be discussed as part of the treasurer's report.
 - Motion: Tiffany Thesen-Yee; Seconded: Mina Petersen.
 - Agenda adopted as amended.

3. Approval of minutes from previous general meeting

- Motion: Leslie Atwell; Seconded: Mina Petersen.
Minutes adopted as presented.

4. Nominations for Vice President

- There were no nominations for vice president.

5. Administration Report (Janet Williams and Dave Johnson)

- There are so many special days this month. Students just wrote letters to residents of Sandalwood, Brandt's Creek Mews.
- Watson Road is the first school in the district to have a rainbow staircase installed. During the Harmony Day assembly, there was discussion about what the staircase means.
- The 22nd is 2s Day. Students are being asked to bring toonies to donate to The Bridge, which helps adolescents at risk of homelessness and transitioning away from living with their families.
- Tomorrow is a professional development day. Janet will be learning about trauma-informed practices. Dave will also be working with teacher teams about literacy strategies and how to provide evidence of student growth.
- Wednesday is Pink Shirt Day. School staff continue to wear Kindness Grows Here pins.
- A lot of teachers opted to celebrate Family Day—it helps students understand diversity and recognizes not everyone has a mother or a father, but everyone has a family.
- Next year, there will be 26 divisions at Watson Road. A bulldozer was on site to prepare the

ground for another portable, to be located next to Ms. Webb's classroom. There will be two additional portables in the 23/24 school year.

- COVID restrictions have somewhat lessened. There are discussions about holding an ELFF (Early Learning for Families) event on site, as well as after school walk and talks, so parents of all students have an opportunity to come see the school after being unable to because of COVID.
- Kindergarten orientation in May.
- MDI (Middle Years Development Instrument) surveys have been completed. Results should be back in May. The Grade 4 student learning survey will be administered to students soon. Staff survey and parent survey already sent out.
- Early dismissal March 10 and 11. Teachers will choose if parent conferences will be on Zoom or in person.
- School district staff have reached out to FreshGrade for information about how parents can download information from their childrens' profiles. Information is expected in early April.

6. Playground Upgrade Committee Report (Sabrina Chapman)

- We haven't heard yet when the new playground will be installed.
 - Mrs. Williams said school district staff believe we are on track for spring break installation.
- The committee is working with Mrs. Williams on a banner to put up to recognize the companies that have helped fund the new playground.
 - Leslie asked where the banner would be hung. Mrs. Williams had anticipated putting it on the fence on the Yates Road side of the school. She discussed getting a second one made and hung along Glenmore Road.
- Still waiting for the school district's plan for what to install on the Glenmore Road side of the school property.
- The committee is working on some grants for the nature trail area.

7. President's Report (Leslie Atwell)

- At our last meeting, we approved purchase of tables for the school. The school is going to purchase the tables and a cart. The PAC will reimburse the school for the cost of the tables. The order is expected to arrive March 7.
- We have created an email account specifically for PAC fundraising: wrpacfundraisers@gmail.com.
- Please put the word out that we are seeking someone to fill the vice president position. They play an important role on the PAC, assisting the president and, as needed, hosting meetings.

8. Treasurer's Report (Nancy Schofield)

- January financials
 - School community can access financials on the PAC webpage.
 - Motion to approve financials: Leslie Atwell; Seconded Mina Petersen.
 - Financials adopted as presented.
- We have received a request to increase the funding for purchasing equipment for students to play with at recesses from the budgeted \$1,500 to \$2,000.
 - Mr. Johnson has located some pre-built packages with a variety of play items. Leslie noted they would be good for primary students, but perhaps just a variety of balls should be purchased for intermediate students. Leslie suggested Mr. Johnson work with Mina to determine which equipment to order.
 - Motion: To increase the funding for playground equipment to \$2,000.
 - Moved: Mina Petersen; Seconded Leslie Atwell.
 - Motion approved as presented.

9. COPAC Report (Mina Petersen)

- Heard a presentation about the school district budget.
- Superintendent Kevin Kaardal spoke about rapid tests. They have arrived for staff and the district is anticipating students will go home with rapid tests soon.

10. PAC Activities

- **Spring Fundraisers** (Leslie Atwell)
 - Two fundraisers coming up.
 - We will be selling Purdy's chocolates for Easter. Ordering will open Feb. 28 and close March 18. Delivery is set for between April 4-8.
 - Growing Smiles (plants, hanging baskets) is tentatively set for orders April 4-14. We are hoping for delivery the week before Mother's Day. We are still working on setting up that fundraiser.
 - Jill Garrett will be doing the front end set up for both fundraisers. We are looking for volunteers to take on accepting the deliveries and take the lead on organizing the orders for distribution, working with a team of volunteers.
- **Hot Lunch**
 - Sarah was unable to attend the meeting. Cheryl noted the first hot lunch date took place last week, with two parent volunteers and Gr. 6 students distributing to students. Three more lunch dates are planned before spring break.

11. Volunteer Needs (Leslie)

- We continue to need a fundraising coordinator. The person is to oversee the fundraisers, make sure the right people are in place for individual fundraisers. The coordinator does not necessarily need to run them.
- Cheryl noted that there still is a need for parents to volunteer for Kiss & Ride on Tuesdays and Fridays. Currently, existing volunteers are helping on multiple days to ensure Kiss & Ride is adequately staffed. It is an easy half hour commitment. You can volunteer weekly, biweekly or monthly.
 - Mina suggested a sign be placed outside the school, requesting volunteers, so that the parents using Kiss & Ride can see help is needed.
 - Leslie and Cheryl to use a rolling bulletin board and create a sign next week.
 - Afton suggested a social media post, highlighting that parents don't need to help every week to be able to volunteer.

12. Event Planning (Leslie)

- The PAC has been discussing potential ideas for an outdoor event for the school community. There was an announcement Tuesday, changing COVID restrictions, but there was also a Minister of Education announcement that school extracurriculars remained at 50% capacity. Our events coordinator, Corrine Wilson, has reached out to Mrs. Williams to try to clarify what the restrictions mean. That answer will help the PAC as they discuss what would be possible.

13. Parent Survey (Tiffany Thesen-Yee)

- A survey was recently posted for parents. There were few responses, but there was some interesting feedback about events, fundraising and hot lunch.
 - Pre-COVID, the PAC used to hold dances and a spring fair. The survey sought ideas for events that could be done within the COVID restrictions.
 - There were several suggestions for outdoor events. The idea for a parent Trivia Night is an interesting option to pursue in the future. A spring concert would be a challenge because of gym capacity.
 - The Card Project was by far the favourite fundraiser. There requests to bring back spring flower baskets, which we are doing this year. The Greenery gift card fundraiser was suggested and looked at, but the amount of money we could earn was not a lot compared to the effort of operating the fundraiser for a school our size. Parents also suggested the PAC continue with the bottle drives that the playground committee has done.
 - Several suggestions for hot lunch vendors were made.

14. Questions/Comments

- None

Adjourn: 1:52