

Alpine School Council Minutes



Wednesday, October 26, 2016, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in the library

Present: Rita Givlin, Lea Becker, Jessica Beaucage, April Cousineau, Melissa Coles, Donald Mann, Carmel Marshall, Patricia Valente, Jen Smerek

Regrets: Mandy Clark, Nicole Johnson, Rebecca Harris, Dawn Koehler, Sasa Cvetkovic, Judi Oake

1. Math Challenge - [Jo Boaler teaching a Dot Card Number Talk](#)
2. Admin Update

<p>Around the School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Staffing: welcoming Kelly Kittel to kindergarten, Julie Jackson-Lawson was the successful candidate for the grade 5 contract but will remain in the SERT role until Mrs Baxter returns ● School Day: 85% of student accounts are linked; Chromebook available in the office for family use to support those without internet; sign up for progress report interviews will take place via School Day; we continue to encourage all families to register all students ● Math Update: DreamBox has been purchased for all of our students in grade 1-3; our students will receive an hour in class each week; research shows this is a very effective tool; students are encouraged to work on DreamBox at home each week but the work must be independent to allow the program to offer just right questions to improve <i>student</i> thinking and learning (i.e., if parents help students to get the “right” answers, the program will adjust to ask the student questions that are too hard) ● Welcome to Virginia Baechler, a Learning Support Teacher (LST) who will be working with our staff one day per week to support student learning. She has been most impressed with the eagerness of our staff to learn and work alongside her to try new approaches and measure their impact. ● Facility Update: letters have arrived for the new sign, we look forward to using this communication tool to engage parents and the community. ● Hallowe’en Oct. 31- this is primarily an instructional day, parents and students should not feel any pressure to dress up. All parents are asked to ensure no peanut/nut products enter the school. ● Remembrance Day, Nov. 11 we will have a brief assembly; parents are welcome to join us ● Progress Reports are currently being written and will go home on November 14. Interviews will take place the evening of November 17 and the afternoon of November 18. ● Professional Activity Day, November 18 - no school for students; staff will be hard at work developing our School Improvement Plan and meeting with parents
<p>Around WRDSB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ambitious goals - improve EQAO scores by 8% over each of the next 3 years; focus on wellness

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Digital Learning Symposium, Nov 3 - will be attended by Ms Givlin, Mrs. Abshoff-Millar, Mrs. Fraser and Mrs. Martell ● Families in a Digital World - Digital Citizenship Summit, November 28 at Bluevale; details available on our website alp.wrdsb.ca
Around the Province	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Well-being Strategy ● A Renewed Math Strategy for Ontario

3. Financial Update - School Council Account Balance, Oct. 25, 2016 - \$5317.14

4. Playground - What steps do we need to take to enhance our playground?

Admin meeting with Rob Seeley, Facility Services, WRDSB

Needs to be accessible - the black border is not accessible

Need paths to whatever is put in - made of mulch or stone dust or pavement as they leave no tracks

Playgrounds last about 15 years

Community vs school use?

Use during whole year vs summer months

Age intended for?

Maintenance - WRDSB does safety surfaces, council responsible for the rest

Limitations due to safety concerns

Need space for 6 portables

Consider drainage and snow removal

Ball diamond used by city

Mini soccer fields approx \$1700

Schools to visit

Rockway - teepee, stage, hills, pathways, willow tunnel

Jean Steckle - established willow tunnel. \$300000 playground

JW Gerth - outdoor mud kitchen

WTT - log jam, bridge on path

WEllesley - kindie play area

Sandhills - slide on hill, log steps

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Williamsburg - stage and shade trees

Rob Steele will visit council

Need 3 quotes if over \$10000 - may be able to pay different contractors

Earthscapes, Halford

Timing is important - have ideas ready and look for quotes in March

Grants - TD Friends of the Environment, Toyota, Region,

Consider size of tree, larger gives shade right away

Next Steps: invite Rob Seeley to Nov. meeting (Rita), visit Jean Steckle (Jennifer), visit WTT (Jen), visit Sandhills (Jessica), visit Driftwood (Patricia); contact Earthscapes and Halford (April), April emailed Shriners, called BMO, will call 91.5 the Beat, CIBC - Jen will check with waste management, Toyota; grant at Region (Patricia), Jen will contact TD

5. **Fundraising** - Sheridan Nursery letter out to community via website, SchoolDay and twitter (Rita); **MacMillan's** -delivery, Thursday, December 15, Nov. 14 brochures go home, Nov. 29, deadline; Order Dec. 1;ask Lori to make labels, one per student; top selling family get family movie passes (2 adult, 2 children), all participating families entered into a draw for movie night
6. **Teacher Wish List** - Raz Kids, kindie outdoor toys
7. **Fundraising: council agrees that 80% of money raised will go towards the playground and the remaining 20% for wish list items**
8. **Pajama, Pizza and Movie Night:** November 24, look into Angry Birds (Jessica), raffle the movie, 5:30 p.m. entry, movie at 6:00 p.m. (parent must be with each child), \$4 includes entry, pizza slice and popcorn and raffle ticket, additional pizza slices each \$1.50, (Patricia and Don on pizza) bring own water bottle and plates, bake sale items available for \$0.50 (donations to bake sale welcome, pre-portioned please); Jessica and April on door, Jessica has volunteer to make popcorn; invitations go home Nov. 7 (Jessica); returned by Nov. 18 (Jessica, April); Rita to book facility
9. Updating School Council Bulletin Board and website - Rita will post minutes

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 24, 2016