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Mission

"WE ARE BECOMING LIFE-LONG LEARNERS IN A CHANGING WORLD"

Vision

"THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT IS ONE IN WHICH ALL LEARNERS, CHILDREN AND ADULTS, GROW AND SUCCEED"

Norwood Parent Council Meeting Agenda, October 24, 2023

1. Call to Order -The meeting was called to order at 6:05.

2. Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are on Treaty 6 territory, a traditional meeting ground, gathering place, and traveling route to the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Métis, Dene, Nakota Sioux and Anishinabe. We acknowledge all the many Indigenous Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for time immemorial. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

3. Welcome and Introductions:

4. Consideration of Agenda/ Additions to the Agenda - *additions were added to item 11*

5. Approval of the Minutes of the September Meeting

6. Business Arising from previous meeting

6.1 Bell schedule - lunch eating time - *Charlene reported that the bell schedule was changed to accommodate a longer eating time for students. The entry bell was also changed to an earlier time to accommodate the morning transition. Feedback from parents and teachers was that the new bell schedule was working much better.*

6.2 Scholastic Book Fair Report *Jill reported that the Scholastic Book Fair was very successful. The book fair generated \$4682 in sales, \$2000 of the sales went to Norwood. The library received \$1400 worth of new books! The rest of the proceeds will remain in our Scholastic account for future purchases. There were many parent volunteers who organized and helped with the book fair. During the book fair many teachers were able to fulfill their teacher wish lists for books for their classrooms.*

6.3 Hot lunch - *The September hot lunch from EDO was successful. The October hot lunch from Swan Pizza generated 104 orders from students and staff.*

6.4 Slide replacement - *Charlene has found a company to buy a replacement slide for the playground. The cost of the slide will be covered through donations. Update since the meeting - Installation of the slide will be done by WRPS maintenance*

6.5 Pedestrian Safety - *Solutions to pedestrian safety were discussed. It was decided that the following actions would be implemented: use of large traffic pylons in the crosswalks, traffic safety notices/reminders to parents and students, use of by-law enforcement to help educate parents and students. The possibility of using crossing guards was brought up but it was mentioned that the last time crossing guards were implemented the school had a difficult time filling the positions.*

6.6 Society Status Update - *Jill reported that the final society status step had been completed*

7. New Business

7.1 Family Swim Night - *Cheryl has organized 2 Family Swim Nights for students and their families. Those participating will be charged a \$2 entry fee. The swim night will be during public swimming and the pool will be able to accommodate about 75 participants from Norwood. November 17th @ 6 - grades K-4, November 18th @ 6 - grades 5-8*

7.2 Family Movie Night *Parent Council will host a Family Christmas Movie Night. The movie night will be on Thursday, Dec. 7th @ 6:00 pm. The school will serve popcorn. Jill will check into using the FCSS inflatable movie screen.*

7.3 Family Ski Night - *It was decided that Norwood would host another family ski night. Katrina will check the dates available at Gwynne Ski Hill.*

7.4 Classroom Books - *Parents expressed an interest in ensuring that classes were provided with engaging books that could be used as take home readers. It was determined that a combination of funds from the school and parent council might be used to fund the purchase of classroom sets. Exploring grants for reading programs can also be explored.*

7.5 Fundraising - *Fundraising ideas for the Christmas season included a classroom tree auction, The Best Seats in the House for the concert and the sales of flowers. Charlene will ask teachers if they are interested in having their classes decorate a tree for the auction. Brendon will see if Canadian Tire would like to donate any trees. The "Best Seats in the House Contest" will be run at the Winter Concert. Plant sales will be considered as a future fundraiser.*

Reports

8. Principal's Report - *Charlene shared the following information items*

- 8.1 Family Pumpkin Carving Night - October 30th
 - 8.2 Winter Concert - December 21, afternoon and evening performances - *the time of these performances will be determined soon*
 - 8.3 Reporting Student Progress - *Charlene reviewed the information bulletin that was sent out to parents via messenger*
 - 8.4 Norwood School Handbook - *a new handbook has been created and added to the school website*
 - 8.5 Pancake Breakfast & Upcoming Indigenous Taco Lunch - *Brandon reported that the pancake breakfast was a hit and that he plans to organize a lunch for students in November*
 - 8.6 Parent Teacher Interviews - *November 1st, 3:30-7:00*
 - 8.7 Enrollment/Staffing Update - *remains the same as September*
9. Treasurer's Report *Shelby reported that the Norwood School Milk & Lunch Fund sits at \$6907.44, The Norwood School Casino Account sits at \$2683.*
10. WRPS Board Report - Laura White
- Trustee White provided an update on the following news in the Division:*
- *Capital Plan - There has been a request for a new Norwood School; we may have some news on capital projects at the end of November*
 - *Dreams Take Flight - several students from WRPS, including one from Norwood were able to take part in the Dreams Take Flight Program. Participants enjoyed an amazing one day trip to Universal Studios in California*
 - *The Minister's Youth Council has a representative from Buck Mountain Central High School*
 - *The Ashoro Friendship group was hosted by WRPS*
 - *The WRPS golf Tournament raised \$12000. The funds will go towards the Education Plus Fund, School Lunch Programs, and the Period Promise*
 - *WRPS is meeting with MESC to renew our service agreement with them*
 - *WRPS welcomed new teachers to the district at the ATA Induction Ceremony*
 - *The Board would like to invite parent council members to join COSC.*
 - *The Board Priorities were reviewed:*
1. *Demonstrate our commitment to Truth and Reconciliation and the spirit of the Calls to Action both which represent the beliefs and natural laws since time immemorial.*
 2. *Honour that parents/guardians/caregivers are essential partners and the primary voice in the lives of students.*
 3. *Demonstrate integrity and transparency in our stewardship of public education.*
 4. *Demonstrate a commitment to rural sustainability by providing innovative programming in modernized facilities that support 21st Century learning.*
 5. *Aligning our policies, processes, and practices to meet the needs of our community.*
 6. *Commit to learning about how Treaty language and the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action should guide our governance decisions, practices and relationships.*

11. Additions to the Agenda

11.1 Head Lice Policy Change - Inquiries were made about the possibility that the Head Lice Policy might be changed. Concerns were raised over parents not receiving a head lice letter anymore. Charlene stated that a new head lice AP would be shared when the draft was available.

11.2 Spray Park - Members of the Norwood Parent Council are raising money for a splash park in Wetaskiwin. They would like participation from schools to help create awareness and support their fundraising campaign.

12. Next Meeting: *November 28, 2023*

13. Adjournment: *Meeting was adjourned at 7:44*