

Council Meeting minutes

Council Meeting	Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams 15 October 2025
Staff Attendance	Ms Nalin (Principal), Ms Galloway (Educator), Ms Ciaccia (Librarian)
Executive Attendance	Melissa Dawson (Co-Chair), Michele Brown (Co-Chair), David Osubronie (Vice Chair), Zaineh Balbisi (Co-Treasurer), Willem van Rijk (Co-Treasurer), Isabella Ruiz (Co-Secretary), Elizabeth Larose (Co-Secretary)
Member Attendance	Sarah Pratt, Laura Kupcis, Sarah Milligan, Elyse Hastings, Prabodani Don Liyanage, Rachel W
Quorum	14 parent members recorded as "Present" therefore Quorum (10) was reached for council (19 parent members)
Item 1	Land Acknowledgment -(Ms Nalin)
Item 2	<p>Principal's update -(Ms Nalin)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Thus far has been sending weekly update</li> <li>● Terry fox update- students happy, very successful</li> <li>● Mandatory reorganization: new grade ¾ class, resulting in moving 36 children</li> <li>● Received Ms. Moore on full day basis</li> <li>● Completed early reading screener for all of the student Kinder-grade 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- becomes part of their report card</li> </ul> </li> <li>● We are one of the model schools for TDSB- we have privilege for completing CCAT 4 (Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test) assessment for grade 2s, also grade 4/5 component</li> <li>● CCAT 5 administered online next week</li> <li>● CCAT for grade 3 students, will happen week of October 27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- have option to opt out however students how achieve certain level will do further assessment to see if they are gifted</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Educators completed training during first 2 PA days: School safety, AI training</li> <li>● Field Trips: Grades 4/5 went to national ballet</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- national ballet coming to school, virtually for junior students</li> <li>● in September had “love your lunch day”</li> <li>● Coming up Spirit week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- down syndrome awareness</li> <li>- Halloween parade</li> <li>- Remembrance Day event</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Families are also invited to share cultural heritage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tell us more about their heritage, if you would like to share reach out to Principal</li> </ul> </li> <li>● STP program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- School Travel Planning Program</li> <li>- traffic safety sounding school</li> <li>- guide school through 5 key phases</li> <li>- assess over 2-year periods</li> <li>- only 60 schools can participate in it, we have been chosen</li> <li>- work with travel planner and Principal, so that we can combine visions, work towards better school traffic conditions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Item 3	<p>School Statement of Needs/School Improvement Plan -(Michele Brown)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Michele discussed importance and key points of both School Statement of needs and School Improvement Plan</li> </ul>
Item 4	<p>Grants Committee: -(Michele Brown)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Michele inviting others to join Grants committee</li> <li>● Inviting those who are interested, have skills that would be useful (writing, analytical skills, Research, attention to detail etc.)</li> <li>● Dave created sign up in drive folder- sign up if interested!</li> <li>● Innovation grant deadlines approaching</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Share ideas of interest</li> <li>○ Westmount has received grant in the past</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approved topics include: Civil Discourse/Courageous Conversations</li> <li>▪ Chronic Absenteeism</li> <li>▪ Food Sovereignty</li> <li>▪ Human Rights</li> <li>▪ Mental Health and Well-Being</li> <li>▪ Navigating Technology and Artificial Intelligence (For Parents/Caregivers)</li> <li>▪ Engaging Parents/Caregivers in Early Literacy and Numeracy</li> </ul> <p>See more info:  <a href="https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/School-Councils/School-Council-Innovation-Grant">https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/School-Councils/School-Council-Innovation-Grant</a></p>
Item 5	<p>Book Fair update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Book fair: very popular, monies used to purchase books, popular titles, materials for makerspace</li> <li>● Scholastic book fair and Boogie Books</li> <li>● <b>Boogie</b> books only bring books, no distracting items and pens (Will ask to come back for spring book fair) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Will have supplemental bookmarks</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Reach out to Ms. Caccia or Laura</li> <li>● Volunteer sign-up sheet in google drive -check Whatsaap chat</li> <li>● Principal to share info on weekly update (dates and volunteering)</li> </ul>
Item 6	<p>Nutrition/Weekly food orders: <b>(Please add more info!)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Message Laura with questions or feedback</li> </ul>
Item 7	<p>Planning fundraising events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Pizza dates- Thursday, November 13, &amp; Thursday November 27 (Confirm correct)</b></li> <li>● <b>Cookie Dough available to order November 1<sup>st</sup>, cut off November 30<sup>t</sup></b></li> <li>● <b>December pizza day- December 11</b></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Galloway noted: Please keep line of communication open to Kinder teachers as kids will need their pizza earlier</li> <li>• May consider having 2 pizza deliveries in the future</li> </ul> <p>Candy Grams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decide December candy gram date</li> <li>• Candy gram prep is very labour intensive- will need lots of volunteers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ collect all, attach candies, sort them out</li> <li>○ Can take batches home and do on own time</li> <li>○ Helpful to have weekend to finish it</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	While Melissa offered to take meeting minutes, unfortunately she was unable to complete them, any additional notes or recordings would be helpful
Item 8	<p>Funding Allocation and Fundraising Review -(Michele and Zaineh)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of last year's funding allocation and whether it should be maintained</li> <li>• Review of previous fundraisers and how effective they were</li> <li>• Discussion of need to allocate fundraisers to causes</li> </ul>
Item 9	<p>Funding allocation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funds raised from Terracotta Cookie sales must be allocated to a cause, therefore allocating cookie dough sales to the nutrition program would allow the fundraiser to occur and raise funds for the nutrition program</li> <li>• Motion was Tabled (Michele) and seconded (Willem) to allocate Terracotta Cookie dough sales to the nutrition program, motion was passed (?unanimously)</li> </ul>
Item 10	<p>Volunteering Signup</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advised council members on volunteer activity assistance sign up sheet available on google drive</li> <li>• Advised members on getting police VSC ASAP</li> </ul>
Item 11	Closing remarks”

**ADD INFO ABOUT NEW FUNDRAISING EVENTS BELOW** and funding allocation  
(Please edit- writer had to leave abruptly at hearing was limited at this time)