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Description automatically generated**Westminster School Council**

**Wednesday, November 6, 2024**

**Minutes**

1. Call Meeting to order

* Nikki 6:34 pm

2.Additions to the Agenda

* None

3.Approval of Agenda

* Sam

4. Approval of Minutes from October

* Hayley

5.Trustee Report- Tyler Demers

* Tyler not here

6.Division School Council Report

* Lisa – parent involvement became a concern compared to last year, only 9 parents responded to the survey
* Students declined in characteristics of citizenship
* Teacher and leading quality maintained
* Respectful and safe learning environments maintained
* Access to supports and services maintained
* Parents are not taking opportunity to get involved in decisions
* Put the meeting onto dojo every month to invite parents
* Idea for a mixer for the parents, to talk to other parents and the council
  + 3 per year? Maybe one about literacy, numeracy, and technology
  + Or more social than educational, a dance for the kids while parents can talk maybe

7.Westminster School Report

* Assurance Report
* Teacher Survey on Field Trips/School Council
  + Scientists in schools (kids love!)
  + Field trips mid year
* Society for Westminster

8.Teacher Report- Cheryl Macintyre

* Winter concert coming up
* Theme is a celebration of Canada through Canadian folk music, children singers and songwriters
* We are having no admission, bin from food bank available for people to bring an item to donate
* Matinee will be on the same day as the evening
* Talk about timing for concert, with report cards for teachers being overwhelmed
* Do we want to look into other ways of adding to the concert such as a raffle, or paying for parking spots? We want to keep it short and sweet, not having people linger too long after the concert.
* Suggestions of opening the doors earlier to moderate traffic flow
* What does school council want as their presence at the concert?
  + Welcoming parents when they come in, accepting the donations for the food bank
  + Maybe a flyer or qr code to tell people who school council is and why they should come to meetings in the future
  + Possible name draw for a prize for a child the next day
  + Candy canes and flyers to hand out to families

9.Treasurer Report

* Fundraisers
  + Beef jerky made $2169
  + We made $455 from panago
  + We had 100 more orders of beef jerky this year than last year, we raised the price a bit to have a bigger profit margin for the school

10.New Business

* Craft Fair
  + Sold out of tables!
  + Lisa ordering 40 tables
  + Set up on Friday
  + Bake sale and concession
  + Sign up for hour long blocks for concession volunteers
  + Running newspaper and radio ads to get more traffic
  + 458 door prize entries last year
  + Bathroom use was an issue last year, we need more than the one stall bathroom since the boys/girls was blocked
* Hot Lunch
  + Sam has booked this month and December
  + Booster juice in December
  + Waiting to hear from boston pizza, a pasta one and a pizza one, busy until after February
  + Arby’s, teriyaki madness, edo, mary browns – waiting for dates
  + Price range for most of them from $7-8.50 not including 2% for school cash
  + Most of them will happen towards the end of the month, so you can order in the middle of the month
  + It’s usually always second nutrition break that the hot lunch is for, most businesses are not ready in time to open for the first one
  + Are we doing grade 5 helpers? Pam could only help for the first nutrition block
  + First one is 11:03-11:39
  + Volunteer for each class to help with hot lunch – teachers asking who wants to
  + Idea for a hot lunch committee as part of school council
* Review Pizza fundraiser
  + $455, it was a good success
* Beef Jerky Fundraiser
  + More than last year, good success
* School Council present at the Winter Concert
  + Talked about this earlier in the meeting
* ASACA grant
  + Previously talked about it in September meeting, to use it for parent engagement
  + Yoga class or parenting coach (interest in booking a yoga class for parents one month, parent coach another month)
  + Childcare during yoga class? To have kids supervised in doing a craft during that time, for example, so parents can be engaged, maybe grade 5s could babysit with some adults
  + Suggestion box for parents to have a say in what topics the coach could present on, but unlikely for a lot of parents to give feedback since only 9 did the earlier survey
  + Topic ideas: help with emotional regulation
  + Free classes on zoom from NHS, maybe have a snack and invite parents to watch
  + Phecanada.ca for all Albertans, not specific to teachers
* December meeting?
  + December 4th
  + Put onto dojo as a reminder

11.Adjournment

Next Meeting: December 4, 2024

***Upcoming Dates:***

*Nov. 5 - A and W Breakfast*

*Nov.8- Remembrance Assembly*

*Nov.* 15th- Roc your Mocs

*Nov.*22- Report Cards Open/Sent Home

*Dec.11- Winter Concert – Matinee- 2:30 and Evening 6:00 p.m.*

*Dec. 16-20 Christmas Spirit Week*

* For Christmas week, rotary would feed the kids one morning, have kids wear pajamas
* Maybe the last Friday do a Christmas dance, caroling, parents invited
* December 16-20th is Christmas week
* Once we figure out what we are doing each day, maybe pick Wednesday for the breakfast
* Think about for next year to do a family dance, for Christmas or Halloween?
* Valentines day family dance
* Craft room, dance room, for more parental involvement next year
* Idea for a Halloween dance, Park meadows does sponsors for kids and then parent council buys prizes for which class does the most
* Nikki has a DJ contact for dances
* Lisa will do the work on learning how to become a society, and then we can decide if we want to create one, we could have access to a lot more opportunities and fundraisers, such as a lottery number with the Pub & Grill
* Idea for a parent council social media account
* We have a dormant facebook page, Garrett Simmons in charge of managing multimedia and websites for entire school division
* Leery and hesitant about all social media, positive messages and connecting with parents are good, but if it’s important, it should be face to face or phone calls, and social media can be unhealthy
* Class dojo works well for Lisa to remind parents of things going on
* Option to have no comments, both on dojo and facebook, maybe just post reminders for things like the craft fair (Lisa asking Garrett)
* Westminster school calendar is not updated, no Fridays put on for kindergarten classes
* Put hot lunches and our meeting on the calendar as well
* Our school website is not user friendly, it should be easier to book parent teacher interviews
* For next year, maybe do a parent rep for each homeroom, to increase engagement
* Parent rep could deliver hot lunches
* Money from being a society, use for a new electronic sign outside!

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm by Nikki