



## **WEST SPRINGS SCHOOL COUNCIL**

**Thursday, June 6, 2024 @ 6:30PM**

***Hybrid – via Microsoft Teams & In Person***

### **EXECUTIVE ATTENDEES**

Katherine Rubin – School Council Chair  
Lori Anderson – School Council Vice-Chair  
Madison Trudeau – School Council Treasurer  
Irina Lucyshyn – School Council Secretary

Susan Westgate – West Springs Principal  
Leah MacMillan – West Springs Vice-Principal

#### **A. Welcome and Introductions (6:33 – 6:34)**

**B. Approval of [Agenda](#) (6:34 – 6:35 pm)** – Eryn, Viktoria

**C. Approval of [Minutes](#) from the April 25, 2024 School Council Meeting (6:35 – 6:36 pm)** – Eryn, Viktoria

**D. Administration Report (6:36 pm)** – Leah MacMillan

- **Land Acknowledgement**

- **Assessment and reporting**

- Teachers collect a wide body of learning outcome evidence over the term
- Report cards are indicators of curriculum expectations and are based on not meeting expectations, basic, good or excellent understanding of the curriculum. This is different from previous standards set as “at”, “above” or “below” grade level.
- Starting Jan 1, CBE has been moving to standardized comments on the report cards. In the past years teachers were able to write free-form paragraphs, but going forward all comments will be in point form. The reason for this is uniformity and consistency across teachers and grades.
- Zero as a grade has been taken out of the CBE for missing work or being late, as it does not reflect the student’s understanding of curriculum. This is effective across K-12. If no work is handed in, student has time to hand in by a set deadline or before last day of semester. For no work handed in, the grade will be “Not complete” or “No evaluation”, not zero or 1. Read carefully through the report cards and reach out to teacher or admin with any questions.
- Kindergarten students will receive the full report card this semester, not just literacy and numeracy as at halfway mark.
- Report cards are going live for viewing on Jun 25.
- It should be noted that curriculum has changed quite significantly in the past year, so there are still gaps in students’ abilities and CBE expectations. Most noticeable gaps are in numeracy. All students are being supported by admin and staff and parents will be notified well in advance if their children are not meeting expectations before Jun 25.

*The purpose of West Springs School Council is to support and enhance student learning.*



- Students are no longer being held back in grades. There are a lot of factors that go into having a child repeat a grade, but it has been shown to be detrimental to children socially and has not resulted in much academic improvement. Moreover, it has been shown to affect childrens' self-confidence and made them perceive themselves as a "hopeless case".
  - One of the only cases where holding a student back could be beneficial, is at the start of Kindergarten, for children who may have to start right around when they turn 6. In that case, waiting a year can be helpful.
  - West Springs School has multiple programs and ways to support students who may need extra attention and help – via literacy intervention teachers, focus groups, etc. Extra support is offered as much as possible in a way that doesn't make students feel singled out and isolated from their peers.
- **Music presentation – Classroom sharing - Mr. Vooy's**
    - Music class is a mix of singing, theory skills, playing instruments and learning about different composers and bands, with a sprinkling of drama, movement games and skills.
    - Some highlights include: djembe drumming (Gr 1-3), ukulele and melody writing (Gr 4), xylophones (Gr 2-4), choir (Gr 3-4). The choir this year was the largest that Mr. Vooy's ever directed.
- **On the horizon**
    - June 7 – Catch up vaccinations - 9:30 am
    - June 10 – Chief Superintendent Joanne Pitman visiting WSS
    - June 12 – Coffee and Conversation – 9:30 am – Volunteer appreciation
    - June 12 – WSSDA Meat fundraiser pickup
    - June 13 – Fun Fair event after school
    - June 13 – ALL library books must be returned to school
    - June 20 – Sports Day
    - June 24 – Sports Day (alternative day if necessary)
    - June 25 – Grade 4 Farewell – 10:00 am
    - June 27 – Final Day of School – early dismissal (12.50 pm)

#### **E. Business for Discussion (7:06 pm) – Katherine**

- June COSC update – meeting not attended on June 5, minutes to be on the WSS School Council page. Next COSC meeting is in Fall 2024.
- Yearbook update – some teachers are missing pictures that they said they uploaded. Admin to follow up. Pictures need to be submitted next week. Teachers can send photos to Viktoria. As always, a huge Thank You to Pia for putting together the Memory Books.
- Teacher appreciation and end of the school year celebrations. Giving away spirit wear (t-shirts) to teachers and staff. All funded by council. T-shirts will be once again provided to Grade 4 farewell – tie-dye tradition.
- Kinder Tea & Cheers – Aug 29 and 30 – staggered entry over 2 days and 4 blocks.
- Welcome BBQ for Fall – September 12. Meet the teachers – for parents and kids. Healthy hunger to purchase meals or sponsored event? Open house will be at the same time (right after) as per teachers' feedback. WSSDA could assist with funding – get quotes. School sponsored event – no permit needed for gym, etc.

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- Outdoor mulch funds and volunteer opportunity. Need to renew and price some mulch for the outdoor classroom and school grounds. School doesn't have funds allocated, so council would need to fund.
- 2024/2025 Council Meeting Dates

## 2024/2025 Council Meeting Dates

| Month     | Council Meeting |
|-----------|-----------------|
| September | 19-Sep-24       |
| October   | 17-Oct-24       |
| November  | -               |
| December  | 05-Dec-24       |
| January   | 23-Jan-25       |
| February  | -               |
| March     | 06-Mar-25       |
| April     | 10-Apr-25       |
| May       | 08-May-25 (AGM) |
| June      | 12-Jun-25       |

- ▶ All Council meetings will be hybrid - in person and on Teams
  - ▶ All Council meetings begin at 18:30, except the AGM at 18:00
- Fun Lunches will now be tied to Spirit Days, not Council days. They will be scheduled on Thursdays, with special Kinder-only lunches on Wednesdays prior. Need to address ordering on Healthy Hunger and need for more volunteers.

### F. Open Discussion

**G. Meeting Adjourned (7:40 pm)** – moved by Eryn C., seconded by Viktoria T.