

**J. W. Walker School Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, September 18, 2007  
7:00 p.m.

**1) Welcome and introductions:**

The meeting was opened by Bill Daley, Principal at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance: Bill Daley, Principal, Peg Keffer, Vice Principal, Catherine McGuire, Leslie Danielson, Rhonda Spuzak, Jody Hamilton, Maureen Hayward, Jenn Langtry, Non-Teaching Rep., Nicole Jewell, Teaching Rep.

**2) Review of basic purpose for School Councils.**

Bill Daley reviewed the purpose for School Councils. Their main purpose is to act as a parent advisory board on school policies.

**3) Election of Officers:**

Catherine McGuire was nominated as Chair by Rhonda Spuzak and seconded by Maureen Hayward. She accepted the position.

Leslie Danielson was appointed Secretary/Treasurer and accepted the position.

**4) Review of previous school council meeting minutes – May 9, 2007**

The minutes were reviewed and one change was noted. The dates for the Young Women's Conference should have been May, not March.

**5) Updates from Minutes:**

**Grants for Musical Instruments:**

Our application for a music grant has made it through the first 2 stages of the process, and there are still 2 stages to go.

**Campbell's Soup Labels:**

Labels are still being collected, and there will be a reminder going out in the next newsletter to remind parents to keep sending them in.

**Lowey's Plant Fundraiser:**

Catherine sent out a note this summer thanking Lowey's for their support. Bill received a letter from Lowey's asking that the coupons be larger in the future to make it easier for them.

## **Family BBQ:**

The family BBQ was a great success, and is being planned as an annual event.

### **6) New Business/Mail:**

**Mail** – No new mail has been received.

**New Business** – Bryce Devoe – A presentation was made to his family at the Grade 8 Graduation ceremony, a tree was planted in his memory on the school property, and a plaque will be ordered for the school in his honour.

**Breakfast for Teachers** - School Council will discuss hosting a breakfast for the teachers at the next school council meeting.

**Fruit Baskets** – We are going to try doing fruit baskets for all the classrooms every week with Peg Keffer's Living and Learning Group preparing the baskets.

### **6) Principal's Report:**

#### **Enrollment:**

The current enrollment is 335 ½ FTE, up from 308 last year and 295 the year before at this time. The projected enrollment was 270 FTE students.

#### **Staffing:**

We have welcomed three new teachers this year, Nicole Jewell is teaching French, Heather Bridgeman is teaching the Grade 1/2 class, and Tammy Thibeault is currently teaching JK. Maureen Hayward will also be rejoining the J.W. Walker staff on Friday, September 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Music Program:**

The Intermediate Music Program is up and running this year. John Faith from International Falls is coming in during the first nutrition break on Wednesdays and Thursdays to work with about 35 kids on a wide variety of musical instruments. He is hoping to have the kids perform in the July 1<sup>st</sup> parade in Fort Frances as well as the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade in International Falls. Donald Young School is following the progress of our music program this year, and hoping to introduce it there next year.

#### **School Improvements:**

The new sod has made a huge improvement in the playground. J.W. Walker's contribution was about \$5,000.00. We are looking at maybe redoing the Junior area next year. The school also had a fresh coat of paint this summer.

**Two New Classrooms:**

School Council members were given the opportunity to check out the new portable classrooms. They are very nice modern classrooms with all the features of the regular classrooms except running water. There is a large hallway between the two classes where the students can hang their backpacks and outside clothing as well as a water cooler so that the kids can get drinks without going to the other building.

**Daily Physical Activity:**

We have started a few programs including Traveling Tuesdays – where a kit is passed from one classroom to another and the kids participate in the activity enclosed, Walking Wednesdays – the kids stay outside after the morning bell to walk around the school property. Mrs. Petsnick and Ms. Bridgeman have also started the Cross-Country club again.

**Future Meeting Dates:**

All meetings will be held in the Library at J.W. Walker School @ 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Tuesday, January 15, 2008

Tuesday, March 18, 2008

Tuesday, May 13, 2008

**7) Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.