

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 7:15 p.m.

In Attendance: Keri Glowacki, Rhonda Williams, Cyndie Smith, Ben Hall, Carla Shepherd, Hayli Scott, Shellie Sullivan, Joanna Wong, Leila Mehrabi, Melanie Quon, Holly Melchin, Steven Chen, Marian Foster

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of agenda and previous minutes: Approved by Carla, Seconded by Marian

Message from School (Rhonda & Keri)

1. School Start-Up / Staffing Updates

- School enrollment 263 students.
- The school filled six staff positions prior to opening for the new school year.
- Ms. Yuri has accepted a new position downtown. Had two retired secretaries fill in until they were able to hire a replacement. Ms. Tammy Hoban has now accepted this position. Mr. G's leave has been extended and will be filled by Ms. Swan; Ms. Melissa is on an extended leave, Mr. Outtrum will fill this position. Ms. Yee's position will be filled by Ms. Boers. Mr. Liu will be teaching Grade 6, and also holds the position of learning leader. Lunchroom: Ms. Victoria is on mat leave, Ms. Zanab will fill in.

2. Terry Fox Run September 21st

- Asking for parent volunteers to support this event.
- Sign up is posted on Sign-Up genius. All positions appear to be currently filled.

3. Open House September 24th

- Planning a big event this year, which will replace the former "muffin mixer." This Open House will include a book fair, outdoor games, and food trucks. Teachers are going to be available in their classrooms to meet with families.
- Hoping to have some members of Parent Council available to introduce themselves and speak with families., Discussion about having a flyer with information about current initiatives and fundraising opportunities. In previous meeting a budget of \$100 was approved to buy bubbles and chalk for the event.
- Still looking for volunteers to support the book fair. This is posted on SignupGenius

4. Photo day September 28th

- Reminder for kids to dress up for their photos, volunteer posting on SignupGenius

5. Patrollers and Door Holders

- AMA coming next week to train students for this school year. At the end of the patrollers are rewarded with a trip to Heritage Park.

- Leadership opportunities at the school are also available for door holders at the beginning of the school day.

6. Ever Active Schools Partnership

- This partnership is continuing this school year. Last year they supported the Grade 6 Legacy project, where they made bird houses for Natures Place to be put on trees at front of the school. These bird houses still need to be shellacked before they are secured to trees.
- Ever Active schools will continue to work with this year's Grade 6s

7. Student Leadership Opportunities

- Each year students are provided with a variety of leadership opportunities to choose from. These will be rolled out in the coming weeks. Opportunities include things like Kindergarten buddies, door holders, etc.

8. Brown Bag Lunches and Snack Cupboard:

- Brown Bag for kids continues to support the school with lunches for kids. Enrollment in this program is lower than last year. The brown bag program also now provides snacks as well as lunches, and the school snack pantry is very full. No funds are needed currently to top-up these food supplies.

9. National Day for Truth and Reconciliation: September 30th

- No school on this day, but will have an assembly on the 29th to recognize the occasion, which will be combined with Circle Day.
- Circle Days: All the kids in the school organize into groups. Get together with different grades and will have a different focus in each group once per month. This is a good opportunity for kids to connect with other teachers and kids across grades. Each grade will run a circle day and rotate through.

10. Residencies: all paid for by school council

- We have several residencies booked for this year, all paid for by School Council fundraising. This year Residencies we look forward to hosting includes:
 - Lacrosse (next week)
 - Alien In Line
 - Scientists in Schools

School Council | New Business:

1. Introduction to School Council and Confirmation Officers

- Elections for the council board were held in June, where the following was approved:
 - Benjamin Hall – Chair
 - Carla Shepherd - Vice Chair
 - Cynthia (Cyndie) Smith – Treasurer
 - Secretary - currently vacant
- Secretary position is open, motioned to be filled by Hayli Scott. 1st approval Carla, Seconded Cyndie
- Above positions confirmed. Council will make arrangements for Carla to have signing authority.

2. Welcome Back Event in September | Open House Sept 24

- Discussion about supporting the open house event Sept 24th. Will need to make and print a flyer that includes information about School council initiatives and meeting dates.

3. Healthy Hunger

- Ben, Hayli, and Carla are working on setting this up for the year.
- Fun snack will take place the first Wednesday of each month, with Fun Lunches on the third Wednesday of every month.
- Kindergarten children can participate in the snack days, but lunches will be delivered too late for their participation.
- Almost all vendors are booked. Will send confirmation to Rhonda and Keri when all restaurants are confirmed so parents can begin placing orders.
- Will send out volunteer requests to help distribute each snack and lunch.

4. Upcoming Events Council Events

- Halloween Dance Oct 29;
 - i. Need help to organize this event
 - ii. Cyndie will book dj
 - iii. Hayli and Marian have materials for craft table, tattoos, stickers etc from last school year, as the Halloween dance had been cancelled
 - iv. Shellie will help with decorations
 - v. Hayli will set up a Sign Up genius event for volunteers
 - vi. Leila suggested we use Healthy Hunger platform to bring in pizza for families. Agreed we can set this up as well. Hayli / Ben/ Carla can arrange for this. Marian suggested we try Little Ceasars in Silver Springs.
- Movie Night- Jan 14th
 - i. Need to check our licence to see if it needs to be renewed prior to this date.
 - ii. Keri will look back to see if this needs to be done and we will follow up again.
- Spring Dance April 15th
 - i. This event was TBD pending volunteers to help and organize the event
 - ii. Will follow up on this in future meetings this year
- Proposed budget for printing flyers for events set at \$200. Motioned by Cyndie, seconded by Carla. No opposition.
- West Dalhousie School Turns 50!
 - i. Rhonda received some emails from past students about this year being the 50th anniversary of the school opening. There is a time capsule located in the school to be opened at this celebration.
 - ii. Shellie will look into archives to find out more information. Rhonda will speak with other people within CBE to find more information and gather ideas for how to commemorate the event.

5. Fundraisers

- Skip the Depot:
 - i. Will continue for this year. Discussed students doing a community walk and providing information to the community to donate bottles for this cause. Will make a flyer for students to put in mailboxes.
- Healthy Hunger:
 - i. Continuing this year – almost set up (as above). Revenue generated last year: \$2047
- Fresh Brand Gear:
 - i. Hayli will contact vendor to ensure our online store remains active. Will ask for samples of shirts to be available at the open house on Sept 24th for families to view.
- Apple fundraiser:
 - i. Being led by Marian. Apples will be delivered October 23rd. Discussed the use of Zeffy to help manage parent payments.
- Cobbs:
 - i. Leila mentioned a potential fundraising opportunity via Cobbs. She will inquire further and bring back more information at our next council meeting.

6. Financial Update

- School council account currently has \$13,197.05
- There are a few outstanding withdrawals from last school year remaining (i.e., patroller picnic, grade 6 farewell), so funds expected to be a bit lower than this for the school year.

7. School Council Meeting Schedule 2026-27

- First Wednesdays of each month, with dates as follows:
 - October 7 – In Person
 - Nov 4 - Online
 - Dec 2 - Online
 - January 6 - In person
 - Feb 3 - Online
 - march 3 - On person;
 - April 7- Online;
 - May 5 - In person
 - June 2 - In person.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21p.m. by Marian, seconded by Carla. All in favor.

West Dalhousie Parents Association

Meeting called to order at 8:21 p.m.

In Attendance: Keri Glowacki, Rhonda Williams, Cyndie Smith, Ben Hall, Carla Shepherd, Hayli Scott, Shellie Sullivan, Joanna Wong, Leila Mehrabi, Melanie Quon, Holly Melchin, Steven Chen, Marian Foster

1. Introduction to Parent Association and Confirmation Officers

- Elections for the association board were held in June, where the following was approved:
 - Benjamin Hall – Chair
 - Carla Shepherd - Vice Chair
 - Cynthia (Cyndie) Smith – Treasurer
 - Secretary - currently vacant
- Secretary position is open, motioned to be filled by Hayli Scott. 1st approval Carla, Seconded Cyndie
- Above positions confirmed. will make arrangements for Carla to have signing authority.

2. Casino Update

- Date set for 4th quarter of 2007 at Cowboys casino.
- Updates to come closer to this event date.

3. Financial Updates

- Casino account: \$81,481.04
- Target is to spend about \$40,000 each year

4. School requests for funding:

- The school has been working on designing classroom spaces to support different learners needs, regulation, and collaboration. Would like to purchase a Tuff Tray for each classroom. This would provide students with something to do and engage with in the classroom when they come in. Would also like some materials to fill in the trays which will rotate through each classroom every couple of weeks (e.g., Lego, orbees, sand etc.) Estimated cost: Approximately \$3500.
- Would like to provide each class with a leadership opportunity to show their learning with the rest of the school. For example, Ms. Pearson gets ducks every year and she invites the whole school in to see them. It would be great if every grade had a thing that classes came and visited. Ideas included something like Sky science, sky dome; Butterflies; Estimating a budget of about \$250 per class for a total of \$3500. Looking for a science theme this year.
- Motion to approve spending for both these initiatives for \$7000 put forward by Hayli. Seconded by Carla. No opposition.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 7, 2026

Motion to Adjourn at 8:39 by Hayli, Seconded by Carla