

Wheatland Elementary Parent Advisory Council Meeting
February 27th, 2019

Attendance:

Amy Van Vliet
Michelle Rushford
Rob Pirie
Nicole Gordon
Angie Boyd

Danna Hanni
David Porter
Sheri Porter
Jenny Bakken

Meeting called to order at 7:08 by Nicole Miller

Approval of previous minutes

Motion by Angie
Second by David
All in favour. Motion passed

Principal's report

Amy Van Vliet

PAC has committed to donate to the Wheatland garden project. This project is being sponsored by other organizations as well, including Communities in Bloom. The project recently received a \$1000.00 grant as well. The Strathmore High School is going to be building the boxes and installing them. Wheatland Montessori is running the project and has committed to be the ones to maintain the project through the years, but all grade levels can and will be involved in the project. All local businesses and organizations who have been involved in the project will be recognized. There is a "name that garden" project that will be taking place soon.

Michelle Rushford

Dr. John Mighton recently visited Wheatland Elementary. He is a world renowned figure for a variety of reasons including being an actor and a poet. He developed the Jump Math program. He was interested in visiting Wheatland Elementary because of the school's involvement with Jump Math and the fact that it is a Math Minds school. He led 2 lessons in both the 5A and the 2A classrooms. Other teachers from the school as well as some Board members observed the lessons. It was a fantastic experience. The students were active and engaged learners during his lessons, and the school was very proud of them. Afterwards there was a "wine" and cheese social (real cheese, but fake wine...it was juice) as an opportunity for staff to talk with Dr. John Mighton.

Student-led conferences will be taking place on March 27. Teachers or parents may request a one-on-one interview, and the rest of the time will be devoted to an open house style event where students show their parents some of the work that they've been doing in school. This year, the student-led conference will be combined with the Leadership Day. For Leadership Day, each student chooses an area that he/she feels they are a leader in and prepares an exhibit to showcase. These exhibits will be all over the school for parents to see that evening. The Book Fair will be taking place that night as well, and there may be Phys. Ed. activities set up in the gym as well.

Reports from committees

Hot Lunch – given by Nicole (Stephanie Sweere not in attendance)

- Profit for January hot lunch was \$400.98
- The numbers are not yet in for February

Treasurer's report – Angie Boyd

- we started the year with \$7000.00 in the account
- Angie is still learning the accounting program, and has not yet balanced the books
- \$17 108.49 is in the account, but this does not include this month's Hot lunch expenses/revenue
- by the next meeting, Angie will have the accounting program sorted out and will have an accurate number as to how much money we have left to spend
 - Casino account is at \$54 764.14, but this is not accurate as an \$8000.00 cheque still needs to be cashed (the account will be just over \$46 000.00 after that cheque clears)
- we got \$43 402.92 from the casino that we ran in November. We have 2 years to spend that money (see attached report from AGLC)

Fundraising report – Nicole (Melissa Piche not in attendance)

- Nothing to report

New business

Email addresses for PAC executive will be changing.

wes.pac.president@gmail.com

wes.pac.vicepresident@gmail.com

wes.pac.treasurer@gmail.com

wes.pac.secretary@gmail.com

wes.pac.fundraising@gmail.com

wes.pac.casino.chair@gmail.com

wes.pac.hot.lunch@gmail.com

These email addresses will also be included on the school website

Project Hope

Amy let us know about the Project Hope Gala that is happening on March 16. An invitation will also be extended to families at Wheatland. There will be dinner, entertainment, and a silent auction. The Gala is a fundraiser for Project Hope. Project Hope provides music therapy and adapted Physical Education activities in local schools. A Project Hope staff member is at Wheatland Elementary 1.5 days/week, and 27 students at the school participate in the program. Wheatland Elementary would not be able to fund this program on its own, so being able to utilize the therapy provided by Project Hope is very much appreciated by the staff and admin at the school, as it is an impactful program. Wheatland Elementary is going to make a monetary donation or provide an item for the silent auction; the staff is going to make a decision on this soon.

Project Hope is asking PAC to make a donation as well, as we have done in the past.

In the past, PAC has donated \$100/student who participate in the program at Wheatland. We are unable to do that this year due to a higher number of student participants as well as a lack of funds. Hot Lunch is no longer as profitable as it once was, (due to increases to

food prices while our prices have remained the same) so we are unable to guarantee a large surplus in funds. The value of the program was discussed, as well as our financial situation, before a motion to donate the money was put forward.

- Motion to donate \$1500.00 to Project Hope made by David
- 2nd by Jenny
- All in favour. Motion passed

Rob Pirie passed out pamphlets that outline the Board of Trustees Advocacy Plan. There are 3 main points in the plan:

- 1) There needs to be additional funds to support special needs and mental health issues
- 2) There needs to be greater flexibility to use available funds to run the buildings.
- 3) There needs to be more funds to transport and educate students

The School Board has also created large posters containing this same info for schools to put up in their offices/hallways, etc. The information can also be found on the Golden Hills website.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 by Nicole Gordon

Casino meeting

Meeting called to order at 8:02 by Nicole Gordon

Angie would like to put an ad in the paper to publicly thank all of the sponsors, donors, and volunteers involved in the playground construction. She's already spoken to the paper about getting a ¼ page ad. The paper will design the spot, and Angie will provide the list of names/companies to be recognized as well as some pictures of students playing on the new equipment. This will cost around \$100.

- Motion to spend \$100 for an ad in the newspaper made by Angie
- 2nd by David
- all in favour. Motion passed

Angie had large pictures of students playing on the playground while holding "thank-you" signs made to give to companies that helped out with the playground construction. She brought the one for ATCO Gas to the meeting so we all got to see it. She asked David to pass on the picture to his superior at ATCO, which he agreed to do.

120 hours (out of the 150 owed) have been paid back to the Lions in exchange for their donation to the playground. 10 parents from Wheatland volunteered to set up the Lions' 80th anniversary celebration.

Angie would like to continue our relationship with the Lions by continuing to advertise volunteer opportunities with them.

The letter that Angie wrote up to send home to make parents aware of the need for volunteers for various events including the Lions' 80th Anniversary celebration and Staff Appreciation Week was a success.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11pm by Nicole.

Next meeting: March 20 at 7:00pm at Wheatland Elementary

These minutes are considered to be a true and accurate account of the meeting discussions. Any errors or omissions must be reported to the Secretary before the next meeting.