**Wedgewood Family & School Association**

**MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, November 27, 2023

6:30pm – Combination virtual/in person

1. **Welcome and Attendance**

**Parents**: Andrea Thompson, Ashley Mehta, Sarah Welstead, Winnie Leung, Sherry Dolme, M. Khan, Telma Da Silva, Siba A, Krista Speller, Brittani Jarvis, Esmeralda, Emme, Sarah Kelleher, Brenda Shewchuk, Delane Robinson,

**Staff:** Ms Graydon, Principal, Mr Morrone, vice-principal, Erik Lindstol, teacher, Mr Khan, librarian

1. **Land Acknowledgement**

The Toronto District School Board (TDSB) is situated on the ancestral, treaty and title lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishinaabe, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples. It is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.

1. **Principal’s Update**

* Increased focus on the thrill of reading for enjoyment for the school overall
* Window construction in rooms 18 & 19 will continue through December
* A new budget committee is being formed to better align school goals and needs, and improve communication with WFSA in order to balance what the TDSB can provide with what WFSA can provide and afford, and ensure that teachers are aware of process and requirements

1. **Treasurer report – Telma & Ashley**

* November meeting is our budget/financial meeting
* Current balance is where we expected to be at this point

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| --- | --- |
| Current balance (Nov 27 2023) | 64,718.51 |
| Cheques not cleared | ( 6,517.14) |
| **Available funds** | **58,201.37** |
|  |  |
| Allocated funds | (68,849.67) |
| Grade 5 (cookies) | (1,614.00) |
| Already spent (expenses) | 24,619.31 |
| Spiritwear | (1,239.00) |
|  |  |
| **Pre-allocated pending** | **(47,083.36)** |
|  |  |
| AVAILABLE FUNDS | 11,118.01 |
|  |  |

1. **FUND REQUESTS**  
   Requests for funding were submitted to Ms Graydon prior to the meeting, who provided them to Andrea for discussion and voting.  **NOTE:** Going forward, teachers should submit detailed requests to WFSA (through Ms Graydon) for items prior to purchasing them, rather than purchasing first and submitting for reimbursement afterwards. Recommended that teachers who are making larger requests should come to the relevant WFSA meeting to provide additional detail and answer questions.

**$4000 for library/science materials from Mr Khan, librarian**

* Insufficient detail to approve the entire request
* There are at least 11 boxes of uncatalogued library books that need to be inventoried prior to purchasing new materials
* Science materials need to be itemized prior to approval

OUTCOME: WFSA to set aside $1000 for potential new library books, pending a survey of teachers and assessment of current inventory.

**$791 Dwayne Morgan, Black History Educator**

* Approved

**$190.96 TV stand (already purchased by Andrea)**

* Approved

**$500 for kindergarten classroom expenses (refitting)**

* Approved

**$949.20 for Chef l’ecole submitted by Mme Ghegin (grade 5 special French event)**

* Approved
* Note that Mme Ghegin has applied for a grant to help defer this cost

**$2343 Prologue Arts Tribal Vision submitted by Mr Zalameda**

* Approved

**$559.99 Reading/writing cart for Ms Ramlogan**

* Not approved

1. **Health & Safety update (Sarah K)**

* There is currently a mouse problem in the school
* Orkin treatments have been increased to check and replace bait traps, etc.
* Problem seems to have improved since the beginning of the school year
* Door sweeps are being installed to reduce mice ingress
* The ‘caterpillar’ equipment has caused a couple of injuries this fall. We have staff on site who are trained in first aid who are on the playground during lunch and recess, and the caterpillar itself is not deemed a hazard at this time.
* Parents are encouraged to use the kiss and ride dropoff in the mornings to reduce traffic congestion and risk on Swan
* We continue to be ineligible for a dedicated crossing guard
* Our issue is primarily that overcrowding in the school is leading to extra traffic, especially at dropoff time. Ms Graydon is exploring the use of additional staff at the kiss and ride area in the mornings.

1. **Equity Committee (Andrea)**

* Recognition that with more kids of more diverse backgrounds in the school it could be a good time to do more work on diversity, inclusion, anti-bullying, etc.
* Ms Graydon reports that she now has access to our census data from earlier in the year which may contain information that she can share with the community
* We have 2 settlement workers who work with us one day a week, to help facilitate communications with new families and the school, and access the TDSB ESL programs with have further resources
* We have received a $1500 grant for a presentation at the Cultural Night at the school
* Andrea will put a planning committee together for the Cultural Night, which was well-received last year

1. **Fundraising and events committee**

* Fall Fest profits - $7800 (to be used for library and music funding)
* Cookie sales for grade 5 - $1600
* Spirit Wear profits - $1239 (to be used for new gym equipment)
* Telma recommends additional fundraising via birthday cards. We make $12/box on cards, making them an easy and profitable fundraiser that should be well-received. We anticipate doing this fundraising initiative in January.
* Andrea suggests that we allow parents to donate directly to WFSA (outside of fundraisers or events) using a letter similar to other schools and offering tax receipts
* Recognition that before large sums are put towards library funding, we need to assess what books we already have (including the uncatalogued new books), determine gaps, reorganize, etc. Andrea is putting together a working party to start this process.

1. **VOTING on fund requests. (see Section #5 for voting results)**
2. **Adjournment – Next meeting December 11th, 6:30-7:30pm** (Trustee Dan MacLean to attend)