

**W.E.Graham PAC**

Sep. 25 2018 meeting minutes

**Attending:** Naama Avramzon, Heather Gallacher, Sonja Thoma, Mike Hurley, Lori Thompson, Kevin Millership, Joel Pelletier., Erin Johnson.

**Call to order**

Meeting called to order on 5:02 pm

**Principal's report:**

Students: We have 77 students registered at this time. that's about 10 students down from Sep. 2017 but a few up from June 2018.

Kindergarten –6, Grade 1 – 4, Grade 2 – 3, Grade 3 – 5, Grade 4 – 5, Grade 5 – 3, Grade 6 – 11, Grade 7 – 14, Grade 8 – 12, Grade 9 – 10, Grade 10 – 4

**Staffing:**

Teachers: Sean Marechal, Ben Porteous, Signy Fredrickson, Roxanne MacKay, Kathryn Rexin

Secretary: Shannon

Custodian: Craig

Education Assistants: Erin Johnson, Tanya Wright, Alice Paradis, Lindsay Carmichael.

**Organization:** K-2 (Madame Rexin), 3-6 (Roxanne), 6-8 OELP (Ben and Signy team-teaching), VWP (Sean), Prep coverage – Mike Hurley

**Start-Up:**

- First week was a lot of fun. We held an amazing race and gave out cinnamon buns as prizes.
- VWP (Drinnon) and OELP (Roseberry) have their first out-trips this week.
- Settling into routines for each of the classes.
- We have had fort building, games, and felting organized by our EA's to let kids get engaged in the school.
- School Culture – open/fun for our children. Expectations are high.
- Terry Fox Run this week.

- Orange Shirt Day this week.
- Next week – Cross Country Race at Winlaw, then an upcoming district run soon.

## Treasurer report

Reported by Sonja. General account: 7867\$, Gaming: 1952.95\$

## President+DPAC rep+ VFOS rep report

reported by Sonja.

In the past year we tried to establish procedures and representative reports. There was a problem of discontinuity and lack of mentoring so we started from scratch. There is still a way to go but we (Naama and I) are planning to stick around so we can keep moving forward.

**VFOS** (Valley Family Of Schools) meets quarterly alternating among the four school and discussing valley schools related issues.

Dates for this school year's meetings: Oct. 11 (Winlaw), Jan. 10 (BK) Mar. 7 (WEG), May 16 (MS).

**DPAC** (district PAC) meets monthly in Nelson to discuss district and local concerns, DPAC meetings are held at the board office on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6pm. Next meeting – Sep. 26 2018

## Processes passed from last year

Reported by Sonja.

- Building a **gazebo**
- Planting **trees**, for more shade and as a natural play area.  
Erin requested mature trees. Sonja will Get Dayna on it.
- **Play ground**: we received a grant just before the previous school year ended. Dayna took the task of getting info from play ground manufactures as well as students, parents and staff about possible designs and structures to bring in.  
Lori's input: Winlaw student voted on the options they were given. A very popular one was a "home made" tree house but a choice like that carries some issues with certification, liability etc.
- **Hot lunch 2.0**: The pilot for the new program with two lunches a week, cooked by payed cooks, ran during spring term last year and was successful. It will resume in October. There is a gap between revenues and expenses and we need grants to cover that. We got money from grants for gear (micro-green setup, other small gear and a

commercial sink) but it can't be used for produce (we buy locally) and wages. Since district maintenance will be installing the sink, in order to make it simpler and faster the ball was passed to maintenance (purchasing and installing).

## **New stuff**

- Kevin brought up concerns about potential use of rubber mats in the new playground. (other parents agreed it is a bad bedding)
- WEG PAC's bylaw are nowhere to be found, however, we need to have them. Lori will arrange a set of bylaws for PAC to adopt next meeting.
- Lori brought up the question – are we a charitable organization. Since no one knows – she will check it out.
- Heather, who has been coordinating and operating the breakfast program asked for help. She can't be at school all morning to take out the food. She will keep coordinating, buying the food and do baking.  
Volunteers for now:  
Mom. -Heather, Tue. - Heather, Wed. - Sonja/Kevin (alternate), Thu. - Erin, Fri. - Erin. Erin will try to get older students involved, in setting breakfast and clearing dishwasher. Heather requested gathering her containers, in which she sends in prepared food to be collected in one spot.
- Kevin brought up concerns about WiFi damages to kids and mentioned Winlaw school as a WiFi free school. Lori added it is the only wired school in the district and that it was a very hard job for maintenance to wire it, so hard they are not willing to do it again. Kevin Talked to Mr. Hurley about it and according to Mr. Hurley the decision is in the hands of the parents.  
Kevin was asked to do some more ground work in order to have enough information about how and if the situation can be adjusted, all that before bringing it to a vote among the parents at large. It should be discussed with the older classes teachers, to see their needs and the devices they use.  
Erin suggested checking with Julia Greenlaw (sp?) from Lucerne school who coordinated a wiring project through grants.
- Sonja brought up the Forms 820.1a ('student consent freedom of information and protection of privacy) , a district form that were sent home with the students to by signed by parents. There are people who are concerned about giving up their kids' privacy. Lori asked to hear more about it in the next meeting.

- Lori and Erin asked to get a speaker about internet safety.
- Lori and Joel are happy to take projects and tasks though can't commit to an official position at the moment
- Sonja asked for focus for the PAC for this year. She will put it into a newsletter.

## **Changing day and time for PAC meeting:**

New time: The second Tuesday of the month at 5pm.

## **Questions and action items:**

- A question to **Mike**: is there an expiration date for the playground grant money?
- **Sonja**: check where are we standing with sink buying and installing by maintenance?
- **Sonja**: Get Dayna on finding mature trees to plant near the playground.
- **Lori**: find a good set of bylaws for WEG PAC to adopt next meeting.
- **Lori**: find if we are a charitable organization
- **Kevin**: Check with teachers about computer/device use and how it can be done without WiFi. Check with Julia Greenlaw of Lucerne about the way it was done there.
- **Naama**: ask Mike for more information about the implications of form 820.1a to be delivered in the next meeting and What's available about internet safety.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:30**

**Next meeting: Tuesday Oct. 9, 5pm**