

Centennial P.S. (W) School Council
Tuesday September 23, 2014 - 6:30 PM

M I N U T E S

Welcome and Introductions - Tracey Nairn

School Council 2014-15 - Tracey

- a) mandate: advisory body to the principal and staff; sharing information and news
- b) your expectations:

Positions Required for Council - Tracey

- a) Chairperson(s) - Tracey Nairn
- b) Secretaries - Brad Hughes and Helen Fowler
- c) WRAPSC - Crystal Harte
 - for more information <http://www.wrdsb.ca/our-schools/get-involved/wrapsc>
- d) Community representative(s) - April O'Neil (Erb West Neighbourhood Association)

Fundraising - Tracey

- Fall magazine and photobook/calendars fundraiser underway
- Spring fundraiser has traditionally been chocolate bar sales
- proceeds support field trips and transportation, guest speakers, technology & peripherals

Principal's/Vice Principal's Report - Betti Adams and Brad Hughes

- parents welcome and encouraged to contact their child's home room or subject teachers with any questions and concerns
- discussion of CASL (Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation); see <http://www.wrdsb.ca/casl> for more info
- eight grade 7 and seven grade 8 class including congregated enrichment and life skills classes
- band music, strings music and French immersion classes
- Safe Welcome retrofitting and installation to follow soon, requiring visitors to request entry to the school by camera and intercom because all school doors will be locked
- Safe Caring and Inclusive Schools (SCIS) committee includes a parent, teacher, community rep, CYW and administrator to review data related to safety, security and school climate, review existing programs and supports (e.g. WAYVE, Social Justice) and make recommendations for improvements (e.g. translating documents into a variety of languages; school entrance)
- emergency drills ongoing (fire, tornado, intruder) - students have been very responsive
- new staff include Ryan Boggs (congregated enrichment class), Patty Hachman, Jamie Scott, Casey Wildgen, Lori Woolner, Lindsay Piva
- Spirit Week to build school community September 22-25
- C Days to promote community, character, co-operation at Centennial (see planner for details e.g. Splashdown Day, Recognition and Assembly Days, Winter Activity Day, Music Activity Day)

-reviewing schedule of year end trips and grade 8 graduation; more communication to follow; year-end trips information night on Wednesday October 15th)

Teachers' Report - Helen Fowler

Visual Arts – Grade 7

Students are currently working on their first independent study, which is Sketch #1. (The first class's due date is Oct. 9 with other classes following depending on the date of the cycle)

Students will begin Graphic Design next, which involves a lettering assignment

The first Art club of the year is Surrealism, where students are blending two or three images into one image.

Music, Strings – Grade 8

- Studying accidentals

- Students will record their playing using an iPad then upload this to their backpack in Edmodo.

This recording will have both a peer and self-evaluation, which will assist students to create their next steps for improvement

- At the end of November, students will make their second recording and compare their performance to the one saved in September.

- Orchestra is learning O Canada (to play at our school's Remembrance Day Ceremony)

- Two Chamber groups have been created based on auditions. One group is learning one of the Brandenburg Concertos. The other group is working on the Pachelbel Canon in D Major.

- Accomplished musicians are volunteering with some of the groups (ex. Master Class for Cellos)

- Mrs. Grant is looking for opportunities for these groups to perform outside of Centennial – please contact her if you have any recommendations!

Phys-Ed

- Rugby, Field Hockey, Football (and a variety of gym games on rain days)

- One student one pizza for the year for winning an in-gym competition where she kicked the soccer ball from one end of the gym to the other end and into the basketball net!

Math – Grade 7

- Problem solving strategies, Factoring (Greatest Common Factor, Lowest Common Denominator), Exponents (some classes have written unit tests already)

- Diagnostic testing

Math – Grade 8

- Exponents and Scientific Notation

Language Arts – Grade 8

- CASI (provincial testing)

- Writing Myths

- Expressive Writing, generating ideas, developing listening skills (for a variety of speakers)

Language Arts – Grade 7

- Diagnostic testing + CASI
- Reading strategies

Science – Grade 7

Studying Ecosystems, Laurel Creek Trips during next two weeks. Parent volunteers more than welcome!

Students will begin safety training for the construction room later in October

Science – Grade 8

Studying Cells.

Science Fair preparations will begin later in October. Students select their topic and complete research to assist in writing an informed Hypothesis for their experiment.

As a staff, we are placing some focus on **metacognition strategies** with our students this year. This is the process of teaching students to “think about their thinking” or to identify what helps them to learn. When reading (in any subject area) for example, this may include strategies such as making inferences and connections when reading, determining the importance of material or using think aloud strategies. Students are becoming more aware of Learning Goals and the criteria to know when they have successfully mastered a new skill or knowledge. Students are helping to co-create rubrics to help in this process. Students are encouraged to understand their learning types (visual, oral, kinesthetic etc.) and make choices with classwork/assignments to maximize their learning.

Other clubs/teams: Ukulele, Scrapbooking, Athletic Council, Music Council, Spirit Council, Boys' Football, Girls' Field Hockey, Cross Country, Chess Club, Gardening Club, Library Helpers, Office Helpers, Yearbook, First Lego League

Questions/Round Table Discussion - All

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Tues. Oct. 21	Tues. Jan. 20	Tues. Apr 21
Tues. Nov 25	Tues. Feb. 24	Tues. May 26

Minutes will be posted on the Centennial website: cnw.wrdsb.ca

Get Involved!

<http://www.wrdsb.ca/our-schools/get-involved/school-councils/>

<http://www.wrdsb.ca/our-schools/get-involved/communicating-with-your-school/>