Westmount School Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 25, 2025 | 5:30 – 7:30 PM | School Learning Commons

In Attendance:	Paige Stonehocker, Council Chair	Marica Borovich-Law, Friends of Foothills School Foundation
	Sherry Opas – Principal,	Cali Peace
	Brad Skeet- Vice Principal,	Kirsty Judd
	Sharon Nichols, School Division Trustee	Jon Lehtola
	Lisa Penzo, School Division Trustee	Brandi Findlater Whippy

1. **Welcome and Round Table Introductions**

2. **Approval of Agenda**
   Motion to approve, Cali Peace. Second, by Jon Lehtola.

3. **Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes**
   Secretary not in attendance, no minutes to approve

4. **Guest Speaker - Friends of Foothills School Division Foundation Update**

- Discussion around granting application process and ow the Foundation and School Council can work together. Attendees offered suggestions on how to improve the application process.

- Reminder that funding applications will be opening again in September. Last year 7 schools in the division received funding.

- $4,600 raised at the 2024 Foundation Golf Event, the 2025 event is happening June 14 at the Highwood Golf and Country Club. The Foundation is hoping for one group of 4 to attend from each school. Option to attend via golf or just the banquet.

- The Foundation has a number of board members resigning with some already having replacements, however they are still looking for a couple of new members.

- Final numbers presented at the Foundation AGM
  - $72,160 raised
  - - $46,418 in expenses
  - $25,700 available for granting

- Over the past year they have received requests for funding totaling $19,600. 10% of funds raised are used for operation costs.

5. **School Update & Discussion**

- **Why do we have Student Led Conferences?** Allows the students to be proud of showcasing their progress and work. It allows students, parents and teachers to

work together to create goals.

- **Why are portfolios sent home to review right before conferences, but then the students show us them again during the led conference?** Following FSD guidelines, portfolios must be sent home for review monthly. Grade K-3 use binders, Grade 4 – is piloting a program called Blueprint, Grades 5-6 – use Google Slides

- Feedback provided by attendees about Edsembli not being user friendly.

- **Discussion around Field Trip Bus Fees**
  School fundraising covers the cost of 1 bus trip per class per year. The average cost is $60/hour for in town. Out-of-town trips, for example going to Calgary Zoo is $60 x 6 hours.

- **School Fundraising Update**
  - $12,000 – Readathon
  - $150 – Toque sales
  - $1,050 – Coupon book sales
  - **$32,000 Total Raised this year.**

  Sherry discussed that she would like to formalize a School Council and fundraising plan by the end of this school year, so that we can start right at the beginning of September when school starts again.
  Cali put her name forward to take on a role on the committee of Vice Chair or lead the fundraising committee.

- **How are class lists created?** Teachers create class lists with support and input from EAs, Learning coaches etc. Sherry provides a list of requests from parents to teachers. Staffing lists and class lists are not finalized until the funding budget is released and also depends on registrations over the summer, and students leaving.

6. Meeting Adjournment

Next Meeting – Tuesday, April 29, 2025 | 5:30 to 7:30 PM