**Westminster School Council Minutes**

**Wednesday, December 4, 2024**

**Attendees**: Katherine McKee, Jessica Hodgson, Haley Byholt, Nikki Van Eden, Sam Firth, Kali Paterson, Michelle Tyslau, Lisa Prawdzik

1. Call Meeting to order at 6:30pm

2.Additions to the Agenda

3.Approval of Agenda

4. Approval of Minutes from November

5.Trustee Report- Tyler Demers

* Not here

6.Division School Council Report

7.Westminster School Report

* Mountain West Photography
	+ One year contract, changed from Lifetouch
	+ It wasn’t a negative experience with Lifetouch, but Mountain West had higher quality and more options available
	+ Anytime during the year choose a day, $30 per family to sit for photos and different packages available to order
	+ Family photo night after school, families pay for it
	+ Free group photo for grade 5s
	+ Able to include more students, who may have trouble smiling, by taking a photo of them in the classroom and blur the background
* Report Cards- Pilot Report Cards
	+ Having a physical card to increase engagement with your child
	+ Clarity on achievements
	+ Good parent feedback on new report cards
	+ Teachers have enjoyed the new format as well
* Christmas Spirit Week
	+ Last week of school will have some dress up days
	+ Rotarians are providing pancake breakfast on the last Friday, and kids wear their pajamas
	+ Will we go back to a carnival style Friday, or perhaps a whole school bingo
	+ Maybe on Monday it could kick off with a hot chocolate at the end of the day before pickup
	+ The goal is to have some fun this week
* Sock it to Em
	+ Over 500socks!
	+ Fox in socks costumes – kids loved seeing principal and vice principal dressed up
* Christmas Concert
	+ Matinee and evening concert coming up
* Alberta Gov Assessments in January
	+ Kindergarten will be doing it for the first time
	+ It’ll be good to see where the grade ones were and how far they’ve come
* Society of Westminster
	+ There is more work to be done, but it also increases our opportunities
	+ Once it’s established, it’s in place for the next generation of parents and parent council
	+ Seeking out more parents would be a good thing
	+ Lisa will work towards the setup between now and January

8.Teacher Report- Kali Paterson

* She posts a mystery word at the front of the room, learning different sounds and secret stories, the meaning of the word and rhyming words
* A shift away from phonics, the secret stories has helped a lot in every grade, and learning to read has been easier and remembering the sounds to encourage strong readers

9.Treasurer Report

* Fundraisers
	+ Craft show total was $2769
	+ Last year was $1315
	+ 40 vendor tables, increased rate
	+ Bake sale and concession was $1154
	+ 256 people yellow slips of who came to the show
	+ Door prize entries 541
	+ A lot of positive feedback about it

10.New Business

* Have a poster for the winter concert advertising parents to join council
	+ Taking a non perishable food items for the food bank
	+ Not mandatory but whoever can help out
	+ Table for school council to sit at
* Discussed planning valentine’s dance for parent engagement in february
* Hot Lunch
	+ This month booster juice
	+ January arby’s
	+ All in the last week or two of the month
	+ Alternating days so kindergarten can participate
	+ Vendors contacted and set up for the rest of the year
	+ Each class needs a parent volunteer to distribute hot lunches, put on class dojo

11.Adjournment at 7:17pm

**Next Meeting:** Jan 8, 2025

***Upcoming Dates:***

* **Dec.3-** A & W
* **Dec.10-**Decoration for concert
* ***Dec.11****-* Winter Concert
* **Dec 11-** Reading Ladies – Christmas Treat
* **Dec 16-20-** Spirit of Christmas
* **Dec 20**- Pancake Breakfast