



2015-2016 Wilkinson School Community Council November 2, 2015

Meeting Minutes - Approved

The 2015-2016 Acting Chair, Erin Vaillancourt called the meeting to order at 6:38 pm.

Agenda

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| 1. Approval of November Agenda | 5. Committee Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Communications- Arts- Movie Night- Sweetheart Bake Sale- Direct Donation- Pro Grant | 6. Dandylion Daycare |
| 2. Approval of October Minutes | | 7. New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Hat and Scarf Fundraiser- Coffee Community- I am Malala Movie Showing- Other New Business |
| 3. Principal's Update | | 8. Adjournment of Meeting |
| 4. Chair's Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Executive Elections | | |
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Attendance

Present:

Allan Kelly (Principal)	Rob Jefferson
Yasmin Buhariwala (VP)	Lilian Ling
Erin Vaillancourt (Chair)	Anna McDonald
Sharon Hennessey (Treasurer)	April Moon
Shanna Breslin (Secretary)	Julia Warrender
Manpreet Chana (Dandylion)	
Angelina Diassiti	Meghan Berkeley
Christina Dumitrescu	Brigitte Nadeau
Raihana Ingar	Melissa Tepler

Regrets:

Carmen Doyle
Dan Dumistrescu (Vice Chair)
Paula Kahn
Natalie Kauffman
Kris Kearns
Yashmeen Nakhude
Michela Pasquali
Jill Spellman
Sultana Yeasmin Uddin
Katherine Underwood

1. Approval of November Agenda

- Shanna and Christina approved.



2. Approval of October Minutes

- Anna and Christina approved minutes with amended meeting dates.

3. Principal's Update – Allan Kelly

- A labour update was provided and details will be going out to parents within the next day or two. CUPE and the ETFO have reached a tentative agreement and members have been asked to suspend work to rule immediately.
- Full report cards will be going out this term (possibly in December).
- Parent teacher meetings will be going ahead (schedule TBD).
- Winter concert on Dec 10 will likely go ahead - strings and band have been going working as usual. Ms. Levy has also been working with primary and junior choir.
- WSCC has purchased new uniforms which looked great at Cross Country.
- The Wilkinson 100th anniversary celebration will be held on May 14.

4. Chair's Update: Executive Elections - Erin Vaillancourt

- Sharon ran to remain as interim Treasurer until a replacement can be found.
 - Council voted and Sharon was approved as Treasurer.
- Dan ran for the position of Vice Chair.
 - Council voted and Dan was approved as Vice Chair.
- Shanna ran for the position of Secretary.
 - Council voted and Shanna was approved as Secretary.
- Erin ran to remain as Chair.
 - Council voted and Erin was approved as Chair.

5. Committee Reports

Committee members provided an update of upcoming initiatives.

Communication – Rob Jefferson

- The committee met on October 19th. In attendance were Rob, Julia, Phil, Michela, Shanna and Lilian.
- Discussed the needs of the committee and identified how everyone could help.



- The MailChimp email subscription service has begun and the first email went out last week. A current address list was provided by the school office.
- Julia is managing the school Facebook account.
- Michela is managing the school Twitter account.
- Lilian and Shanna will assist Rob with email communications and distributions.
- Kevin (Michela's husband) has been revamping our website. As the current website manager, Phil has been working with Kevin to migrate the existing data and content over to the new site.
- The new website will include a calendar --> Angelina has volunteered to act as the liaison/central point for data loading.
- Committee would like to put forward a proposal for digital signage (T.V. monitors) within the school. It will be a closed circuit "CP24 style" broadcast. Committee is looking into quotes and RFPs.
- Discussion of ways in which we can reach out to new parents - how can we get them involved and how can we keep everyone in the loop? We feel that our new email distribution system, new website and social media channels will be a huge help.
- Anna mentioned that other schools have class parents. We will gather more information about what this involves and what the class parent role would be.
- Allan wants to do a survey to ask parents what information they would like and what information may be lacking so that we can focus our efforts.
- Parents seem to be missing information and would like event/program reminders. We need to work on sending out the desired quantity and content.
- The new JK parents in attendance were asked what information they are currently lacking:
 - Would like to know what goes on in class, how class time is structured.
 - Would like more opportunities for parents to participate at different levels. Many parents want to be involved but are not sure how to do that.
 - There is a need for parents to connect with each other as well.
- Suggestion: committees should set meeting dates well in advance of meetings and send to Rob so that they can be added to calendar in order to enable more people to attend.



Arts Committee – April Moon

- April explained that the arts programming budget is used to bring artists into the school (instead of having children go out). This allows for more programming and the ability to involve more children.
- Each age group gets at least one performance per year.
- April outlined some of the programming that the committee is vetting, which involves visual arts, story time/opera, spoken word, dance and musical theatre.
- Committee would like to make sure that performance dates for next year are chosen this year as it can be a challenge to coordinate this in the Fall.
- April also mentioned that this committee is looking for help and volunteers - it's an easy committee to help with!

Movie Night - Erin Vaillancourt

- We would like to increase the attendance at Movie Nights.
- It was suggested that parents have not been getting enough warning on the dates
 - Should be giving them at least one week's notice.
- Parents have been asking for info at Dandy Lion - we will send over flyers.
- Dates will be added to the online calendar and sent out in a note to parents.
- Alan raised concern about the fact that this program is not run by the Council. April is in close contact with Martin, who runs it, but there is no committee. we will look into adding parent council members to run this and to make sure that all rules and procedures mandated by the Board are followed.

Sweetheart Bake Sale - Erin Vaillancourt

- Popular event that takes place in February (Valentine's Day event).
- This year it will be on Feb. 11, 2016 --> Raihana has volunteered to lead it.

Direct Donation - Erin Vaillancourt

- Discussion around how to promote our direct donation campaign. Although donations before the first week of December are eligible for tax receipts, it may be best to promote it in the New Year, after the holiday season.
- Comment that we might get more value if we can make this tangible and let parents know what we may be raising money for (e.g. digital signage, STEM science fair).



- Allan explained that this initiative is not a fundraiser, but is instead an opportunity for parents to support the school if they may not be able to provide support in other ways.
- Erin has volunteered to lead the communication on his initiative. A direct donation feature will also be added to the website as a permanent fixture.

Pro Grant - Erin Vaillancourt

- Anna and Katherine will take the lead on this.

6. Dandy Lion Daycare - Manpreet Chana

- Daycare held a haunted house and a fun house and both were a success.
- Looking at new signage for the daycare, but have not decided yet on specifics.
- Considering doing an event to celebrate their 35 year anniversary.

7. New Business

Hat and Scarf Fundraiser - Erin Vaillancourt

- Erin will put together quotes and an info pack to be sent to the Council on this.

The Only Coffee Community 8:30am - Erin Vaillancourt and April Moon

- Parents are invited to meet up at The Only Cafe for a coffee on Friday mornings in order to socialize and connect with one another

I Am Malala Movie Screening - Erin Vaillancourt

- The movie is going on pre-release on Jan 2nd - would this be a good educational movie to show the older students during school hours? Early Grey students could be invited.
- It was decided that the movie needs to be screened first by Allan and Yasmin to determine if it is appropriate. At this point, it is believed that it may not be.

Wilkinson Derby - Rob Jefferson

- A wooden car derby (huge success last year) --> promo video will be sent out to parents.
- Last year it was held a week after Family Day --> Rob asked if it could be held on Family Day to entice parents (more specifically dads, as there are only two on the Council) to participate --> cannot hold a school event on a holiday.

- Discussion of whether or not it could be held over two nights as it is so popular.



- Doing it on one night builds community and camaraderie.
- If families have kids in different grades, two nights becomes a challenge.
- Would prefer to do it on a Saturday, with a Friday evening set-up --> Allan will check on permits.
- Angelina, Dan and Brigitte volunteered to help with the event.
- Dates in mind for the event are Feb 19 and 20, 2016.

Extracurricular Lunch Programs - Shanna Breslin

- Would like to bring lunch or after school programs (offered by third party companies) to the school (e.g. Mad Science, Pawsitively Pets and In The Mix).
- Yasmin mentioned that many of the school rooms are currently booked during lunch and after school for other extracurricular activities so logistics might be an issue.
- Perhaps these programs can be offered to just the kindergarten kids (to start) as they don't currently have any extracurricular activities.
- Shanna is to send research/information to Allan so that he can look into possible issues and determine if this initiative is feasible.

New Ideas - Rob Jefferson

- We would like to encourage parents to submit new ideas for events, programs and fundraisers.
- Currently, parents are encouraged to email the Council with any ideas.
council@wilkinsonps.org
- We will look into adding an area for this on the website.

Next Meeting - Erin Vaillancourt

- The Council typically does not meet in December --> would like to add a meeting date.
 - Seconded by Rob.
- Council agreed to move Jan 4, 2016 meeting to January 11, 2016 since Jan. 4 is the first day back after the New Year.

8. Council meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

**The first meeting of the incoming Council will be held on Monday,
December 7, 2015 at 6:30pm in Room 3.**