

2021-2022 Wilkinson School Community Council January 10, 2022

Meeting Minutes - Approved

The 2021-2022 Co-Chair, Lisa Zivontsis called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

Agenda

- 1. Land Acknowledgement
- 2. Approval of January Agenda
- **3.** Approval of November Minutes
- 4. Principal's Update

- 5. Committee Updates
 - Education Committee
 - Finance Process
- 6. New Business
 - PRO Grant
 - Recording Meetings
 - Parent Outreach Funds
- 7. Equity and Inclusion
- 8. Adjournment of Council Meeting

Attendance

Present:

Kim Jensen (Principal)
Nicki Keenliside (VP)
Lisa Zivontsis (Co-Chair)
Dayna Tekatch (Co-Chair)
Vince Chan (Treasurer)
Shanna Breslin (Secretary)
Anthea Moreau (Dandylion)
Kostas Kotsampouikidis (Staff)
Batya Levy (Staff)
Muneerah Chohan

Amy Cole Emily Davidson Rob Jefferson Parsa Khandaker Beth Martin Brenda Ohngemach Deborah Shub Chantal Sweeting

Regrets:

Stephanie Lamb

Absent:

Jennifer Stiff

1. Land Acknowledgement

2. Approval of January Agenda

• Brenda and Vince approved.



3. Approval of November Minutes

• Brenda and Vince approved.

4. Principal's Update: Kim Jensen

- We will welcome Liz Albrecht-Bisset, our new principal, on the 17th. We have been working to support her transition to make it as smooth as possible. Principal Jensen will still be available to help after the 14th, if needed. She is doing the final part of her Ph.D. on teaching math to struggling learners.
- Reminders that went out this week: It's time for our Grade 6's to think about where they will be in Grade 7, Middle French Immersion applications are accepted until January 28th, and February is Kindergarten registration month.
- Revitalization: We have worked diligently over the last few months to come up with a comprehensive plan that addresses the needs of our school, our families, and the greater community.
- Feb 15th: Report cards go home.
- Switch Forms: Closed on January 7. We do not have the results yet.
- Council Comment: Principal Jensen, on behalf of the Council members and all our Wilkinson families, thank you so much for all your work over the last several years. You will be missed! Best of luck with your Ph.D. and all your new endeavours!

5. Committee Reports

Committee members provided an update of upcoming and ongoing initiatives.

Education Committee: Beth Martin and Shanna Breslin

- The Education Committee used to be responsible for booking seminars and speakers (targeted to parents/caregivers) and applying for the PRO Grant.
- A few years ago, the committee became inactive because individuals were booking speakers through other committees or on their own and we had difficulty coming up with new PRO Grant ideas.
- The committee was brought back this year, but it's felt that the responsibilities can continue to be incorporated into other committees or general Council activities and that the PRO Grant application can be filled by any Council member.
- It appears that there is no longer a need for the Education Committee, and we are suggesting that it be disbanded again indefinitely.
- Motion to disband the committee. Motion carried.



6. New Business

Finance Processes: Vince Chan

- Now that we have moved from a TD account to SchoolCash Online, we have a new set
 of Finance processes. They were distributed to Council members before this meeting.
- The processes and forms are posted on the <u>Council page</u> of our website.
- Please ensure that you read this document and understand your role and responsibilities. It will be especially important for event leads to be familiar with our new processes once we have events again.
- Direct Donations: It's important to highlight this. To use our direct donations money, we must plan in advance and submit an unpaid invoice. Payment goes from the TDSB directly to the vendor. We cannot pay for something and then use donations to cover the expense. We cannot transfer direct donations money into our account for use.
- Rob pays for our communications Google Apps and website on his credit card. Rob is to
 call the web hosting service to figure out if they can accept a TDSB P.O. so the school
 can pay directly instead of this going on a personal credit card. If this is not possible,
 we will have to figure out who to transfer this to. We will also have to transfer the
 Google account to someone else. We will discuss this at another meeting.
- Also have to think about who to transfer the Derby event to. Rob will help to support it
 after his son graduates (he has one more year after this). Dan Dumistrescu has helped
 with the event for years and might be interested in taking it over. Rob will coordinate.

PRO Grant Update: Beth Martin

- We were awarded PRO Grant money (\$900) for a workshop with Alexis Dawson exploring race, racism, and systemic oppression; unpacking unconscious bias; raising antiracist children; antiblack racism in the TDSB; school data analysis; and how to confront racism.
- Details about our application can be found in the November minutes.

Recording Council Meetings: Lisa Zivontsis

- We have been considering recording our Council meetings to enable people who cannot attend to watch them. The recordings would not replace our minutes.
- We sent out an anonymous survey to Council members as we don't want people to feel uncomfortable participating or leaving their camera on because of being recorded.



- Many of the responses were in favour of recording, but a few people are not comfortable with it. There were concerns about distributing the videos and questions around why we need to record meetings in addition to taking minutes.
- Because of the hesitancy, it does not make sense to record the meetings.
- Suggestion: Currently, we don't post our minutes until they are approved at the next
 meeting (a month later). Perhaps we can consider posting them after they have been
 reviewed by our Chairs and circulated to Council members with a note that approval is
 pending next month. This would allow people to have almost immediate access to our
 meeting records.
- Another option is to use the Zoom transcription feature > does not include video. It does
 a pretty good job of translating. Our minutes are comprehensive > it's felt they are
 sufficient, especially since transcription can lead to errors.
- We will move forward with posting the minutes once they are approved/edited by the Chairs.

Parent Outreach Funds: All

- We co-hosted an Indigenous speaker last month with other local councils through the Blake-East End Collective (about 7 or 8 schools are involved).
- The event was presented to us a week or so before the event, so our \$118 contribution was approved by the Executive Committee via email as per our expense policy.
- We would like to approve the use of the remaining \$382 from the Ministry's \$500 Parent Outreach Grant for other events and projects in partnership with this group.
- The ARE and Greening and Grounds Committees will be responsible for allocating it to projects throughout the year.
- It really benefits us to form this kind of partnership with other local schools.
- Are there any other plans for this money? No.
- Motion to approve this idea. Motion carried.

7. Equity and Inclusion

- This is a new recurring item on our agenda. We hope to create a space for people to bring up any issues, thoughts, concerns, or observations relating to equity and inclusion.
- We can't necessarily address all content on the spot but want to ensure that people are free to address and speak to this material.



- If you see something in the schoolyard or have a conversation with a parent, those items can be brought here for discussion.
- We have just started doing this, so it may take some time for people to feel comfortable sharing.
- Once again, thank you so much, Kim, for being so welcoming and investing in our community during your time here. It has been a pleasure partnering with you!

8. Council meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm

The next meeting of the 2021-2022 Council will be held on Monday, February 7th, 2022, at 6:30pm via Zoom Video Conference.