

Woodman-Cainsville School Council Minutes
Wednesday, September 16, 2015
6:30 p.m.

Welcome – School Council Vice-Chair, Stephanie Ward welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members present: Janice Brinson, Treasurer; Rose Smith; Stephanie Burnham; Kaleigh Yarrow; Norris Ward; Claude Smith; Diannah Dean – Principal; Jan Scheidt – Teacher Rep;

Regrets: Cheryl Smith (working), Jay Brinson

Minutes of the last meeting were not available.

WCSC-2015-25 **MS** that the agenda be approved as presented. **CARRIED**

Vice-Chair Stephanie Ward welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Principal Diannah Dean (new to Woodman-Cainsville School this September) to give her report.

Principal's Report: New registrations are still being accepted. It has been quite a challenge with two new secretaries (P. Doyon on leave until November) and a new principal. Numbers in classrooms are changing and switches will be made especially in the primary division. Several **new staff members**: Bryar Maarhuis – Prep; Dana Chapman – Prep; Rebecca Crawford – French; Johanna Gordon – Grade 4/5; Olivia Giannotti – French (Grade 6 – shared with Echo); Laura Rogowski – Grade 6; new secretaries – Connie Stewart (casual full-time replacing Paulette Doyon) and Rosanna Lorenzana (half-time mornings)

Ms. Dean has been in conversation with Friendship House and the school will be getting involved with their programs once the work to rule action is stopped. All programs involving fundraising have stopped and will resume once the labour situation is resolved. A group of vets from Cobblestone Vet Clinic are going to have a clinic where the proceeds from the nail clipping program (one day) are going to be donated to the snack program at Woodman-Cainsville School.

Meet The Teacher night has been moved to Thursday, October 15th. The Scholastic Book Fair is tentatively scheduled for this evening. Due to labour action, there may be no Meet the Teacher night. Field trips have been cancelled, but extra curricular activities are taking place.

Bus Times: Now that two buses are needed to transport students, effective Monday, September 21, the times of the school have changed. The day begins at 8:35 am and ends at 2:55 pm. First nutrition break begins at 10:35 am with recess ending at 11:15 am. The second nutrition break begins at 12:55 pm and ends at 1:35 pm.

Teacher Update: Work to rule labour action: Teachers are not collecting monies, papers, or any Board related material. Field trips have been cancelled, but extra curricular activities are taking place. A running club has started and there is an intermediate baseball team. Further labour action may occur if talks do not resume. All activities pertaining to fund raising are on hold. Teachers are not participating in any Board professional development or school improvement planning – therefore,

no attendance or Hero Assemblies are taking place as this is part of the School Improvement Plan. There was some discussion about Hero Awards and whether or not it is an effective method to improve student behaviour. Teachers are still allowed to participate in School Council meetings and Health and Safety inspections.

With the help from Mr. Jarvis, Mr. Salter's room now has a computer for every student in his class. Fifty computers were requested in May and picked up in late August from RCT computers in St. Catharines. Most of the intermediate classrooms have a computer/laptop/tablet for every student. Four of the new computers were given to the new portable. We are needing some monitors.

Financial Report: No financial report was given. As of June 11, there was \$1610.87 in the Parent Group account. However, Janice reported that an updated report needs to be obtained from the secretary. Grad expenses totalled approximately \$300. The flowers had been donated for the evening by Nicols Florists, and the cake expenses came out of the graduation account. Popcorn sales in the month of May amounted to \$63.00. The funds raised were to reduce the costs of the agendas. The milk program will resume when the labour action stops.

WCSC-2015-26 **MS** that the financial report be approved as presented. **CARRIED**

Code of Ethics Overview: Chair Stephanie Ward presented a Code of Ethics overview. It was decided that email would be used as the means of communication amongst school council members. Last year a school Facebook account had been established, but this has been removed. There were some postings on personal Facebook chats that were deemed inappropriate. Stephanie Burnham offered to email a list of Code of Ethics / Bylaws from James Hillier School to all members. This booklet could be a start to develop our own set of bylaws.

Goals: It was decided to determine what our goals as a School Council would be for the 2015-2016 school year. There was some discussion about Hero Award assemblies and whether or not they were successful.

Playground: A portion of the primary playground has been cordoned off until dead trees on neighbouring properties have been cut down. This action should happen within the next two weeks. To keep everyone safe, portions of the playground and staff parking lot have been off limits.

Nominations: It was decided to postpone nominations for the executive until the next meeting as some interested members were working. To accommodate working members and staff conflict, the meeting night has been changed from Wednesday nights to Monday evenings. Nominations will take place on October 5, 2015.

WCSC-2015-27 **MS** that the meeting night be changed from the third Wednesday to
the third Monday to accommodate working members. **CARRIED**

Milk Program: Stephanie Ward mentioned that an online program to order milk would eliminate a lot of work undertaken by School Council members last year. It was suggested to investigate this online

program to see if members would find it a more efficient way to collect funds. Tentatively, the milk program is to start up again on October 13th. If we go with the online collection of funds, then we will not need teachers to collect monies. The milk program will resume when the teachers labour action has stopped as presently they are not allowed to collect funds.

City of Brantford Computer Lab: Norris Ward commented that a computer lab has now been established in the Woodman Community Centre. The opening of this lab is to take place Saturday, 19, 2015. Members of the general public are able to use the internet for free in this lab.

Donated Computers: Norris Ward is willing to inquire about obtaining free computers from his old company, provided that the Board will guarantee of a proper disposal of old computers. If the company has assurances that all data will be disposed of properly, then the company will continue to donate its outdated computers. Ms. Dean agreed to inquire about this.

Food for Thought Shopper: In order for the school snack program to operate, a parent volunteer is needed to be the shopper for this program. Stephanie Burnham agreed to be the shopper for the first two weeks. Jan Scheidt will speak with Penny Wyatt to determine where the school has an account and how much should be bought for the first couple of weeks.

Next meeting date: Monday, October 5th, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Scheidt,
Recording Secretary

Action Items:

1. Stephanie Burnham to email out code of ethics/bylaws from another school (James Hillier) to all members.
2. Diannah Dean to contact Board about how data from old computers is disposed of. There is a possibility of more donated computers to the school if the disposal of computers is guaranteed by the Board.
3. Jan Scheidt to talk to Penny Wyatt about ordering for the school snack program and give that information to Stephanie Burnham.
4. Stephanie Ward will investigate the ordering of milk directly from the company on-line. This would avoid having monies come into the school.