



2015-2016 Wilkinson School Community Council

June 13, 2016

Meeting Minutes - Approved

The 2015-2016 Chair, Erin Vaillancourt called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

Agenda

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Approval of June Agenda2. Approval of May Minutes3. Principal's Update | <ol style="list-style-type: none">4. Committee Updates<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Communications- Fun Fair- Treasurer- Fall Events | <ol style="list-style-type: none">5. New Business<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Staff Funding Proposal- Refugee Sponsorship Group6. Adjournment of Council Meeting7. AGM |
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Attendance

Present:

Allan Kelly (Principal)
Erin Vaillancourt (Chair)
Dan Dumistrescu (Vice Chair)
Sharon Hennessey (Treasurer)
Shanna Breslin (Secretary)
Angelina Diassiti
Carmen Doyle
Rob Jefferson
Lilian Ling
April Moon
Julia Warrender

Batya Levy
Lindsey Stelmanis
Lisa Munro
Brenda Ohngmach
Christopher Webber

Regrets:

Kathryn Underwood
Raihana Ingar
Paula Kahn
Jill Spellman
Yasmin Buhariwala (VP)

Absent:

Christina Dumitrescu
Kris Kearns
Yashmeen Nakhude
Natalie Kauffman
Anna McDonald
Michela Pasquali
Manpreet Chana (Dandy Lion)



1. Approval of June Agenda

- Julia and Angelina approved.

2. Approval of May Minutes

- Julia and Angelina approved.

3. Principal's Update – Allan Kelly

- Reminder that the volunteer breakfast is tomorrow morning. Please swing by!
- Update on Yasmin: she is now recovering in the hospital and will be going home soon.
 - The school is sending some things to her once she is home from the hospital.
 - Everything will be sent on June 27 - parents can bring things by before then.
- The 100th anniversary was a big success and we got lots of positive feedback.
 - All of the items have been stored for the 125th anniversary!
- A big thanks goes out to Mr. Kasaval for his role in running such a great and successful athletics program. He works very hard to coordinate the school's activities and has incorporated different kinds of sports (e.g. badminton and cricket) into the program to ensure that there's something for everyone.
 - We have 9 students moving on in track and field and our soccer team was in the finals. The cricket team came in second in the regionals > new banners to be hung in the gym!
- The grad trip is June 23rd and the graduation ceremony is June 28h > *Erin volunteered to put the cushions on the front row seats won in the silent auction.*
- The Grade 3 students are taking part in a robotics program in Etobicoke > *information will be sent to Communications Committee for the newsletter.*

4. Committee Reports

Committee members provided an update of upcoming and ongoing initiatives.

Communications - Shanna Breslin, Guest Christopher Webber

- The website has been moved over to the new host and should be faster as a result.
- The upgraded calendar app approved in April has been installed and configured and will allow us to add more detail to the calendar.



- Revised Parent Handbook is almost ready to go live - we will be sending it to Council for comment before posting on the website.
- [Videoscribe](#) software (Christopher): whiteboard animation software.
 - The software is used to create videos without the need for drawing, animation and software skills.
 - For Council use, we can upload our event photos and the software will turn them into a cartoon drawings so that individual people are not recognizable (except to those that know them). For the school, it can be used in a number of different ways as part of the curriculum.
 - One license is \$144 USD per year and can be installed on a number of computers as long as it is only used on one at a time > can reside in the library or have sign up sheets for classes to use it for a week or two at a time.
 - Question - is this okay by TDSB regulations? *Allan thinks so but will confirm.*
 - *Christopher to gather pricing options > Shanna will send to Allan and Ms. Stelmanis to present to teachers. Proposal will be considered by Council in the Fall.*

Fun Fair: April Moon

- Thanks to everyone for your help with Fun Fair.
- This year there were 17 committee leads and over 100 volunteers > not quite enough people to help with clean up (focus on advertising this next year).
- We raised the food prices this year because they have not gone up in 5 or 6 years although the cost of food has > this was a good idea and no one took issue with it.
- The Pay-What-You-Can massage chairs were a big success.
- Auction had a book value of over \$17,000 and made approximately \$9,750. There is still the fire sale which may bring in more money.
- There were very few items left at the end of the silent auction and bake sale.
- Our goal for Fun Fair was to make \$15,000 and we believe we surpassed this, but need to finalize the figures to make sure that all expenses have been captured.
- Thank you for organizing and coordinating this event, April!



Treasurer's Update - Sharon Hennessey

- Expenses are lumped in groups - on-going, new funding, and fundraising.
- The year end numbers are not yet final, but at this point it looks like some of our costs were higher than budgeted:
 - Council Operations: babysitting, permits and photocopying > babysitting expenses for meetings and events were higher and we had some extra projects, like the website launch, that required backpack stuffers.
 - Committed New Funding - much higher because of the technology proposal that we approved this year (\$20,000).
 - Fun Fair costs were higher this year.
- When we work out the yearly budget, we don't include TDSB funding or direct donations in order to be conservative - these funds fluctuate year to year.
- By July 31, we expect to have about \$10,000 left in our account to start next year.
- Assuming our net income is about the same as this year, we should be okay to fund part 2 of the tech proposal (\$17,000) and have some (not much) wiggle room to fund a few new projects.
 - Question: can we really afford to spend the full \$17,000 on technology this year? Last year we said that we would need an update on spending in order to determine if we could go forward. We will be discussing this as the year progresses to determine what we can afford.
 - Will continue communicating with the community about our spending to get people to understand the cash position we are in and where the money is going.

Fall Events - Erin Vaillancourt

- The group would like to meet in June to plan a fall event. *Erin will send a note to the group that has expressed interest in helping.*
- Can we do a welcome session for new parents? A Council welcome night to speak with new parents, answer questions about the school and entice people to join the Council. Council oriented so people can meet us and see what Council is all about. The Fall event used to be about socializing so maybe we can combine the two > *the group will figure out how to do this.*



Other: Angelina Diassiti

- Melanie Doane is coming on June 15 from 1-1:30pm - she wants Council members to attend > *Erin will attend and Lilian will be there as well.*
- Play Day: Friday, June 24th.
 - Allan will be paying for the snacks through the snack program (yogurt tubes) > going forward, this is the budget that will be used.
 - Ms. Levy thinks that we have enough volunteers - she will let us know if that's not the case.
 - *Ms. Levy will send Julia event info to put in our newsletter.*
- Question: how many Grade 4 classes do we have total? 3 - 2 Extended French, 1 English.
 - How does one enrol in Extended French? In Grade 3, you decide if your child is going to go into the English stream (1 hour French) or Extended French (1/2 day). You have another opportunity to go into Extended French in Grade 7 at Earl Grey.
 - Overall French education within the school system has increased, but there is a large percentage of students who drop out in Grade 7 of French Immersion. As a result, a lot of people choose Extended as an alternative.

5. New Business

Funding Proposal - Grade 1 & 2 Notebooks: Batya Levy

- Grade 1 & 2 teachers are requesting money to purchase workbooks for the Handwriting Without Tears printing program.
- Staff have been trained to use this program and find the workbooks a great resource. Students in the early years need practise to form their letters so that they can efficiently get their ideas down on paper.
- Staff would appreciate the funding soon so that the materials can be purchased and ready for the start of the year in September.
- Request for 60 Grade 1 printing books and 60 Grade 2 printing books for a total (with shipping estimated) of \$1,566.60. The books are to be purchased from toolsforkids.ca
- Questions: Are the students using these now? We have used these in the past.
- Allan mentioned a similar program for keyboarding, which is popular.



- The books are single use > would Council be expected to fund this every year going forward? Is there another option that is not single use?
- Apparently, not all of the teachers have been consulted and are not all on board with this proposal > staff may end up asking for less than 120 books.
- Last year at this time we had a lot of leftover money but this year we do not. Can we ask the parents of these students to fund their books? The Council could subsidize or cover the balance if some people cannot afford it.
- It sounds as though the staff need to meet and figure out the details of this proposal > *Allan will talk to the teachers to have them present again in September.*
- Perhaps because we will have limited funds next year, we should collect and compare funding proposals before approving any (instead of approving as they come in).
- Suggestion: we should create a funding request form so that proposals include all of the necessary info and we can approve them faster > *Julia and Shanna are working on it.*

Wilkinson St David's Refugee Sponsorship Group: Lisa Munro

- The group (made of 50 people) has been helping a family of 6 that arrived in February. They were government sponsored so the group has not given them money, but has helped them to settle, get medical attention and has donated goods. The family is essentially living on social assistance.
- The Group still intends to sponsor a family which will likely arrive next winter or the following spring (they will be matched in the fall). They need \$4000 more in order to be matched.
- There is a [fundraising event](#) coming up with the band Trainwreck to attempt to raise the missing funds.

6. Council meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

7. AGM Began at 7:45pm

- Please see the AGM Report online for details about what the school has done this year.

**The last meeting of the 2015-2016 Council will be held on
Monday, September 19th, 2016 at 6:30pm in Room 3.**