



2021-2022 Wilkinson School Community Council

October 4, 2021

Meeting Minutes - Approved

The 2020-2021 Co-Chair, Lisa Zivontsis called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm.

Agenda

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|----------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Land Acknowledgement | 5. Committee Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Executive Elections- Budget Approval | 6. New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">- SSoN Approval- Funding Request- Fundraising |
| 2. Approval of October Agenda | | 7. Adjournment of Council Meeting |
| 3. Approval of September Minutes | | |
| 4. Principal's Update | | |
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Attendance

Present:

Kim Jensen (Principal)
Nicki Keenlside (VP)
Lisa Zivontsis (Co-Chair)
Dayna Tekatch (Co-Chair)
Vince Chan (Treasurer)
Shanna Breslin (Secretary)
Muneerah Chohan
Amy Cole
Parsa Khandaker
Stephanie Lamb
Beth Martin

Brenda Ohngemach
Deborah Shub
Jennifer Stiff
Chantal Sweeting

Guests:

Alyson Kelley
Michelle Wang
Crystal Basi
Bamini Jayabalasingham
Lindsay Reimers

Regrets:

Rob Jefferson

Absent:

Anthea Moreau (Dandylion)

1. Land Acknowledgement

2. Approval of October Agenda

- Dayna and Vince approved.



3. Approval of September Minutes

- Vince and Brenda approved.

4. Principal's Update: Kim Jensen

- Welcome to the first meeting of the new Wilkinson School Community Council!
- Role of School Council: advisory to the Principal and Vice Principal, voice of the parents, aids in succession planning for school leadership, and plans parent engagement (share information, speakers, committees etc.) and community events (fundraising and community building).
- We are at almost 100% completion each day with the school health pass!
- Grade 5 Device Program: our students have their TDSB issued Chromebooks now. All Grade 9s are also being given devices. Grade 5s keep them until Grade 9 and then get new ones.
- Schoolyard Revitalization: started 3 or 4 years ago with the TDSB, and we are now nearing the end with construction scheduled for 2022.
 - The committee includes TDSB staff, teachers, parents, and community members. When we get more concrete info, we will share it at a Council meeting.
- Yard Chunks: our students used math inquiry to figure out how to divide them based on student feedback. This gives our students a voice and a way to give back and give input.
 - Some of their input will go into the revitalization process.
- We did a modified Terry Fox Run during DPA and gym. Along with the actual run, Mr. Kasaval teaches our students why we run and who Terry Fox was.
- National Day of Truth and Reconciliation: leading up to September 30, our students were involved in a lot of different learning activities.
 - All our students have been reading books by Indigenous authors and about Indigenous themes.
 - Our Kindergarten students read about access to water and had conversations about fairness and sense of belonging. They tied ribbons to the playground fence representing promises to treat others fairly.
 - Some rooms created visual messaging outside of their classroom, and all primaries attended a speaker series that morning.
 - The Junior classes are involved in ongoing learning as part of our curriculum.
- Asymptomatic Rapid Testing: these programs have been operating at other schools, like Earl Beatty nearby. Principal Jensen reached out to other school admins to find out how it's working at other schools.



- As at Earl Beatty, Wilkinson parents will need to self-organize as it is not supported by the Ministry or TDSB.
- The school and the Council cannot work to directly support the initiative or communicate messaging.
- We are screening daily with the health pass for all staff and students. We did very well last year, and it really comes down to parents making decisions to keep kids home or do testing.
- We have PCR tests from Michael Garron readily available at the school so parents can pick them up instead of making appointments when testing is needed. It is done in the cheek and nose and then there are several drop-off locations. Tests can also be sent home with a dismissed class. As they sometimes crystallize, it's best to wait until you need one to request them so they're fresh when you need to use them.
- Masking, hand hygiene, and distancing are helping to keep us safe.
- Presentation from a Parent Organizing the Program at Wilkinson: it is completely voluntary.
 - Parents will receive a kit of take-home tests, which will be used to test asymptomatic children twice per week. First, families must complete the TDSB screening form. If all answers are “no”, they can proceed with rapid tests.
 - The test results are ready in 15 minutes. If the results are negative, students can go to school as usual. If the results are positive, students must stay home and get a PCR test.
 - This program aims to reduce the chances of asymptomatic positive cases going to school.
 - Rapid antigen tests are less sensitive than PCR tests and are not used for diagnosis because there are false negatives. As a result, they are done every two or three days. They are shallow oral-nasal tests (around the mouth and then around the nose) > Abbot PanBio.
 - The regular TDSB and TPH protocols and safety processes still apply. It is simply an added layer of screening.
 - We suggest testing on Monday and Wednesday or Thursday or the night before.
 - Parents pick up the kits from local parents. They report the results to Michael Garron Hospital, who will tell us anonymously if there are positives. We also report back to the supplier to determine the effectiveness of the tests and program.
 - If you have two children and one tests positive, TPH says that the negative testing sibling cannot go to school. All TPH guidelines need to be followed and adhered to.



- Is there a cost? I heard on the news the government was not willing to support it. This part is up in the air. We're setting up in the hopes that the program can continue. Right now, we have some tests and will distribute until they run out. There is currently no cost.
- At Earl Beatty, we have been using Facebook and word of mouth. The program is first come, first served. So far, we've reached out to people we know, and the messages have been passed from there.
- At Earl Beatty, how has this impacted the school? Are there positive tests or are people fairly calm? We worry about creating stress from positive cases. Half of the population is participating, and many parents say they feel relief.
- Please note that the Parent Council has provided a platform tonight for this presentation, but we are not directly involved in this and cannot support the program or its implementation.
- Safety Protocols: we have been practicing our procedures for fire drills, lockdowns, hold & secures, and evacuations.
 - Our partners at the TTC alerted us immediately of the incident on Thursday. No child witnessed it and emergency personnel were on site within minutes.
 - Many of our staff have walkie-talkies so we can stay in contact throughout the day about anything.
 - We practice our protocols and get voice messages out to the community ASAP. We also have a communications department within the TDSB. They craft the letter that we send out, which is why it did not include a line about what we told the children.
 - Parents expressed wanting this information. We told the students that the police were at the school to solve a problem and needed space to do that.
 - Social workers were on-site on Friday. They spoke to kids individually and were also in classrooms for group discussions where needed.
 - Comment: I missed the call and the message started before the phone picked up. It was scary to hear only a partial message. Is there a better way to get this information? Is there a setting so that the message is either repeated or delays and only plays once a machine picks up? Kim will ask communications and will make sure to pause longer before starting the message and will repeat it. It is also posted on the TDSB website, and the office staff were answering calls.
 - Was the person a member of our school community and is there something that we should be doing to support a family? No, we are not aware of them being connected to the school.



- PIAC Parent Conference October 16 & 17: a great way to learn strategies to support your child, connect with experts and other parents, and hear from inspiring keynote speakers. It is online this year: www.parentsaspartners.ca.
- Brainable: do we have an update? Kim has not had a chance to look into it yet.
- Is photo day happening? We can do individual photos and will distribute the date once it has been confirmed by the photographer.

4. Committee Reports

Committee members provided an update of upcoming and ongoing initiatives.

Executive Committee Elections: All

- The following Council members have expressed interest in running for positions:
- Co-Chairs – Lisa Zivontsis and Dayna Tekatch
- Secretary – Shanna Breslin
- Treasurer – Vince Chan
- Motion to elect the executive. *Motion carried.*

Budget Approval: Vince Chan

- The top section shows our annual commitments for the year. These are programs for our students.
- We have left in scientists in school in the hopes that the program may run later in the year. If not, we could offer virtual programming again.
- Field trips: staff are booking virtual trips and hope to do one in-person later in the year.
- Visiting authors: we already have a request for speakers, so this money will be used.
- [Forest of Reading books](#), graduation, yearbooks, and ukulele are included as these programs will be happening this year.
- Performing Arts: we cannot do anything in person yet, and the program was partially created to support kids learning to be an audience. Vendors are offering virtual presentations. We need to figure out if the school can accommodate this virtually.
- At this point, the budget for performing arts is \$0 as it's unclear whether we'll be able to have any performances. For this and all other items marked as \$0 on our budget, if we decide to go ahead with them later, we will submit Funding Requests and approve them as we did with the virtual science workshops last year.
- The programs that we have committed to total \$13,500 and we have just over \$14,00 in the bank. This means that as of now, we only have about \$356 available for spending if no other fundraising income comes in. It's also important to note, that we need to have



some money in the bank at the end of the year to be able to run our annual student programs next year.

- The middle section of the budget represents our expenses for running Council events. We will only have these expenses if we go ahead with the events.
- If we're back to having those events, they will likely be on a smaller scale and not bring in the same amount of money we're used to. On this budget, we're trying to be conservative since there are so many unknowns.
- The bottom section of the budget shows the amount of money we hope to make from our events.
- Fun Fair is typically our biggest fundraiser but doesn't happen until the end of the year. Any money that comes in from that, will likely go to next year.
- Last year we talked about school branded clothing as a fundraiser. That's something we can definitely look into.
- Motion to approve the budget. *Motion carried.*

5. New Business

School Statement of Needs Approval: Shanna Breslin

- The document was discussed last month and sent to the entire Wilkinson community for input. Changes are highlighted in green and include the addition of points around mental health and wellbeing and equity and inclusion.
- Motion to approve the School Statement of Needs. *Motion carried.*

Funding Request: Beth Martin

- The ARE and Greening and Grounds Committees would like to host an all-ages webinar series with Carolynne Crawley who leads workshops that support the development and strengthening of health and reciprocal relationships based upon Indigenous knowledge that decolonizes existing interactions with the land and with each other.
- Carolynne's website is www.msitnokmaq.com
- The Greening Committee is trying to focus on Indigenous knowledge and include it into the curriculum. The focus of this knowledge is the interconnectivity between nature and all living things and the responsibilities we all have while we're here to give back and build each other up.
- The webinar consists of 4 Zoom presentations, each 1 hour in length.



- Sessions: truth and reconciliation and our colonial past and present, interconnectivity as it relates to food security and elder knowledge, and responsibility, connection and commitment for all of us living and working on Turtle Island.
- The audience is all ages, although it has been created with adults in mind. Perhaps it might not be for the younger kids. Were hoping for it to happen in November and maybe be a weekly series.
- It would be open to the whole community, including teachers.
- This learning is starting to appear in our children's curriculum, but it wasn't available for us, so it's quite valuable.
- We have been trying to form alliances with other schools and would like to share this with other schools in the area. Would it be a shared expense? We would like to give back to them for free as they involved us in a speaker last year.
- If we had a ward rep attend Ward Forum meetings, it might be easier to form these alliances. The Ward forum dates have not been posted yet.
- Cost: \$2000 (\$500 per session). It is possible to drop a session, but it's been conceived as a whole series and the number four holds significance.
- We are proposing that \$500 come from the Ministry's Parent Engagement and Outreach Grant, as the webinar will focus on adults.
- We can also use the \$200 Greening and Grounds Committee budget towards this.
- We would also like to apply for the Pollinator TO grant, which also covers speakers, but that might not happen until later in the year.
- Can we vote to put the \$500 parent outreach money to this? Currently, no one else has ideas for how to use this money.
 - Motion to approve using the grant for this program. *Motion carried.*
- *We will discuss this funding request further once a fundraising plan is in place.*
- Historically, our seminars and speakers have been very poorly attended – we've been lucky to get more than 5 or 10 people, and most who came were Council members. Hopefully, this content will appeal to more people and a virtual session will be easier to attend, but this is something to keep in mind, especially with an expense of this size.
 - If the speaker is approved, please report back with the number of Wilkinson families in attendance so we can determine how to proceed going forward.

Fundraising: Lisa Zivontsis

- Last year our focus was on community building. This year, we need to go back to fundraising. *If anyone is interested in an informal brainstorming session to come up*



with ideas for a fundraising plan, please email council@wilkinsonps.org.

Other: Lisa Zivontsis

- The idea of recording our Council meetings recently came up. We feel it warrants a discussion and were thinking of doing a survey. We don't want people to feel uncomfortable participating or leaving their camera on because of being recorded. More info will be sent with the minutes.
- We ran a trivia night last spring through Camp Onondaga. We submit some questions related to Wilkinson and there are prizes. It's free. Is there interest in doing it again in November? Yes! *A date will be chosen and confirmed with Kim.*

6. Council meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm

**The next meeting of the 2021-2022 Council will be held on
Monday, November 15th, 2021, at 6:30pm via Zoom Video Conference.**

2021-2022 School Council Financials

Approved at the October 4th meeting. *Note: proposals approved after October will get added in as they are approved.*

Note: Programs/Events currently marked as \$0 can be approved later in the year via a Funding Request if we find a way to run them.

	2021-2022	2020-2021			(For Comparison)
Expenses: School Programming	Approved Budget	Actuals	Approved Budget	Notes	2019-2020 Budget
Scientists in the School	\$4,000.00	\$1,375.00	\$1,400.00	Last year we ran virtual workshops for those interested	\$4,000.00
Field Trip Subsidy	\$3,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Staff are looking at virtual trips	\$3,500.00
Visiting Authors/Speakers	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$1,000.00
Forest of Reading Program	\$1,300.00	\$0.00	\$1,300.00	Increased from \$1000 to include French books	\$1,000.00
Graduation	\$1,000.00	\$455.00	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
Yearbook	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$800.00		\$800.00
Ukelele Program	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00
Performing Arts & Visual Arts	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$4,000.00
Garden Educator	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$4,240.00
Council Operations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00
Photocopying					
Babysitting					
Wil-kitchen	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$500.00
Greening Initiatives	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00		\$200.00
Emergency Fund	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00		
OPAL storage container	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00
Total Expenses: School Programming	\$13,500.00	\$2,630.00	\$10,900.00		\$26,240.00

Expenses: Council Events / Initiatives	2021-2022 Budget	Actuals	Approved Budget		2019-2020 Budget
Fun Fair	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$6,000.00
Pizza Lunches	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$5,000.00
Movie Night	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$3,500.00
Fall Fest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$700.00
Sweetheart Bake Sale	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$200.00
Car Derby	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$3,000.00
Lice Checks	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$2,300.00
Communications Website + Apps	\$650.00	\$93.03	\$850.00		\$900.00
Google Suite	\$90.00				
Web hosting + Domain	\$460.00			Every 3 years - Renews in May	
Total Expenses: Council Events / Initiatives	\$9,150.00	\$93.03	\$850.00		\$21,600.00
New Funding Requests					
Library Books	\$41.52	\$252.22	\$321.75	1 book remaining from last year	
Total New Funding Requests	\$41.52	\$252.22	\$321.75		
Total Expenses	\$22,691.52	\$2,975.25	\$12,071.75		\$47,840.00

Income From Events/Initiatives (Gross)	2021-2022 Budget	Actuals	Approved Budget		2019-2020 Budget
Fun Fair	\$9,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$19,000.00
Pizza Lunches	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$9,000.00
Movie Night	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$4,000.00
Fall Fest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$1,000.00
Sweetheart Bake Sale	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$1,500.00
Car Derby	\$7,000.00	\$393.85	\$0.00		\$7,000.00
Eco Pouches Sales	\$0.00	\$26.00	\$0.00	We still have \$1339.45 inventory	
Lice Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$800.00
Shopping Fundraisers	\$300.00	\$586.72	\$300.00		\$300.00
Direct Donations	\$200.00	\$950.00	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
Fundraising Income (gross)	\$21,000.00	\$1,956.57	\$1,300.00		\$43,600.00

Projected Net Income **-\$1,691.52**

Opening Bank Balance (Sept 28, 2021) **\$14,256.70**

Amount Currently Available For Use* **\$365.18**

(If no other fundraising takes place)

*calculation: (bank balance + shopping fundraisers) - (school programming + remaining library book + communications)