

Joseph Welsh Elementary School Council Meeting

Minutes – January 24, 2024

1. **Call to Order** - 3:25
2. **In attendance and Introductions**: Laurie M, Jim W, Kevin R, Brittani R, Tricia T, Anali G, Tasha A, Nicole M, Kyla R
4. **Review of Agenda & November's Meeting Minutes**
5. **Celebrations and Announcements**
 - Christmas Market! Thank you Kyla for your suggestion and organization of the Christmas Market. It was cute to see smiling faces walking the halls carrying loads of bags to take home. Christmas Market raised \$1600+
 - Christmas Concert. Kudos to Mrs V and all the staff and students for a wonderful evening. Beautiful artwork decorating the gym, and amazing performances by everyone.
 - RDPD Board update from January - library update for us! This is included in the Facility Maintenance Plan for the 24/25 school year.
6. **Teacher Report** Grade 1 team
 - Grade 1 team talked about their busy year. Assembly hosts this week, skating going on, Animals in Winter slideshow project. Planning a field trip for the spring, tentatively to Markerville. Looking at reintroducing their shine and share program (invite parents in for last 20 mins or so so the students can show and play some games with them.)
7. **Business Arising from Minutes / New Business**
 - Fun Lunches
 - Tentative plan for a school wide hotdog lunch on February 8 or 15.
 - Looking at a few parents to help organize and plan upcoming lunches for the rest of the school year.
 - Event planning
 - Skate night for February 27 and possibly 28.
 - Looking for a few people to help organize and plan events for the spring - movie night, lego night
 - Next year planning
 - Trickster Theatre residency; Alison V is applying for a grant to offset costs; if that is successful we will help the school fund the rest of the costs
 - <https://trickstertheatre.com/>
 - Email from Parkworks
 - Going to be in Red Deer on February 9th. Looking at meeting with School Councils to discuss playground options. Decided not to meet with them for now; library renovation will be the next big project before any outdoor spaces.
 - <https://www.parkworksco.com/>

- New Business
 - Request for school or division to inform families of the severe weather policies in place. There are lots of factors involved for cold days, and some clarification about if it is safe or not to send kids if they don't have to be there.

8. Reports and Updates:

- A. Trustee Liaison - Jim Watters
- B. Admin Report - Kevin Robertson /Sean Grainger
 - Talked about successful Christmas market and Concert. Great turnouts for both.
 - Grade 1 assembly this week - grade 1s will be teaching everyone the new school song.
 - Grade 1 testing is ongoing for literacy and numeracy interventions; grade 2 and 3 interventions ongoing
 - Assurance survey from province going out. Please ask the school if you have any questions.
- D. Fundraising Update - will plan one in February
- E. City Wide School Council Update
 - Hosted by Oriole Park. Principal talked about the Young Writer's Conference and their outdoor garden
 - ATA presentation
 - Division Results Report
 - More survey responses the better; survey is mailed out this week (grade 4 families for our school.)
 - Next Citywide meeting will be discussion on new direction for strategic plan, to align divisions's priorities with provincial framework. As a parent or guardian, what are your priorities for your child's education?

9. Upcoming Events:

January 25 - Student Recognition Assembly, 9 am
 February 16-23 - no school; Staff Learning Day, Family Day, Winter Break, Teachers Convention
 February 28 - Student Recognition Assembly, 1:30 pm
 February 28 - Pink Shirt Day?
 March 12 - City Wide School Council meeting here! 7pm
 March 14 - Staff Learning Day and Parent/Teacher Conferences, no school
 March 15 - Staff Learning Day, no school
 March 20 - Student Recognition Assembly, 9am

10. Next Meeting: March 20, 3:20 pm

Meeting adjourned, 4:02