

Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting

Meeting Minutes – January 31st, 2023 – 7:00 pm

Parent Council Meeting

- 1) Meeting called to order by Susanne Moskal @ 7:02 pm
- 2) Attendance/Introductions: Susanne Moskal, Amy Van Vliet, Emily Garrioch, Alison Mabbot, Wendy Atrill, Melanie Hays, Melissa McQ, Jordan (annante), Jenny Metz, Heather Thoms, Vicki McQuiggan, Sara Phillips, Megan Meston, Hiranish Popat – everyone shared their name and child(ren) name. Susanne shared about the parent rep program – each parent that attends the next three meetings gets their choice of a Sobey's gift card or hot lunch for one child for June. The idea is to have more parents attend the PAC meetings to help work with the school to plan events and advise/work with administration. When looking for help or planning events, parent reps could reach out to the other parents in the class. Thank you to all the parent reps that attended tonight. **Meeting minutes completed by Susanne Moskal, as no other executive was at the meeting.
- 3) Overview of Agenda: Susanne went through the agenda for both meetings
- 4) Approval of the Minutes, as presented (OR as amended)
 - a) November 16th, 2022 – Susanne motioned to accept the meeting minutes from November 15th, Heather Thoms' 2nd the motion and all the attendees were in favour of accepting the minutes. Minutes are accepted.
- 5) Old Business: Susanne
 - a) Christmas Market Debrief – Susanne started out the conversation around the Christmas Market thanking Rachelle and Wendy for being a part of the committee helping to plan the event. She shared that overall, the students loved the event and thanked the parent volunteers and members of Crowther Junior High leadership for all their help. It was difficult to buy 3x's, so she made a call out for other feedback and ideas.
 - a. Melanie Hays shared some feedback – We need more change in the float, as we ran out of money and needed to go to office and bank to get more change. With the \$20 limit, lots of students brought this amount but did not spend it. She suggested buying everything from Dollar Tree for \$1.50 and sell it for \$2.00 – makes it a lot easier. Melanie suggested no shopping lists and no limit. She also suggested that we write names on students' bags of money in case they are left. Mrs. Smith had given Melanie a great suggestion to have the cashier set up at the door exiting the classroom and having the wrapping in the atrium. Sometimes students had not paid but were getting their gifts wrapped.
 - b. Heather Thoms shared some ideas – Reach out to local community to see if crafting parents will donate some of their products to sell. Heather makes small gnomes and would like to donate them. She also suggested when there is a sale at Walmart on great items, like pencils for instance, stock up on them.

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- c. Megan Meston shared some feedback – The junior high group of kids was amazing. They were hard workers!
 - d. Hiranish shared some feedback - she enjoyed the empowerment that the students had to go spend their own money. Hiranish liked the \$20 limit.
 - e. Heather shared some more ideas: It might be better to go with a \$10 limit and have a pre – shop set up where they come and look before buying. She was also concerned with students that did not have any money.
 - i. Amy responded that they helped to support students that had no money that wanted to participate.
 - f. Melanie had another great suggestion: On the 2nd day, when they have another chance to shop, the order could be reversed to allow classes that shopped last on the 1st day, they get to shop 1st the next day.
 - i. Amy appreciated that suggestion and mentioned that it was a busy week and that it could get bumped up to earlier in December.
 - g. Jenny Metz shared some feedback: She thanked Susanne and her daughter for doing on all the shopping. She really liked all the categories and thought they were a good idea to include pets and babies.
 - h. Susanne said she appreciated that as she did spend a lot of time shopping and was disappointed when she underestimated the number of items and when they ran out.
 - i. Hiranish jumped in and told Susanne to not beat herself up.
 - j. Susanne concluded the conversation and again thanked everyone. She said there would be changes made and a committee made again next year to try this again.
- b) Parent Recruitment Plan: Susanne shared details at the beginning.
- 6) Principal's Report: Amy Van Vliet & Emily Garrioch
- a) Emily shared about the upcoming Trickster theatre that is coming to WES February 13 – 17th. There will be 5 artists joining the school and each class will get 1.5 – 3 hours/day to co-create their part in the show. On the Thursday night, February 16th, parents will be invited to watch the show. On the Friday, staff and students will get to watch each other. There was an email sent out on Tuesday January 31st from the school to explain Trickster, as well as a Sign Up Genesis link to have 40 volunteers to help with costumes and props.
 - b) Emily asked about the money/class from PAC and Susanne mentioned we had already motioned to help fund Trickster. \$100/class will from PAC to help with costumes and props.
 - c) Amy shared tomorrow is World Read Aloud day and students from Crowther Junior High were coming over to read with the classes.
 - d) She continued that the week of Trickster theatre will be busy with Valentine's Day and the 100 Day Celebrations. The last week of February the school will focus on Black History month.

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- e) Amy also explained that on Friday, the school will have “Wear a Sweater” day, as we are an Eco School and working on this pillar. Last year, WES had enough points to be a gold school but they are working towards Platinum, which they were at in previous years.
 - f) Lastly, Amy mentioned that progress reports will be coming out in March and there will be 1 night vs 2 nights of interviews.
 - g) Susanne thanked Amy and Emily for the report.
- 7) New Business: Susanne
- a) Trickster Theatre – We already discussed with Principal report – no need to discuss anything
 - b) Staff Appreciation – date, ideas, committee – Susanne explained that PAC likes to run a week-long celebration to show the school communities appreciation to the staff at WES. Prior to covid, volunteers helped with supervision during this week and they always bring in treats. Over the last couple of years, PAC has been creative to make this work. 2 years ago, they did a Hollywood, Star of WES theme and last year, they did an Olympic theme. Susanne asked for any suggestions or ideas and one person suggested bringing in different types of dishes to celebrate international cultures. It was decided that the week would be March 20 – 23, as that is when the interviews will be, is the week of Staff Appreciation. Susanne will head up the committee and make a call out for people to help support this.
- 8) Susanne called for any other contributions
- 9) Next Meeting: Wednesday March 15th, 2023, at 7:00 pm via zoom
- 10) Meeting was adjourned for 7:44 pm

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The Society of WES Parent Council Meeting Minutes – January 31, 2023

- 1) Call Meeting to Order: Susanne called the meeting to order for 7:44 pm
- 2) Attendance: Same as PAC
- 3) Overview of Agenda: Susanne had already shared the agenda
- 4) Hot Lunch Report: Angela
 - a) No hot lunch report, as Angela was not at the meeting. Admin mentioned there was a slight change in the gluten free option on one of the recent hot lunches.
- 5) Financial Report: Treasurer - Angie
 - a) Angie was absent and shared her report with Susanne. She apologized for her absence and mentioned that casino funds should be in our account in the next 30 days. This will prompt some conversation around how the funds are used. Cheques for field trips will be coming out asap. She had asked Amy to touch base with her on the # of students in the school for field trips.
- 6) Fundraising Report – Melissa
 - a) No fundraising report, as Melissa was not at the meeting.
- 7) Old Business
 - a) Hot Lunch progress/New Fridays – nothing to report, as Angela not at the meeting
- 8) New Business
 - a) Lunch Box Program – tabled until next meeting, as Angela not at the meeting
- 9) Adjourn Meeting for 7:48 pm – thanks to everyone for attending – see you on March 15th. Watch for information on Staff Appreciation committee.

