

WOSS School Council Meeting Monday, October 17, 2005

Minutes

Present

Jackie Williams, Chair; John Stieva, Principal; Bob Soden, Vice Principal; John Monteiro, Staff representative; John Welsh, community representative; Jenna Harkness, Chair, Student Council; Parents: Linda Hill (retiring treasurer), Kathy Batycky, Simon Khanna, Dianne Moseley, Elaine Moores, Yula Siamalekas, Wendy Visintini, Cindy Rice, Daniel Neibert, Luis and Esperanza Flores, Virginia Aumais.

September's Minutes

The Minutes for the September, 2005 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Student Council Report (Jenna Harkness)

The student council will be running a school dance, which is scheduled for Thursday, November 3rd, from 7 to 10 p.m. There are some changes from last year: this year there will only be ticket sales in advance, no tickets at the door. The student council will sell pizza ½ hour before the dance ends. They will also sell pop. They may need some parent volunteers to assist supervision at the dance. They have 6 teacher volunteers committed, so will need 5 to 10 parents to help out. There will be an off duty police officer present during the dance. Other activities of the student council include selling pizza at home football games as a fundraiser. Closer to the holidays, they hope to have a coffee shop.

2005-2006 School Council Elections

By acclamation: Jackie Williams is chair; Kathy Batycky is secretary, Diane Mosely is treasurer and Simon Khanna will assist treasurer duties; John Welsh will be the community representative.

Chair's Report

Jackie requested some assistance with (a) website duties, (b) e-news and (c) fundraising committee.

Cindy Rice offered to help with the website. Wendy Visintini offered to help with the monthly e-news. The issue of the fundraising committee was deferred to next meeting. Since Mr. Stieva has information on most of the fundraising activities ongoing in the school, he will bring information about the fundraising efforts of the different groups in the school for next meeting, with a view to giving council an overview of what's going on in fundraising in the school. When asked about the viability of continuing the charms fundraiser, Jenna Harkness indicated that charms are not as popular with students this year as in the past.

Jackie reported that the turnout to the evening with Phil Hedges was disappointing. Discussion was held as to possible reasons why the turnout was so poor. Elaine Moores offered to help out with advertising/ communicating the next session, which is scheduled for April, and which will be on brain based learning. Some ideas were given at this meeting, including contacting ratepayers associations with information about the meeting, and contacting the various tutoring companies within Oakville. Council will focus on this issue in January.

Jackie informed Council that there was a family of schools meeting scheduled for October 25th, at River Oaks Public School. The Family of Schools is a meeting of all the chairs from the

councils of all the schools in the area. They meet five times each year to discuss issues common interest to all the schools.

Jackie requested the school's help in creating a sign for School Council. Mr. Stieva indicated he will find out what the cost would be and report back to school council.

Treasurer's Report (Linda Hill)

The Bank Reconciliation was distributed, showing total deposits in the month of September of \$421.03, the only expense in September being the bank service charge of \$5.00, resulting in a total bank balance as at September 30, 2005 being \$1,908.33. The deposit was money earned from charms that were sold, and donations that were made during that month.

Principal's Report (John Stieva)

Mr. Stieva reported that the awards ceremony was scheduled for October 27th, with a reception to follow. The commencement was scheduled for October 28th, with a reception to follow. One of the music parents has offered to fundraise by way of taking photographs during commencement, and selling the photos.

Public Health will be in the school on November 8th to speak about an anti-smoking campaign. The assembly will be mandatory for all students. Mr. Stieva explained that smoking is not allowed on school property, but not vigorously enforced in the stoned sitting area in the school yard. This selective enforcement has been successful in keeping students from smoking near the school.

On Remembrance Day, November 11th, there will be assemblies which have been organized by the Grade 9 drama classes.

Mr. Gassi and Mr. Stieva are working on a lease-to-own contract with Cosmo Music in Toronto, which will assist the school in obtaining more musical instruments-the parents can lease the instrument through the school, then receive a tax donation receipt and leave the instrument with the school.

Mr. Stieva reviewed what expectations the school has of the school council. The council is to be the eyes and ears of the community. He would like council members to inform him of any negatives they hear or experience in the school, so he can address them. He acknowledged that one of the common complaints about the school is the building's age. He is working on improving the interior of the school, as well as the landscaping at the front of the school. The manufacturing teachers are exploring the possibility of constructing an electronic sign for the school.

Mr. Stieva indicated he would like two committees created this year: one for commencement-to determine whether the date for each year's commencement should be changed from October to June; and a dress code committee. He also asked council to consider what we would like to discuss this year, having consideration to the list of areas of consultation with school councils found in the School Council Handbook Supplement "Quick Reference Guide".

Other

A parent asked if council could make the issue of the lack of privacy in the boys showers a priority. In addition, it was pointed out that the boys' washrooms need soap. Another parent

requested the school look into the possibility of the cafeteria selling breakfast items, such as Egg McMuffins, until noon.

Meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 21st, 2005.