

**Sir William Osler Parent Advisory Council (PAC)  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2019**

**Location:** École Sir William Osler (ESWO)  
1600 Grant Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3N 0M5

<b>Present:</b>	Superintendent Celia Caetano-Gomes; Dominique Ostermann; Denessa Martin; Lauren MacDiarmid; Amber Hammond; Alisha Bradbury; Darrell Jillett; Michael Harrison; Meghan Cameron; Mandy Katz; Avery Jodoin
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1. Meeting called to order at:	6:00 p.m.
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**2. Reports:**

**2.a Chair's Report:**

- Denessa opened the PAC meeting and asked Amber and Mme. Ostermann to provide the Treasurer and Principal's reports for November.

**2.b Treasurer's Report:**

- Amber noted that the PAC account is sitting at roughly \$4,000, which is a healthy position. The badminton poles/nets have been purchased, so \$500 from the account will be used to cover the cost of that equipment.

**2.c Principal's Report:**

- Mme. Ostermann re-summarized École Sir William Osler's (ESWO) priorities for the 2019/20 school year (see the October PAC meeting minutes for a listing of the 2019/20 priorities).
- Mme. Ostermann provided an update on the monthly Fun Lunches, and thanked Christine and Diane for making the Fun Lunches such a success each month.
- The library/makerspace renovation is now complete. The space looks great!
- The school's Remembrance Day ceremony was a very special and meaningful event. Mme. Ostermann thanked the parents who were able to attend, and in particular the Canadian Forces members who participated in the ESWO ceremony.
- Mme. Ostermann has updated the ESWO website with new content and photos. If parents have feedback on the website please let Principal Ostermann know.

- ESWO will be rolling out an initiative for Positive Behaviour Intervention and Supports (PBIS) this year. PBIS is being advanced in various schools throughout the Division. It aims to promote positive behaviours (*be safe, be respectful, be responsible*) across common areas in the school (e.g. at the water fountains). ESWO is just in the beginning stages of its PBIS rollout.
- Mme. Bautista has been working on intramurals for the 2019/20 school year:
  - A volleyball tournament has been organized for grade 4 & 5 students. It will be held at Robert H Smith School on Nov 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - Skating club will be starting again in December. Mme. Bautista is looking for parent help and volunteers to help make skating club a success. Mme. Ostermann will be sending an email to parents to help secure the needed volunteers.
  - Mme. Bautista is also hoping to coordinate some tennis activities for the grade 4 & 5 students over the winter.
- Mme. Ostermann provided an update on upcoming events before the winter break:
  - Report cards went home for grades 1 – 5 students on Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>. Report cards for nursery/kindergarten students will go home on Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - ESWO tri-conferences (parent/teacher/student) are taking place from Wed, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> to Fri, Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>. The school will be running a Scholastic book fair those three days, which will be set up in the library.
  - The Winter Bazaar will take place on Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. Mme. Dana will be coordinating the event this year, and if there are any parents who would like to help (e.g. wrapping gifts) the assistance would be much appreciated.
  - ESWO's winter concert will be held on Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> at River Heights School. This year's concert theme is "A Tribute to Disney." Students do not need any costumes, but are encouraged to wear their ESWO attire or dress in blue or black.
    - Mme. Ostermann mentioned that we are reaching the attendee capacity for River Heights School and may have to look at an alternate site for next year. If parents have any suggestions as to possible future sites, please let Mme. Ostermann know.
    - There was discussion about whether to keep the concert in December or move it to January or February after the holiday break. PAC members in attendance expressed a preference to keep the concert in December.
  - ESWO has been accepting donations to Koats for Kids in November, and will be collecting for Winnipeg Harvest in December. The school is aiming to have the grade 4 & 5 students visit Winnipeg Harvest in January.

### **3. Committees and Other Business:**

#### **3.a Superintendent Caetano-Gomes**

- Celia Caetano-Gomes, Superintendent of Education Services Curriculum and Learning Innovation with the Winnipeg School Division, attended the PAC meeting to gather input on the following questions:

1) *What should students expect when they come to ESWO?*

PAC members in attendance highlighted the following strengths of ESWO that they feel contribute to the positive environment they expect for their kids when at school:

- ESWO has a strong focus on providing a French milieu environment (French conversations in classrooms, in the hallway, etc.)
- Teacher/principal and teacher/parent relationships are strong, which creates a positive environment for students
- ESWO is small and community-based (e.g. smaller classes and the smaller school allow teachers to provide more focus to each students)
- Classes work together quite closely (e.g. book buddies), which provides younger students with role models and older students with opportunities to build responsibility
- ESWO actively promotes an atmosphere of respect and inclusion

2) *What would our wishes for the school be?*

PAC members in attendance highlighted the following 'wish list' for ESWO:

- Reducing staff turnover / building staffing consistency (to the extent possible)
- Ensuring that physical activity and the environment play an ongoing role in the school and learning environment (e.g. 'active start' time before class, outdoor learning/outdoor time each day, etc.)
- The need for an improved drop-off/pick-up area (safer, more spacious)
- The need for a new/larger gymnasium

**3.b Lunch Program Committee:**

- The lunch program committee has noted that tables on the exterior of each room have been a big help. Mme. Ostermann will ensure the tables continue to be set up this way. Additional parent volunteers are also needed to assist with the lunch program.

**3.c Playground Committee:**

- The playground committee is continuing the process of writing and applying for playground grants. They are currently working on applications for the grant programs listed below; and are waiting on quotes from two landscaping companies that will be needed to complete the grant applications.
  - The Community Incentive Grant Program (through the City of Winnipeg);
  - Go Wild (a World Wildlife Federation school grant);
  - Tree Canada grant; and
  - The Community Grant Program (through the Winnipeg Foundation).
- The playground committee asked Superintendent Caetano-Gomes if the Division could provide a letter of support that could be used for ESWO's grant applications. Superintendent Caetano-Gomes agreed that a letter could be drafted and asked that the playground committee provide her office with the project information via email.

- As of November 2019, \$3,772 in 2019/20 fundraising has been generated for ESWO's playground project. The last playground fundraiser for 2019/20 is a Kernels popcorn sale to occur in conjunction with ESWO's winter concert on Dec 5<sup>th</sup>. Lauren is coordinating the popcorn order from Kernels.

**3.d Year End Picnic Committee:**

- The intent for this year's picnic planning is to establish a PAC subcommittee with a number of volunteer 'leads' that would each be responsible for coordinating a particular component of the picnic planning.
- The needed areas for subcommittee 'leads' will be sent to Mme. Osterman, so that she can send out an email in January to request parent volunteers.

**3.e Other business:**

- The plant pick-up date for ESWO's 2019/20 Glenlea fundraiser will be Tuesday, May 19.
- Mme. Ostermann will be refreshing some of the daily themes for spirit week (for example, a parent suggested better incorporating French culture into spirit week).
- Planning will be getting underway for 'I Love to Read Month.' If anyone has contacts that could come and speak/read to ESWO students, please let Mme. Ostermann know.
- The PAC members in attendance discussed ways to celebrate our teachers, daycare staff and other ESWO staff in advance of the holidays. Lauren will touch base with Mme. Dana about a potential holiday lunch that the PAC could organize in appreciation of staff.

Meeting adjourned at:	7:03 p.m.
Next meeting date:	Tuesday, January 21, 2020