

# WOSS School Council Meeting Minutes

## Monday January 19 2009

In attendance: Kelly Amos (chair), John Stieva (principal); Claire Ailey (vice pincipal), C. Kirstein, (teacher), John Monteiro (teacher); Mike Parchimowicz (student teacher); Lindsay Craig (student teacher); Gary Tam (student rep); parents: D. Neibert (community rep); Bonnie Husain (teacher rep), Kathy Batycky, Simon Khanna, Uma Kalia-Ito, Sherry Kirkham, Jackie Williams, Susan McIntyre

Regrets: Craig McDonald, Saadia Khan, Dianne Moseley,

### **Welcome** K. Amos

The people who attended the meeting introduced themselves to the group

### **Minutes from November** K. Amos

Motion to approve the minutes passed on consensus, except correction, to move the word "parents" before Kathy Batycky's name.

### **Differentiated Instruction** Christel. Kirstein

- John Stieva handed out the School Effectiveness Plan chart, which shows the targets for the school to achieve. One of the "actions" is to have evidence of differentiated instruction, addressing numeracy skills from the EQAO test to be evident in lessons".
- Ms. Kirstein heads the committee for implementing Differentiated Instruction. She gave a presentation: Differentiation is an instructional style that helps teachers plan for diverse learners to get them to targeted standards. Teachers need to try different styles in order to reach all the different levels of students and all students who have different ways of learning. The evidence of the differentiated instruction will be the teacher's lesson plan. In their planning, the teacher will have to have the resources for al the different students and increase the variety of activities for the different learning types and add greater complexity. WOSS has a pilot team of 10 teachers who are learning how to implement differentiated instruction, which teachers will assist in training the other teachers.

### **Student Rep Report** Gary Tam

Student council is taking a break during end of first semester, and will make February a friendship month, with many spirit events. The semi-formal is in February at the Holiday Inn; other events are in the planning stage, such as handing out stickers to put positive comments to others.

### **Treasurer's Report** S. Kirkham

- Treasurer's report was not available. Sherry will send a report to Kelly who will forward it to everyone in council. Kelly indicated that council should be receiving \$500 from the Parent Involvement Committee for parent involvement activities.
- John Stieva indicated that Pam Cottingham will no longer work at the school due to working at cashless schools. Tracy Wickham will take over the position, but is away currently due to a family death.

### **Chair's Report** K. Amos

Congratulations to John for winning one of the outstanding principals of Canada; he will receive the award at a gala in Toronto on February 24th.

Fundraising - Internet/Silent auction

Council has a few items for the auction.

#### Ontario Premier Nominations

Council plans to nominate John Stieva and Dave Margetts. However, John suggested that instead of nominating him, since he has already won an award, we nominate the entire staff as a "team" to show the premier how much the staff has accomplished. One supporting letter will be written by student council and one letter will be written by John Stieva.

#### Website Updating

John will look into how to have the website updated.

### **Principal's Report**

#### Staffing

For semester 2, we are losing a couple of teachers. John is in the process of hiring 2 teachers.

#### School Effectiveness Plan

John will answer questions at the next meeting.

#### Budget

- The school has incurred extra, unanticipated costs: Every staff member now has a laptop. However, the wireless does not work throughout the entire building and the school has a lot of dead spots despite being told by the installers it would work. The school has had to commit an additional \$47,000 to have the dead spots fixed.
- The electronic sign is up and fairly up-to-date. The final bill was \$27,000, which is an additional \$5,000 from the initial quote.
- In addition the Board billed the school upfront for the computer financing; so the school got an additional bill for \$5,700. As a result of these extra costs, the budget for second semester is quite tight.

#### Course Selections

For September, WOSS has applied to be a pilot school for an Aboriginal Course. The Ministry financially supports this course. The course selection has begun. A meeting of the Grade 8 parents has been held.

#### Accomplishments

Two teams scored perfectly in the math contest, but because the time frame was missed they were in second place. Winter sports are still in the season.

#### Field Trips

Only major trip in February is the ski team going to Vermont.

### **Other**

- John had a discussion with the Town about wall murals in the school, with the concept of reducing graffiti by encouraging wall art instead.
- John Monteiro asked if council could donate some money towards the teacher's luncheon held at the end of each semester. Council will pay the usual \$150 donation if we have the money; if not enough money Kathy Batycky will arrange for her firm to donate the difference.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Next Meeting Date – February 23rd 2009