

# École Sir William Osler

## Parent Council Meeting Minutes

**Date / Time :** October 20, 2020 / 6 – 7pm

**Meeting Location:** Virtual Meeting

**Meeting Chair:** Denessa Martin

**Minutes Taken By:** Rebecca Simpson-Litke

26 participants

### Chair Greeting (Denessa)

- Note that meetings will be recorded (no objections from today's participants).
- Minutes from the last meeting are posted on the school website.

### REPORTS

#### Treasurer Report (Amber)

- PAC – balance is \$1861 (no activity on this account this month)
- Lunch Program – milk program payout this month – new balance is \$22,660.99

#### Principal's and Teacher's Report (Mme Ostermann)

- Classroom assessments are ongoing. Working on recovery learning. EAs working with small groups on literacy goals.
- Two fire drills completed. 3 lockdowns, 1 emergency evacuation, 8 fire drills still to do. Holding off on evacuation drill until spring.
- Halloween celebration on Friday, Oct.30 – students can wear costumes in class, no snacks from home this year.
- Report cards going home Nov.16.
- Scholastic book fair will be virtual – same day as parent-teacher conferences, more info to follow.
- Parent-teacher conferences will be virtual, probably taking place through google meet or via phone call. Sign-up system will be sent out in early November. If parents have concerns before then, they can call or email the teacher.
- Schools have been asked to provide a contingency plan for spacing kids out to 2 metres in case the Province moves to this. Currently, the Province feels that school are doing well to keep kids safe.
- A Donation button has been added to the website – see Community and Family tab under SWO Playground News.
- PAC Instagram account- link was emailed out to families and can also be accessed when you click on the Community and Family tab.

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### OLD BUSINESS

#### Playground Committee (Lauren/Meghan)

- Thank you to Denessa and Mme Ostermann for the minutes from last meeting, as they provide a recap of playground committee activities over the past couple of years.
- Meghan working on a Tree Canada grant to provide mature trees for the playground.
- Working with teachers on ideas for use of playground and outdoor classroom – ways to take classes outside, long-term plan to use this new structure, etc:
  - Follow-up PD workshop with Fort Whyte Alive
  - Conquer the Cold Event to provide educators, daycare staff with ideas
  - Ask students for ideas
  - New outdoor games, toys (sleds, snowshoes, snow saws, shovels – figure out how many we'll need for each class and get quote), school toques/scarves to keep warm outside (order from company that does our apparel?)
- Considering making a temporary outdoor classroom of snow using old Xmas trees to surround it.
- Looking to Indigenous scholars who are experts on land-based education and how to incorporate this into our curriculum.
- Skate club will likely not be able to take place this year because cohorts would end up mixing and there is not enough time in gym classes – Mme Ostermann will check on what hockey clubs are doing.
- Snow hill could be made into one-cohort zones.
- We appreciate the work that Mme Ostermann and the teachers are doing – hoping the outside activities will be an answer to COVID problems, not more work – let us know if help is needed.

#### Fun Lunch Program (Denessa)

- Boston Pizza Fun Lunch instead of Halloween – to take place next week Thursday, forms will be sent out by Sabrina earlier in the week.

#### New Grade One Teacher (Alisha)

- Congrats and welcome to our new teacher! Suggestions for ways to give her a warm welcome and support her transition? Some ideas:
  - card from Parent Council
  - gift card
  - welcome gift for the room from the parents in that class
  - school hoody
- How can we connect with parents/students who have chosen to home school? Are we allowed to stay connected?
  - There are only 4 students who are homeschooling, but they have come off of our enrolment, so connections would need to be up to the kids themselves – arrange playdates, etc.

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- How can we as parents help teachers with the constant changes and heavy burdens of this year?
  - small things are appreciated – will create an online sign-up sheet for parents to bring teacher treats each month (none of the staff currently have allergies).

### **Security Update Michael Harrison**

- October is cyber security month and we can offer a presentation for parents on how to teach kids to be safe and secure online, especially now that more things are online.
- Topics include:
  - Social media
  - Cyber Bullying
  - Sexting
  - Online Gaming
  - Stranger Danger
  - Network Security
- 30-minute presentation next Tuesday at 6pm – sign-up sheet to be sent out by Mme Ostermann.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **French Immersion Advisory Rep (Mme Ostermann)**

- Going ahead with advisory meetings – Kirsten has been the rep in the past and will do it again this year.

#### **Grade 6 Graduation Planning (Kristy)**

- We will need a subcommittee to plan for a celebration – Mme Ostermann will send an email out to grade 6 parents to see if someone wants to take the lead.
- Each student could plant a tree in the yard?

**Meeting Adjourned (Denessa) 6:45pm**

## Playground Committee Report SWO PAC meeting

Tuesday, October 20/2020

### Recap

- Button added to school website for donations to the playground or PAC = thank you to Mme Ostermann for helping coordinate with WSD IT

### Playground grants

- Currently working on:
  - Tree Canada greening grant (due November 30/20)

### New items:

*Ideas to plan for use of new outdoor classroom*

Pandemic is an opportunity to explore and implement ways to take classes outside, and develop a long term plan to use new infrastructure to be built

- PD workshop with FortWhyte Alive or Momenta
- Staff attendance at Conquer the Cold through Nature Summit MB in Jan/Feb (date TBD, on a weekend)
- engage students for ideas about outdoor/winter activities
- Obtain new toys/games (sleds, snow saws, snow shoes, other ideas?)
- School toques/scarves for staff - from PAC
- For winter 2020/21 - temporary outdoor classroom of snow, surrounded by old Christmas trees (ask other schools how they collect)
- Winter class field trips (virtual or in person) to FortWhyte Alive - <https://www.fortwhyte.org/educators/school-programs/>
- Indigenous perspective on land based education: <https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2020/10/16/forget-friluftsliv-why-we-should-be-looking-to-indigenous-scholars-not-scandinavians-this-covid-19-winter.html?fbclid=IwAR34ef7GJkGpxARA8daKWCwdsoxQdOrts2SbNwxFpP-oV2BQ7jFyku43MU>

## Parent Advisory Council Meeting October 20, 2020

### Principal's Report

- Assessment ongoing in classrooms.
- Emergency Practice Procedures- 2 Fire Drills (1 per month) completed successfully. We have 3 Lockdowns, 1 Emergency Evacuation and 8 Fire drills left.
- Halloween Day Friday October 30- students will be permitted to wear their costumes in the afternoon and classes will celebrate in their own classrooms. Snacks and treats from families will not be requested this year.
- Report cards for N-6 go home Nov 16
- Scholastic book fair will be virtual- more information will be coming
- Parent/teacher conferences will be held virtually through google meet on Thursday Nov 19 from 3:30-7:30 and Friday from 8:30-11:30. Nursery/Kindergarten students will also be on Wednesday Nov 18. Sign up for conferences will be the same as in the past, with an online booking system. More information will be coming.
- Schools were asked to prepare a contingency plan to space students out to 2m in the event the government mandates Orange Level distancing within the schools. After Dr. Roussin's press conference we were told that we are holding at the 1m distance. Even though there have been cases in schools throughout the city, the cases are from the community and not transmission within the schools. It is because of your support and diligence in keeping your kids home when they are sick, and either getting tested or waiting out the 10 days that we have been able to stay safe and healthy. Thank you so much! We recognize that it is not easy and is very disruptive when you get that phone call from the school saying that your child has to be picked up.
- The new donation tab on our school website to support fundraising for the playground is up and running. If you click on the "Read more" under the picture, it takes you to the tab.
- We also have the new PAC Instagram account up and running. The Link was sent out in an email and can also be accessed on the website when you click on the Community and Family tab. It is also in the PAC tab which is under the Community and Family tab.