WO Mitchell School Council

Meeting Minutes

Date: October 20th at 7:00 pm
Location: WO Mitchell School learning commons

17 parents/guardians and 5 staff members were in attendance

Principal/Staff:
In Person: Mike S, Danielle O
Online: Martin Rivera, Sra Jasmine Wong Menjivar, Andrea Garcia
Parents/Guardians:
In Person: Carmen F, Irene G, Angel N, Elysa A, Samantha Y
Online: Adelle F, Katie K, Lindsey B, Allison J, Jayme M, Lisa W, Melanie B, Kendra S, Ana B, Micaela C, Paula, Marcela

Carmen called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
Angel motioned to approve the meeting minutes from September; Samantha seconded and all were in favour. The minutes were thereby approved.

Approval of Agenda
Angel motioned to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting; Samantha seconded and all were in favor. The agenda was thereby approved.

Grade 3 Teacher Presentation:
Jasmine Menjivar:
Students worked on a collaborative art project, inspired by Peruvian weaving and traditional mosaics. The theme of the project is "Quienes Somos - Who are we?" The entire school contributed, students thought about who they are as individuals, their strengths and different backgrounds, and how we all come together as a community. Grade 3 painted the plates on the art piece. The complete project resembles the school mascot. This was done over the month of September, coinciding with Orange shirt day, and made students think about how that has shaped us and how we come together and work together, with love and respect to make our community stronger. May have felt they contributed

something small, but when it all came together it became a masterpiece. This is similar to reconciliation, how one small change makes one big change if everyone participates.

Grade 6's gave the art piece a voice, and created a beautiful poem that was presented to the school at the first assembly.

Artwork is currently being displayed at the Education Center downtown and then will be brought back at the school for everyone to enjoy.

SRA Garcia:
English - students are working on sentences: simple, compound and complex sentences. Recognizing and writing them out and creating different paragraphs using different types of sentences. Students will be working on an interdisciplinary project that will combine science and English in which they will create a presentation on the different types of materials they have learned about in Science.

RAXZ Kids - is back again and contains books in both English and Spanish. EPIC - is another reading tool students use, but it is only available during school hours. Kids can read a book or have one read to them. Lastly they are doing the reading to win contest. Students complete a chapter or a book, and for every chapter/book they put an entry in a box, and if their name is drawn they get a free laser tag game.

RIVERA:
Spanish - Working with the verb gustar (to like) and using adjectives to talk about themselves and others. Students use cards and have to learn how to describe the people in them, as well as using peers to do the same task. Teachers are asking for pictures from home and students are going to use them to make a book all about their family, such as appearance, personalities, likes and dislikes. Previous students have always enjoyed working on this project. Last year students also had buddies with the Grade 1s where the Grade 3s read to the grade ones, teachers are hoping to have that opportunity again.

Math - Learning about place values within 100,000s, and using base-ten illustrations, expanded form, greater than and less than, and equal to comparisons. Students have been working on this in Spanish. Project - Students are going to choose a number and make their own poster, and will be making clues that their peers will have to figure out to get to the secret number that the student has thought of. The clues will help their peers come up with the number they chose. The students really liked this last year.

Class Economy - Teaching financial literacy. Teachers started this project last year. Students have jobs around the class and earn their own "money"; that money can be spent in the classroom shop. They

get paid at the end of the week, and then at the end of the month, they can spend their money, or they can save up for the higher ticket items. A lot of the students tend to want to save their money, and they have started kind of making their own budgets. Donations are welcome from families, and thank you to those that have donated!

Upcoming Grade Three Field Trips:
Telus Spark: October 29
Bow Habitat Station: November
Que Pasa: May 11
Swimming: June 1, 2, 3, 7 and 8
Calgary Zoo: June
Storybook Theater: June (The Little Mermaid)

Principal Report:
Mike:
Principals Report:

RAM (Resource Allocation Method) Update
Sept 30th student count was 392 students - the same number administration had projected at the end of last year.
Stable enrollment and Staffing 2026/2027
19.5 FTE Support Staff - 2 educational assistants, 8 Lunchroom Supervisors, 1 Office Assistant, 1 Library Assistant and 1 Admin Assistant
2027/2028 - We will again be a lottery School for Kindergarten and Grade 1

Video Surveillance:
The school has been approved for video surveillance update. We currently only have one video at the front entrance. The board has approved CCTV in schools, the building has been audited by a group of professionals, and looked at through all different lenses to decide on what goes where. Only Mike and Danielle are allowed to access the videos, and every time it is looked at it is logged. They only have access to the videos if there is an incident. It is quite a secure process. CCTV is meant to help with overall safety for the students, cyber security, and things such as student wandering. They will be pointing at major entrances, not in any of the classrooms or the gym. The playground would be covered but not in full detail. Cameras on the perimeter of the school will have blinds, so houses across the street won't be shown. They were really intentional on sight lines when the walkthrough was done. No audio recordings, video only, POPA new FOIP applies to this. They are going to be installed in the Spring with very minimal disruption.

If guardians want more information on this, look up CBE AR - 1066 as this has very thorough information. This will also be posted on the school website.

Mike has requested feedback - benefits, concerns, further questions

How long are the files stored for? 30 days
Is there facial recognition? It can track descriptors - white shirt, blue pants. VSTGC will determine available features.

Danielle's school had it last year, and they used it very minimally.

Danielle:
School learning highlights:
Grade 6 - Open Minds field trip. It has been a really great experience. Students met with the Mayor and asked really thoughtful questions. The teachers were really impressed with the students and how thoughtful and great the students' questions were. This is not a guaranteed trip every year, teachers have to apply for this. We may not get to go again next year, but will continue to apply.

Orange Shirt Day Assembly - It was spearheaded by the grade 6 team, with a beautiful poem and performance, including the unveiling of the art project. All classes then went outside to do activities connecting to the land and the 7 sacred teachings. Mike was very impressed seeing the art project that came together and the impact it has had on the school.

Alien in-line - Students love this

Terry Fox Run - Students had a really great time, and raised a lot of money. The weather was great and having it a bit later in the year was nice. Less chaotic than in September and not as hot.

Remembrance Day - Nov 10th

Upcoming Residency: Think Fast Spanish Improve - A Comedy Instructor who went through the bilingual program, will be the individual spearheading this. It is more for grade 3-6 age range, and it will be similar to the “gameshow whose line is it anyway”. Students will all be in groups so everyone will participate. There will not be a final show, but teachers are hoping to find a way to share out some of the activities.

School Conferences - end of November

Council:

Open Positions:

***Key Communicator*:** Samantha Yager is taking this position

Treasurer - Lindsay has to leave this position at the end of this year, and she could teach the oncoming person how to do this role. We have someone interested - Nickole will connect with Lindsay on taking over this role.

Kendra:

Has a connection to Sunshine Ski Hill, and is donating some ski cards that we can use and sell as a fundraiser for the playground. he could likely get 100-150 that would be donated to the school and the school would sell them with proceeds going to the playground. They will likely be a first come first serve basis, but try to be reasonable about the amount one family purchases. Carmen will connect with Kendra to iron out the details.

Ideas for the upcoming year:

Movie Night (Jan 28 or Feb 25) - Community event/fundraiser. In February, in the gym. Concession, and possibly a $5 fee for a ticket. Might be able to get popcorn donated from the movie theaters.

Parent Education Grant - Typically have been given $500, but we haven't received it yet. This money is to be used toward parent education - psychology, cyber security, supporting kids through literacy, etc.

Period Purse - Education sessions for kids and for adults, considering if this is an option that we would want to do. Should be free, and would likely be hosted online. They also include how you would talk to someone that wouldn't necessarily get a period.

School Trustee - She is happy to come to parent council meetings, is this something we would want to do? She is happy to come and listen and chat, and likes to know what is happening, and also loves to answer questions. Everyone seems to be on board with making this happen.

Fiesta (June 3) - Would likely be the beginning of June. Thinking of other options to feed people, possibly healthy hunger, also considering food trucks again.

Read-a-thon (April) - Have it close to Dia Del Libro

Silent Auction (Starts Feb 23 - Closes March 2) - Donation deadline Feb 8. Items will be displayed on the movie night, with the auction being at a later date.

Mike would like to have a year end BBQ (June 25) - towards the end of the school year.

Back to School BBQ:
Made just over $3600.00
Would reach out earlier to more stores next year to try and get donations. This was a hit and a lot of money was raised.

Questions/Comments:

Date of next meeting:
Nov 17th, 2026 at 7:00 PM - In person and online

Adjournment:
Carmen adjourned the meeting at 8:22 pm.

Purpose of Council:
A group of people who work together to advise the Principal and the board respecting matters relating to the school; A means for parents and community members to work together with the school to support and enhance student learning.

W.O. Mitchell School Council Mission:
W.O. Mitchell School Council is committed to supporting opportunities for each student to maximize their intellectual, physical, social, emotional and creative growth in an encouraging, safe and caring environment.