

**Weston Memorial Junior Public School
School Council Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2023**

Chair: Julie Bisson (co-chair Jamie Cameron)

Treasurer: Adriana Avramova

Secretary: N/A (Minute taker of this meeting – Jamie Cameron)

Location: Weston Memorial JPS Library and virtual

Time: 6:30 pm

Attendees:

Staff: Principal Susanne Fata (SF), Christina Sciortino (CS), Sandra Di Vincenzo (SD)

Parents/caregivers: Jamie Cameron (JC) Julie Bisson (JB), Adriana Avramova (AA), Maria Russell (MR), Marya Williams (MW), Melissa Morgan (MM), Tasha Zobolotny (TZ), Kyra Tschesnokow-Tran (KT), Isabel Clark (IC).

Community Representative: cannot attend today, will be at next meeting

Agenda Item	Decision/ Action Taken	Action Items/ Responsibilities
<i>Welcome, Introductions and Land Acknowledgement</i>	Land Acknowledgment recited and welcome attendees (in-person and virtual)	
<i>Review and approval of November 2022 minutes</i>	<p>Actions stemming from last meeting – Dance-a-thon fundraiser required costs to pay for shirts and top earned class.</p> <p>JC makes motion to accept November minutes. AA seconds. Motion passed</p>	
<i>Chair Report (JC)</i>	<p>(1) <u>Skate night</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ~1/3 of school turned out • Although the skate shop was not open when we arrived, they were able to open, allowing 27 people to rent skates (paid for by council). • Came in under budget: Permit 260, skate 135, food, ~75 = \$470. Budget was \$600 • Used parent engagement funding to cover costs 	

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	(2) <u>Ukrainian Backpack drive</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizers wanted to express thanks for all that participated. 	
	(3) <u>Innovation Grant</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used to be the <i>Parents Reaching Out</i> grant • WMJPS is collaborating with 3 other schools (us, Pelmo, HJ, CR), on the topic of food sovereignty • Meeting happening end of this month, will share details with Council • Already have volunteers 	SC to share more information at March meeting.
	(4) <u>Pizza Lunch</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you to volunteers • Uptake thus far is just breaking even, with a projected \$2000 in revenue. • SC will be continuously monitoring to ensure money is raised. Some money has been collected per month vs. some for the whole year • Options to ensure better margin for fundraising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ask to be cut into 12 instead of 10, to make pizza go further ▪ Have been ordering some extra, but will reduce that going forward ▪ Could run comparison of cash-online to other avenues 	
	(5) <u>Spring Move Night</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date set for Thursday, May 4th • Typically start movie at 6:30 • We will just be using the gym, meaning one movie suitable for all ages. (previously also used music room for younger age move). • Will need volunteers to help organize closer to the date • We will offer pizza beforehand, by pre-order • We will move to cash online, as opposed to historically collecting in-person • We will have bake sale stand 	SC to strike side committee for event.
	(6) <u>June Fair</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is our big event, which hasn't happened since before the pandemic. • Food includes multiple vendors and Pizza Pizza (from accumulated credit from lunched over the year) • We have bouncy castles and activities 	Set up steering committee in early February (<i>update – meeting held Feb. 27</i>)

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The biggest question is how much money do we spend ahead of time. The event usually costs about \$10k to put on, and brings in \$20k in revenue. The revenues from fundraising through the year (and carryover from previous years) usually acts as our float for rentals, but we don't have as much accumulated as years past. • Will create subcommittee as early as February. • People have already been reaching out about people that are interested in sponsoring • We need to leverage opportunities with local businesses for sponsorship. • 	
<i>School Improvement Plan (JC)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subcommittee (JC, MR and MT) met in early January to discuss SC and parent input and supports in the 3 SIP goal areas. • Subcommittee has created a draft Parent/Guardians Voice survey to solicit thoughts from the community, to be launched in the spring. • Feedback and questions were provided to SF, some of which will be discussed in tonight's Principal's report. 	
<i>Financial Report (AA)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash flow summary document provided during meeting. • Dance-a-thon raised \$8300, after \$450 in expenses (compared to budget of \$4000) • Pizza days: \$3700 in revenue, but little profit. Some have paid year-in-full, some are paying month to month, making it difficult to project profits. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Suggestion from SF, encourage next year to do month-to-month to make tracking of dollars easier. ○ Takeaway – look at financial model, keep sizes of sliced the same, but order less ○ Some requests have come in for refund if student absent – SF changed messaging in this month's to cover that • Balance in bank is \$12k • Next expenditures supporting school include the following per SF: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Classroom presentations ○ bussing costs coming forward for reimbursement • Current funds go through the school, but it would cost \$150 to transfer immediate, with volume of 	

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	<p>reconciliation work transferring to volunteer. Already have direct deposit set up.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Decision made not to pay \$150 or take on reconciliation responsibility – <i>maintain status quo</i> ● June Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SF – we will have to ensure that SC reimburses school account quickly after the funds for approved vendors ○ One major vendor that wants upfront is the bouncy castle 	
<p><i>Principal’s Report (SF)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>See scans attached of handout from meeting</i> ● Answering committee’s questions regarding SIP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Surveys</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Typically there would be a school/parents census in November, but it was postponed this year ○ For K-3, parents complete it, and for grades 4-5 the children do it ○ As part of SIP, under well-being, teachers are conducting their own informal surveys with students about interests, feeling of belonging ● <i>Use of fundraising</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fundraising should not be used to support curriculum items, staffing, etc. ● <i>Action plans</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The school is organizing release time for staff to take part in learning, review resources we have available ○ PLP priorities shared in Principal’s report attachment ● <i>Use of data</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Administrators have dashboard access over report card data, with some time lag ○ The dataset is generated in fall, that was used for this year’s SIP planning. ○ Data can be filtered by grade and gender ○ Administrators didn’t have access to EQOA data ○ TDSB’s May 31 2022 survey – administrators didn’t receive anything school specific, but generalize data was put on TDSB website. Response rate across the TDSB was 20%. ● <i>Listing of clubs and sports</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This list is not available yet. ○ Staff are sensing a need or interest, and they have the time or availability to lead it. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It is evolving, and although we haven't run much until this year, students have been starting to reach out. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drama club on horizon, came from students in gr. 4-5. ▪ About to start of PALS – playground activity leaders in schools ○ Everything is voluntary for staff to provide their time ● <i>Language demographics</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shared in attachment – 66% English, 10% Spanish, 5% Vietnamese, 3% Tagalog, 2% Tamil ● Other areas of focus include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Have equity committee – work will be to review last year's goal, look at where school is on equity continuum. Will work with TDSB committee to ● School upgraded a number of resources in CRRP in last year, including new math resources (implemented by ministry in 2020) ● Report card data showed that students were achieving highest in math, but EQAO was lowest in math. This gives reason to pause and focus on assessment and ensure the full achievement chart. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Can't look at assessment without looking at instruction. Ensure there are success criteria, co-created goals. ○ Look at marking. ● Create a language continuum – what is expected in language ● Board is focused on K-2 reading strategies. On Friday, K-2 educational teams released to work with pathologist. ● Strategies to increase engagement of male students – significantly below across all areas. ● ETFO put out resources in indigenous education, school is looking at it to provide guidance on how to set up classrooms. We have also integrated indigenous into new math items. ● Comments on survey idea - if were going to look at survey, tailor more closely to how parents/guardians can provide support in home <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ School can revisit the 2019 survey. 	

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<p><i>Round Table Discussion</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Question (MR)</i> – Can we ask more specific questions in a survey? ○ e.g. what do you think of the goals? Is this what the school is focusing on? Do you understand the goals of the TDSB, or the school? ○ <i>Question (MT)</i> - If we ran an information session for parents to answer some of their questions, would it be a part of a meeting, or something separate? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Could do it as a separate session, easily as a zoom meeting. • June Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Question (IC)</i> – For the subcommittee, will there be a call for members? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Yes, will put a call to the entire community, within the first 2 weeks of February. 	



Checking-in with Students and Families - SPRING 2022 SURVEYS -

STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING:

Feelings of happiness have remained lower throughout the pandemic, while feelings of stress and worry have remained higher.



Across grades, student mental health and wellbeing related responses continues to be lower than pre-pandemic results.

Across grades, just under half of students said they know how to manage feelings of anxiety and worry

Approximately half of students said they know how to get support at school for their mental health and wellbeing

Across grades, just over half of students said they take time for themselves to feel good and recharge

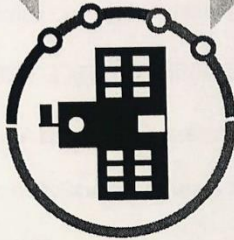
PARENTS - CONNECTION TO LEARNING:

JK-Gr 6 parents felt more connected to their child's school than parents of older students

90% of parents across K-12 felt somewhat or very confident in supporting their child's learning

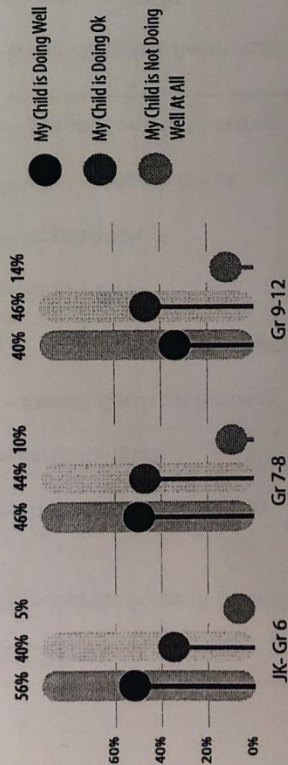
77% of parents feel their child will be ready for the next grade level, an increase of 7% from the previous year

Compared to the start of this school closures, 47% of parents are less worried about the impact of the pandemic on their child's education.

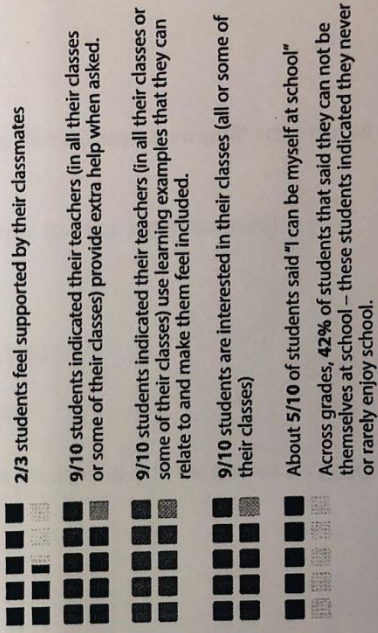


PARENTS - STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING:

Parents of younger students (JK-Gr 6) were more likely to say their child was doing well than parents of older students; 14% of parents of Gr 9-12 students said their child was not doing well at all



STUDENT BELONGING AND ENGAGEMENT:



Across grades, 42% of students that said they can not be themselves at school – these students indicated they never or rarely enjoy school.

Principal's Report – S. Fata, Jan 18, 2023

School Improvement Update:

2022-2023 SIP Direction from SOE:

3 SIP Goals, Professional Learning Plan

Indigenous Education & Sovereignty Goal:

To begin to understand the histories, cultures, and contemporary realities of Indigenous peoples in Canada through ongoing intentional education and truth before reconciliation practices.

Professional Learning Plan (PLCs & Staff Meetings & Lunch/Learns):

Equity Committee – to review last year's goal with Continuum as reference (reach out to Equity Team)

Environment as Third Teacher, Student Voice (Interest, Choice), CRRP & High Interest Resources

Assessment & Evaluation, Best Practices re: Achievement Charts in Mathematics, Writing and Reading, Co-constructed Learning Goals, Success Criteria, Moderated Marking in Writing and Mathematics

K-2 Early Reading Strategy

Strategies to increase engagement of male students

Making classroom connections by referencing the Indigenous curriculum and resources by ETFO

Top 5 Spoken Languages at WMJPS – June 2022 Demographics:

66% English, 10% Spanish, 5% Vietnamese, 3% Tagalog, 2% Tamil

TDSB Census Update:

Gr 4 & 5 Students, Parents of FDK-Gr 3 Students (was scheduled for Nov 2022, on hold)

Parent Engagement:

How can School Council support parents/caregivers with SIP goals (understanding, supporting children in these areas at home)?

Upcoming Dates:

Jan 19/20 – Dental Screening specific grades

Jan 27 – Pizza Lunch, Pyjama Day

Jan 31 – Earth Rangers

Feb 15 – Report Cards go home

Feb 16/17 – Parent/Teacher Interviews

Feb 20 – Family Day

Feb 24 – Pizza Lunch

Mar 13th week – March Break

Mar 22 – School Council Meeting