

MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE SCHOOL COUNCIL OF
SIR WILLIAM OSLER
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
HELD AT 330 GOVERNOR'S ROAD,
DUNDAS, ONTARIO

April 11, 2017

Council Members Present: Mathew Gibson, Katherine Spencer, Dara Coulter, Sarah Van Geffen, Sara Flynn, Rebecca Tan, Corinne Wallace, Martha Aimola, Alyson Kowalchuk, Jane Nash, Jonne Rotar, Sajah Stiller, Catharine Roberts

Parents/Teachers Present: Lisa Neale, Jacqueline Kurtz, Chantelle Sharp, Simone Rose, Neha Gupta (student presenter), Bhairir Kumas, Bhaguati Gupta, Mrs Kott

Regrets: Phil Moruzi, Heather Phillips

SWO Council-April 11, 2018

1. Attendance

2. Introductions

3. Call For New Business

There was no new business brought forward

4. Principal's Report

L. Neale's report started with the HWDSB Land Acknowledgement. Her report was divided into three sections:

A) Neha Gupta (student) and Mrs. Kott made a presentation about a project called "Way to Wellness at Sir William Osler. A Speak Up grant was received in the amount of \$1700 to put the project into action. The focus of the project is on educating students about mental health and connects to the five ways to well-being outlined by HWDSB: connect, keep learning, be active, take notice, creative/give back. Out of this project, a number of activities for students have

been planned and continue to be planned, such as yoga classes, games club, activities in the gym during nutrition break. As well, a wellness evening is planned for May 9th 5:00pm-6:30pm.

B) Jamie Growshaw , Reading Specialist teacher at SWO, updated the council about her role at the school. Ms. Growshaw is at SWO 2 days a week. She primarily works with SK and Grade 1 students. Her focus is on reading intervention programs that target students' needs. She works both in class and withdraws students for extra support. Some programs that Ms. Growshaw supports are Class Act, Click, and LLI. A recent phonological awareness screener with the SK students shows an 89% increase in skills from September to January.

C) a video from Mrs Kortmann was shown. A summary of the video follows:

Mrs Kortmann applied for a grant to build awareness of aboriginal cultures, in the community. The grant is for \$2100, which will go towards a cultural awareness day at SWO on June 19th (cost \$900 +hst), gathering drums (cost \$600), print making and cooking bannock bread.

There was a question for L. Neale regarding class organization/staffing for next year. L. Neale said that she should know by May. It was requested that it be put on the agenda for the May meeting. L. Neale agreed.

A concern was brought forward about Mme. Kucic leaving and who would be filling her position. L. Neale explained that Mademoiselle Louis was hired to fill the position. Mademoiselle Louis had time to meet with Mme Kucic before Mme Kucic left. Mademoiselle Louis is fluent in French. L. Neale will ask the teacher to send an introduction letter out to the other classes.

5. Review of Minutes Previous Meeting

Matty motioned to accept the minutes. Seconded by Dara. Passed unanimously

6. Motion to adopt Land Acknowledgement Statement

Matty reviewed the Land Acknowledgement protocol. Matty motioned to adopt the Land Acknowledgement. Seconded by Sarah. Passed unanimously.

7. Discussion and Motions on Disbursements

Prior to the council meeting, it was suggested that the council could fund the purchase of two alto saxophones and sheet music. During the meeting, prices were given for the purchase of the aforementioned items: two alto saxophones -\$2, 297.41 and Music Method Books and music-\$946.26.

It was also suggested that there should be a fund available for student clubs/teams to access based on criteria set out by council (i.e. students must raise part of funds required, a formal request must be made by the student group by way of a letter or presentation, and the

team/club must have a teacher representative/lead). This was a conversation carried over from the March council meeting. There was some confusion around rules and guidelines for funding student-led projects and the wording around setting a fundraising goal in the annual fundraising plan.

Some questions arose: Should there be a maximum to the amount given? Should money not be given until January to give students time to fundraise?

Possible wording was proposed such as, “a student led project”, “student lead initiative”, or “5 ways to Mental well-being”). L. Neale will take ideas on wording away and report back during or before next council meeting.

8. Teacher’s Report

There continue to be lots of wonderful learning experiences happening at SWO! Here is a list of many of them:

April 11 – Day of Pink – It was a sea of pink shirts as students showed their support of being inclusive and saying, “No!” to bullying

April 12 – Mrs. Harvey has organized a Grade 2 hands-on science experience focusing on simple machines. It takes place in the Learning Commons during periods 1-4.

April 12 – We recognize a day of remembrance in honor of the Hombolt Bronco’s. Students and staff are invited to wear a sports jersey.

April 25 – Mr. Dougherty is facilitating an Adventure Running Orienteering opportunity for a group of students in grades 6-8. They will be travelling to Christie Conservation Area for this.

April 25 – Mr. Kerman is heading SWO’s Jump Rope for Heart kick-off Assembly. The event will take place on Friday May 18th.

On-Going Events:

In support of promoting well-being, Mrs. Kott and Ms. Nicolaides have been leading a collaboration of 5 classes in the writing of a book called *Kindness is Contagious*. The book has been completed and should be arriving at the school soon.

The Learning Resource room hosts a group called PEERS. The group works with students developing on social and relationship building skills. Currently group members are in Grades 6,7,8 but plans are being made to grow the program for next year.

Mrs. Ligas and the Student Leadership Council have lots on the go. Next week, 3 students will be heading to the Education Centre to take part in voting for a new student trustee. As a group, they have been focusing on promoting Indigenous cultural awareness opportunities for the school. Consultants from the school board will be meeting with the group to think of ways to incorporate the wampum belt into our daily experience and the creation of a SWO wampum

belt. They will also be planning different events that will support staff and students increasing their understanding of reconciliation this year and into next year.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanne Robar

9. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's report was tabled. *See attached report

During a previous meeting last school year (2016/2017), it was discussed that \$1000 would go towards a second hydration station. There is no mention, in previous minutes, of a motion made to allow the funds to be used for the hydration station; However, the \$1000 was earmarked for the hydration station in the council's account and put into the "pre-allocated" council account.

Sajah made a motion to put a total of \$3000 (including the aforementioned \$1000) towards a second hydration station. Seconded by Corrine. Passed unanimously.

After further review of the treasurer's report, there was some uncertainty if the \$1000 that was originally in the old pre-allocated account is back in the regular account. L. Neale will look into it to make sure that the \$1000 was put back into the account. The pre-allocated account was extinguished by the board. L. Neale can find out by tomorrow.

A motion was made by Matty to rescind the previous motion to give \$3000 to the hydration. Seconded by Jane. Passed with one vote against.

A motion made by Kathryn to approve the spending proposal as it appears on the treasurer's report. Seconded by Jane Nash. One in favour. Some members abstained. The motion did not pass.

A discussion was had about whether to fund the hydration station or the sheet music or the alto saxophones. L. Neale said that executive offered for the music teacher to buy sheet music. Some council members felt that the executive should have come back to council before offering the money to the music teacher. The chair explained that people approached him to request the sheet music and that the conversation with the principal prior to meeting was to ask the music teacher to get a price on the items in order to have a discussion during the council meeting. An email was sent out detailing the spending proposals and no concerns were brought forward. The chair explained that this is a discussion of possible items to fund and that no decisions had been made. A suggestion was made that for issues sent out by email that require attention of the council, the email subject line should read "please read and respond."

10. Movie Night Preview

Adult volunteers are needed. Date is April 27th.

11. Open House Theme Basket Fundraiser

Sarah and Kathryn will organize theme baskets. Open house is May 17th 5:30-7pm

12. Staff Appreciation Day

Proposed May 10th 1st Nutrition Break 10:50am-11:30am. Looking for a lead on this project

Meeting adjourned 8:36