

Westmount School Association

March Minutes

April 29th 2024

Attending: Marisha Caswell, Tara Wight, Erin Todd, Meredith Pike, Teri Colter, Greg White, Megan Gray, Allana Mills, Alex Smith, Runa Seal, Lynn Perrin, Vanessa Thompson, Laura Moeller

Regrets: Christa LeBlanc, Jenn Hanscomb, Sarah-Lynn MacKenzie, Marilee Selewski

1. Welcome: Tara Wight (in the role of rotating chair) welcomed everyone at 6:04 pm
2. Approval of Minutes: Motion: to approve the minutes for the March 2024 WSA meeting
Approved: Marisha Caswell
Seconded: Vanessa Thompson
3. Review of Pending Action Items: A) **Gaga Ball Pit** – Teri hasn't heard anything back about the work order put in for the gaga ball pit repairs; she has emailed the operations supervisor and will report back. We discussed again whether it would be helpful for the WSA to write a letter asking for the repairs to be made ASAP; there was some concern that it might highlight a danger and the gaga ball pit would be taken out of operation.

B) **Basketball Nets** – Teri has put a work order in with both HRCE and HRM (ref #2418017) to have the nets replaced, as we are not sure who is responsible for them. There was some discussion that in the past the outdoor nets were purchased by the school. Teri is waiting to hear back.
4. Principal's Report: **Greg White**, Vice Principal
A recent assembly highlighted gratitude for March and empathy for April; the school climate and culture committee will soon be discussing plans for the theme for May.
Students put together an EID video with the help of Shelly Chapman.
Grade 3 provincial assessments are coming up in May.
The school has received it's staffing allocation for next year; right now there will be the same number of classrooms. Currently we have 400+ students; ~390 are registered for next year.
Some teachers and families were personally impacted by the recent murder of the 16 year old at Halifax Shopping Center. Teachers navigated conversations that came up in classes, and the school counsellor was available in a quiet space for anyone who needed to talk for a couple of days. Some teachers were supported to attend his funeral this week.

5. Treasurer's Report: **Christa LeBlanc, Treasurer**
Christa was unable to attend but sent a note that she will collect an updated report from Tanya.
6. Event & Fundraising Reports: **A) Dimitri's Pizza & Hot Lunch** – Next round will start in mid-May; Marisha will shadow Erin during the May planning.
B) Micro Garden Fundraiser – This has been extended until tomorrow. Tara will gather the order information and get back to us.
D) Spring Fair – Teri shared that she's applied for the RBC grant, and that the grant for the movie night has come in (\$1500). They will provide volunteers for a 2 hour shift (11:30-1:30).
Planning continues! Spring Fair Committee meets tonight. The event will be on May 25th.
7. Funding Requests: iPads have been sourced at \$420 + tax per iPad and \$65+tax per case.
Mr Flemming has requested funding for a bouncy castle for field day again this year.
Approved: Allana MacDonald
Seconded: Marisha Caswell
8. Other Items: **A) Dates for Next Year** – Dates were tentatively chosen for events next year so that the gym could be secured:
October dance? - Oct 24th
Bingo – November 24th
Movie night – January 30th
Oval Skate (no booking necessary) - February 26th or 27th
April event (TBD) - April 24th
Spring Fair – May 24th (set up May 23rd)

We discussed having a dance next year, and the possibility of holding another date in case any other ideas come up. We discussed that we could have a dance either in October or April; and the bingo could be October or November. We will discuss further in September.

B) WSA Positions – Positions available and up for renewal were reviewed for consideration in preparation for the vote in May:
President - vacant
Vice President - Erin (up for renewal)
Treasurer - Christa (up for renewal)
Secretary - Megan (up for renewal)
Past President - Marilee

Principal - Teri
Two Staff reps - Greg, ?
Members at Large - Laura (up for renewal)
Tara (up for renewal)
Marisha
Vanessa
Alex
Jenn
Meredith
Allana

Action Item: Megan will disseminate information about the executive roles.

C) Youth Running Series – The first YRS event was this past weekend with approximately 8-10 Westmount students taking part. We discussed promoting it within the school and the running club as a community and possible fundraising event (schools with top participation earn money towards recreation equipment).

D) We did not have a chance to discuss Diversity and Inclusion; it will stay on the agenda going forward. LEgacy planning discussions were integrated into various discussion points.

9. Motion to Adjourn: The meeting was ended at 6:58 pm
Approved: Alex Smith
Seconded: Erin Todd

Next meeting: Monday, May 27th at 6 pm, followed by the AGM. Marilee will chair May