

## **West Meadow Elementary School Council Minutes**

Thursday April 22nd, 2021 8:00pm

In Attendance : Principal Sean Latta, Gwynne Orsten, Ceri Penner, Rachel Smith, Amber Peatman, Shannon Zemlak, Sara Schuler, Brandy McLean, Chery Starling, Brad Toone, Elisabeth Sabey, Joseph and Sherri Steves

Approval of Agenda: Brandy McLean, seconded by Amber Peatman

Approval of Minutes from last meeting: Brandy Mclean, seconded by Amber Peatman

Business arising from minutes: none

New Business:

-New Mission Statement: 2 choices we combined to complete the new mission statement. Everyone liked it, no objections or changes

**At WMES, our school council strives to support every child and enrich the school experience for our families and staff, through connection, discussion and engagement.**

-Staff appreciation week May 3-7th

Ceri suggested we keep it simple since we have asked for donations from families twice this school year already. Diane at 7th Street Sweets would like to donate, Rachel will be in touch with her. Ceri will post on the fb page encouraging families and students to send in home made cards or other gestures for that week that do not require donations.

-Book study Kids These Days

Chapter 6: The Answer: Getting Hearts and Taking Names

Trustee Report- Brad Toone

-Board meeting was held April 22nd 2021

Highlights:

-LRSD will not pilote the new K-6 curriculum, we will still be able to provide feedback even if the division does not pilote it.

-Presentation from Sandi Harrower Early Learning Supervisor about 2 new early learning programs for pre-K. LRSD currently has 32 children supported by PUF.

-Presentation about LRSD pursuing acquiring a piece of property near Crowsnest Pass. If acquired potential future use for FACES, environmental center location near rock climbing and water activities etc.

-Adjusted school week calendar

A motion was passed to explore a 4 day school week. Close to 50/50 for parents and staff that this would be a possible situation they would like to see happen.

Full day Fridays was not a popular option for parents and staff.

Teachers Report Gwynne Orsten

-Thanked Council for the meal and desserts for PTI evenings, they were appreciated.

PTI went well and staff are still hoping that parents are feeling connected.

5 students have completed Mr.Latta's Reading Challenge by reading all 15 books and received an award and gave a review for their favorite book on the morning announcements.

Wildly Important Goal (WIG) to have 210 readers read for 21 minutes for 21 days in a month. In March they had 160 participants and Ms.Moser's class won a pizza party for the whole class participating. There will be a big push in May to reach their goal.

Principal's Report Mr.Latta

- Second Positive Covid case at WMES, first case to have a major impact. AHS required all students to be sent home in grade one in the middle of the school day. School was notified on Thursday April 22nd at 9:45am and the last student went home at 1pm. Staff and admin handled the situation well and it went smoothly. The following day they would be working on a learning plan for those students. May 4th is the return to school day at this point. Parents were understanding of the process set in place by AHS.
- Grade 2 teacher Jenn Fairs starting her maternity leave on April 23rd. Alison Wild is the new hire. She did her first practicum in grade 2 at our school and most recently her last practicum in grade 2. Her start date is May 3rd. Jenny Mckee filling in for the meantime.
- Nothing yet to share for budgeting and staffing. Budget did go down and there will be a slight reduction in staff for the 2021/2022 school year.
- Kindergarten will have 2 classes. On the to do list to send email to parents to state their preferences on days Monday/Wednesday, Tuesday/Thursday or no preference.
- North side playground repairs are being worked on. Someone coming from Calgary to repair the turf.
- Start times are changing for next year 8:30am start and 3:20pm finish time. Increases instructional time by 5 minutes which is made up on a WMES professional day.
- Parents asked for suggestions on any particular days that they would like to see as a day off. November 1st was mentioned as well as the Friday before May long weekend.
- School starts on August 31st 2021, last day June 28th 2022
- November wellness week was well received and will occur again.
- Christmas Break starts December 17th and return date is early, January 3rd 2022.
- School calendar is on the LRSD website if parents are interested in looking at it.

Next meeting and last of the school year Thursday May 27th, 2021 8pm via Zoom.