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WJ Holsgrove Advisory Council Meeting Minutes Monday, January 13, 2025

In Attendance

Aaron West, Michele Wilson-Brushett, Candice Marsh, Amber MacAdam, Michelle Piper Berman, Nicole Pennell, Jamie Clayton

Regrets - Carisa Glavin

1. Welcome

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. October 28, 2024

3. Business arising from October minutes

- a. PRO Funding Application

Was sent with a short time frame – ours was deferred for now, would like to fund background checks for volunteers

4. Co-Chair Report

- School board trustee – Judith Brown – passed away, the trustee is now Chris Scott – he was the second in the election, didn't go to the byelection due to cost. Jamie Maracle is the new Indigenous trustee who also started recently
- Math programs are being looked at board-wide, to see what's working and what's now due to EQAO levels not being high enough province-wide.
- Before and after care – no support in JK to grade 6 age groups board-wide. This is being looked into at a board level. Looking at which communities need and want it.
- Immunizations – grade 7 immunizations – language around communication out to parents, with a growing diverse school, KFLA Public Health and the Board are looking into how to make letters easier. Also, students with sensitivities may need a quiet space for the space.
- An Anti-racism community group in Kingston is looking to work with schools.
- Chair workshop in November, Jamie and Carisa to be looking into some bylaw changes through there.
- AI in schools – The Director met with PIC members in November about its use and policies around its use are coming.

5. Treasurer's Report

General – \$161.10

BINGO – \$8,435.67 (includes removal of classroom supplies and projector)

Fundraiser account – \$1132.15

Grants – \$81.58

Lunch program – \$2782.91



6. Teacher's Report

Request for funds - Event in May - Grades 4 through 7 – RKY camp, canoeing
\$62 per student and \$1290 for busing

Council will hold on this until Michelle Piper Berman gets the amounts.

And thank you for the snacks!

7. Principal's Report

- Before and after care – staffing issues are the main concern – 5000 spaces short, usually positions are split shifts,
- ¼ of students are now ESL, so language around parental communications is a concern. Aim is to make it so people can use digital tools, like Google translate to help.
- Anti-racism – school culture is the best it's been here! Staff, student culture. Etc. However – more suspensions, racist language is still an issue, but now students are willing to come to teachers and staff now. Hoping this will peter out over time, as this becomes less acceptable. Principals went into all classrooms to talk this through.
- Facilities - Community meeting
 - City has asked for further info
 - Funding more likely to come if working with a municipality
 - Aaron West will keep updating
- Parents in building
 - Safety issues, distractions and dysregulating – caregivers coming into the school becoming an issues
 - Aaron to send a reminder email out to all families.

Extra-curriculars

Play this year – Charlie and the Chocolate Factory in full swing!

Lego robotics

Motions

Interactive TVs – only option for portables now

Vote for one TV, cost will be \$2200 – Moved by Michelle Piper Berman, seconded by Candice, all approved

Math manipulatives - \$1000 for calculators, snap cubes, etc

Moved by Nicole, seconded by Michelle Piper Berman– all approved



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Mats for the gym – future issue, quotes upcoming. This motion will be voted on at a later date.

8. New Business

a. Potential for community garden in collaboration with local business.

- Company has funding and labour to help build the garden. Other schools have them.
- Aaron will get in touch with Limestone facilities to fill out the paperwork.

b. Hot lunch –

Gino's owner came in to discuss the possibility of going directly through them, instead of through Lunchbox. There have been a handful of issues with Lunchbox, Lunchbox is expensive. The owner would be school board approved, would be cheaper

Next Meeting:

Monday, March 3 – 5:30 pm meeting

Meeting Adjourned