

## Westwood School Council Meeting

Thurs. Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 @ 6:30pm in the library

Present: Mr. Gratton, Principal

Teacher: Ms. Gator

Parents/Community members: Erin Copeland (Chair), Wayne Thompson (Treasurer) Melanie Bainbridge (Secretary), Members at large: Setareh Masoumbeiki, Laura Regliszyn, Meagan McCallum, Michelle Chow, Julian Baciu, Andreea Pohrib Baciu, Jamal Samarat, Rania Tawrouri, Ramin Amiai

Regrets: Melissa Thompson

### **6:30 – Welcome!**

### **6:30 – 6:40pm – Principal Update - Mr. Gratton**

#### **School News:**

Quick update to Westwood staff.

Upcoming staff meeting with discussion around school event planning, at least 2 more school events (April & June) for the remaining school year in planning. School Olympics to be run by Ms. Kawamoto. Details to come.

#### **Holiday Concert:**

It was a great success! Hard work from our Westwood staff to make it such a success!

#### **Popcorn/Pizza sales:**

Pizza being sold now, popcorn to resume next week (Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>). School Cash online started. Westwood worked with the board to ensure it's set up but some families are experiencing difficulties signing up. Looking to do an event or host a session to help families in person sign up and navigate the system.

#### **Outdoor Recess Bins:**

Westwood purchased and organized outdoor bins (skipping ropes, chalk, whiteboard markers, etc.) to be used by students during outdoor recess to provide options for play. Grade 5 students are showing responsibility by ensuring the bins are returned after break. Soccer remains a popular outdoor activity, so teams have been made and a rotating schedule has been arranged so all students are able to enjoy time on the field.

### **6:40 – 6:40pm – Staff update – Ms. Gator**

No staff updates at this time.

### **6:40 – 6:55pm - Council Update - Erin & Wayne:**

#### **Krispy Kreme fundraiser - Erin**

Pre-ordered 500 dozen, ended up selling 609 dozen donuts (7,308 donuts!) with a profit of \$3677.75! Thanks to our volunteers who picked up the order in Mississauga then distributed same day. Council

voted to purchase basketball nets for the primary end of the school as currently, both kindergarten and junior areas already have nets. Any left-over funding will be used toward student enhancement in way of additional equipment or in school event, to be determined once pricing and installation costs are confirmed. Mr. Gratton to assist us with arranging ordering/installation and has already provided notice to our facilities team. Westwood will be providing this fundraiser again next school year, approximately mid-November 2024 with a distribution date of Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.

**Box of Cards fundraiser – Wayne:**

Westwood's next fundraiser will be coming up in March.

We will be selling 4 types (birthday, kid birthday, special occasion, holiday) of high-quality greeting card boxes (quantity 30 cards) for \$34/box. The school will keep \$11 of each sale.

Start date: Mon. March 25<sup>th</sup>. Orders due by Fri. Apr. 12<sup>th</sup>. Cash & School Cash Online are forms of payment. Order will be delivered to the school but will be sorted and distributed by council volunteers. Each family will be provided with a sample card and information on how to place their orders. Wayne to provide final family number to card company and he will confirm turnaround for delivery and distribution.

**6:55 – 7:10pm – Nutrition Program Update – Melanie**

**Nutrition Program Update:**

Provided update to new attendees on Westwood's nutrition program, how it works, volunteer opportunities. Wayne provided update on financials: \$11,200 used so far. Had \$15K originally. Get another installment in February. Spending approx. \$700/week on groceries. Will attempt to budget approx. \$2,000 for start up in September 2024.

**Pancake Day:**

Melanie brought forward the idea of whether we will host another pancake day at Westwood. Mentioned we will require 5-7 volunteers to assist that day (whether it's an hour or the entire time) to facilitate an event of this size. If we have the required # of volunteers, we can proceed sometime in February/March. Start up around 8:00am until approx. 11am. Any volunteer that can offer any amount of time that morning would be appreciated!

**Future of the Nutrition Program:**

Discussed current volunteer arrangement for our daily nutrition program. 2 full time volunteers and 3 part time. Looking ahead for the 2024/2025 school year, both full time volunteers will be reducing their hours which will alter our ability to run this program the way it has been running. We are looking for ways to recruit new volunteers who would be interested in giving 1-5 mornings (1 hour max) to keep the program going. Setareh mentioned another flyer going home, physical or via School Messenger, to inform families of the program again, its benefits, and how they can help! Setareh volunteered to create a flyer. Mr. Gratton agreed to send it via School Messenger when ready.

**7:10 – 7:30pm - School Council Events – Melanie, Laura, Andreea & Setareh**

**Next Community Event – Bingo Night!:**

When: Thurs. February 29<sup>th</sup> @6:30pm

Mr. Gratton to book permit for that evening. Melanie & Laura to facilitate and plan this event. Free event to all families. Snacks available for purchase.

Mention of teachers being present to sell snacks and donate those funds to our Nutrition Program (requirement of the program). Spoke about purchasing pre-popped popcorn from either Westdale theatre, Kernals or Costco (quotes to come). Melanie & Laura to organize flyer/correspondence, supplies, prizes, snacks, float, etc.

**PRO-grant (Parents Reaching Out) Update – Andreea & Setareh:**

The application for this \$1,000 grant is due by Fri. January 26<sup>th</sup> and will be completed by Andreea & Setareh. The event will focus on musical/physical engagement for families. Potentially a local group of drummers, Zumba session, outdoor mindful stretching, cooking class. Mindful to keep costs low to fit into grant parameters. They will move forward with application and if approved, finer details and dates to be planned by co-committee.

**7:30pm – Adjournment**

**\*Next Meeting – Thurs. March 7<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm in Westwood Library**