



2021-2022 Wilkinson School Community Council

May 9, 2022

Meeting Minutes - Approved

The 2021-2022 Co-Chair, Lisa Zivontsis called the meeting to order at 6:46 pm.

Agenda

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| 1. Land Acknowledgement | 5. Committee Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">- ARE and Equity- Greening and Grounds | 6. New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Cookbook- Silent Auction- Wilky Move & Groove- Web Hosting |
| 2. Approval of May Agenda | | 7. Adjournment of Council Meeting |
| 3. Approval of April Minutes | | |
| 4. Principal's Update | | |
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Attendance

Present:

Liz Albrecht-Bisset (Principal)
Lisa Zivontsis (Co-Chair)
Dayna Tekatch (Co-Chair)
Vince Chan (Treasurer)
Shanna Breslin (Secretary)
Anthea Moreau (Dandylion)
Kostas Kotsampouikidis (Staff)
Vanessa Garzon (Staff)

Muneerah Chohan
Amy Cole
Rob Jefferson
Stephanie Lamb
Beth Martin
Brenda Ohngemach
Deborah Shub
Chantal Sweeting

Regrets:

Emily Davidson
Jennifer Stiff
Nicki Keenlside (VP)

Absent:

Parsa Khandaker

1. Land Acknowledgement

2. Approval of May Agenda

- Dayna and Vince approved.

3. Approval of April Minutes

- Anthea and Stephanie approved.



4. Principal's Update: Liz Albrecht-Bisset

- We are beginning events again - Play Day and Track & Field are coming up!
- EQAO is May 23-31. Notes are going home to parents later this week.
- We are hoping to start our decolonize game walk in June. This will be a project that continues into next year.
- Students will be doing a bake sale for Ukraine later this spring.
- Mr. Kotsampouikidis will be purchasing more equity books for the library soon.

5. Committee Reports

Committee members provided an update of upcoming and ongoing initiatives.

ARE Committee and Equity and Inclusion: Dayna Tekatch

- Crosswalk: There's a city initiative to paint some crosswalks with a reconciliation theme (bright orange with white feathers). We have a better chance of getting this project done if we're a part of that initiative.
 - Painting costs \$20-30K and will not be done until the TTC construction is complete.
 - We're working on a plan have a pride flag initiative on the school property if we do the orange crosswalk.
- Wooden Signs: We're going to get the paint for the additional signs this week. Please [email Dayna](#) if you have large yogurt containers that can be used to give classrooms their portion of paint.
 - The Ministry offers two types of funding each year. If we don't use the money, they take it back. One type is the Parent Outreach grant that we have been using for ARE initiatives.
 - The other is a grant for school council operations of \$1.25 per student (\$564 this year). It can be used for things like office supplies, printing, babysitting at meetings, and communications. We can't use it for our website as it is not a TDSB approved vendor, but we can use it for our wooden signs. We haven't used any of this money yet and would like to use it to purchase the paints, which cost about \$330.
 - ***Motion to approve buying the paint with council operations funds. Motion carried.***
- Racial Bullying: When in Grade 1, one of our students put his hair in braids. He was bullied and, as a result, took them out two weeks later. It's now 3 or 4 years later and the same thing has happened again to this student.
 - This was addressed in the Wilkinson gathering that week with the entire school. It is totally unacceptable. Students should be comfortable being themselves at school.
 - We invited a young author to speak at the gathering. She wrote a book about



harassment and bullying regarding black hair. We could invite her in to do some work with students next year if there is interest.

- The parent reported to the ARE Committee that they felt supported and respected in navigating this, but we wanted everyone to be aware of the incident.
- We need to work together and have these conversations outside of the school as well as inside.

Greening and Grounds Committee: Beth Martin

- Our main project currently is the rain barrel fundraiser.
- We're trying to find ways to help the kids feel connected to this project, so we have more success. We could get one for the school, but it needs to attach to a downspout (not sure if the school has one). If we do this, perhaps the students can paint it.
- We'd like to tie this to learning about water conservation. How can we bring this into the classroom in a non-intrusive way? Maybe we can set sales targets and do a popsicle day if we hit targets and/or a celebration at the end.

6. New Business

Cookbook: Shanna Breslin

- We ended up selling 123 books and made a profit of \$803.
- The books should be going home with students in about 3 weeks.
- 28 books were purchased for other families. I plan to sort the books when they come in so they're easy to distribute once the teachers have decided who to give the 28 to.

Silent Auction: Lisa Zivontsis

- We made \$8243.84!! This number is not final though because many people who paid in cash rounded up, and we have some outstanding items. We may go back to the next highest bidder on these.
- This year, Lisa and Deb ran the auction with communications support from Shanna, Chantal, and Amy. We would really like to see a bigger team next year to share the load (specifically with item collection) and allow us to bring in more items.
- The big miss this year was restaurants. We couldn't get to them during ideal hours and email solicitation didn't work. Next year, we'd love to have someone focus on this.
- The online platform worked well. It was exciting to see the rush of action near the end. Next year, the committee plans to gather on the last evening for a bid feed watch party.
- The auction was a big success, especially since this was the first time running it virtually.



Wilky Move & Groove: Shanna Breslin

- The Move & Groove is next week!
- I mentioned last month that aside from raising money, the purpose of this event is to get our students moving and having fun, so the event will be directed by our students.
- The Student Council has been busy creating playlists and coming up with games and activities. Students have also been making posters to promote it within the school and will also be making decorations. If you have anything fun to decorate the gym with, decorations can be given to Mr. Kasaval and Mme. Garzon.
- We're asking parents to sponsor their child's participation by making a donation of any amount to the school. Often people want to give, but don't want to buy things, so this is a great opportunity to contribute and get a tax receipt.

Web Hosting: Shanna Breslin

- We need to renew our web hosting contract with GreenGeeks as of May 29. We've been signing up for a 3-year contract to get the best deal.
- Rob is currently on the account, but he only has one year left at the school, so we need someone else to take this over.
- They only accept debit or credit card, and the cost is \$506.67 for 3 years.
- It looks like we can transfer the account to Wilkinson Junior Public School with the Council email address and pay for it with the school's card. *Rob will start the process and coordinate with Shanna and Liz.*
- I estimated a cost of \$460 in our budget based on what we paid 3 years ago, but it's gone up by about \$40, so I'd like to approve the change in cost before we go forward.
- The communications budget also includes the income from the shopping links. We estimated earning \$300 from those and it looks like we've earned \$450 so far, so we could offset the \$40 difference with that.
- *Motion to approve the extra cost. Motion carried.*
- *Update: I was incorrect when estimating the cost of the site but did remember to leave a buffer in the total communications budget. Our approved budget was \$650. Between the website and our Google Workspace account (both of which went up in cost), we should actually come in just under budget. Yay!*



Spring Fair: Lisa Zivontsis

- Other schools are going ahead with this. Do we want to? Do we have volunteers to run one? When would we have it?
- It can be much smaller, like a Fall Fest. We already took the silent auction out of it.
- School ends in less than two months. It seems like a very aggressive timeframe. Perhaps we should concentrate on doing one in the fall. Maybe we should plan to beef up Fall Fest by adding some things that we don't normally do then.
- Rob is interested in doing a Derby in the fall or spring if that's possible with permits. Note: We need to make sure that we're spreading events throughout the year and not doing everything in the fall and spring.
 - Could we do it next month? This would require some thought and reaching out to the other volunteers. At this point, it's not likely, but Rob will see if it's possible.
- Are we interested in Movie Nights? We need to organize the permits and license and would likely have the first one in October.
- Next month we'll look at our finances and decide what we can go ahead with. *Please come to the June meeting prepared to discuss bringing back pre-covid events and activities, adding new ones, and what's required to run them next year.*
- All are agreed that a Fun Fair is not something that we can take on now. Are there other events we'd like to work on before the end of the year?
- The Student Council may be planning some programs. Perhaps we could put our volunteer resources towards supporting their activities.
- We're having a virtual book fair the same week as the Move & Groove. These fairs are more popular in person > we hope to have a live one in October/November.
- Our Student Council is planning to do a bake sale next week (to avoid EQAO) > May 19th. We are looking for donations of baked goods to sell.
 - We'll be scheduling classes to come down and hope to do it outside. The goal is to raise \$150-200 for Student Council projects or to donate to a charity.
 - Support Needed: donations of baked goods, parent volunteers to help and supervise, and students will need to bring money for purchases.
 - We plan to send a form home so people can let us know in advance if they will donate or volunteer in advance.
 - Perhaps we can ask the students to move this to June 1 (Wednesday). This may help to set the students up for success if parents have some more time to prepare.
 - *Update: The students voted to keep the sale on May 19th.*



Other: Shanna Breslin

- When we were approaching businesses for the auction, Mixed Senses down the street mentioned wanting to partner with others in the community. They contacted us about a fundraising opportunity.
- They're a coffee shop that also sells skincare products and showcases work of local artists. They want to provide us with canvases (8x10") to paint on and they will put them up in the café. If any sell, the funds raised will come back to Wilkinson.
- They will provide 20-25 canvasses and we will provide the paint. It could also be mixed media instead of painting.
- It likely won't raise a lot of money, but it's a fun community project and could be quite exciting for students to have their art up in public.
- Maybe within each classroom, teachers can find out who's interested. Depending on how many want to participate, they can work alone or in small groups.
- *The staff will discuss this and figure out if art supplies are needed.*
- What are we doing for graduation this year? It will be on June 28th with a start time of 1:30-2pm. There will be a ceremony followed by snacks and drinks outside, if possible.
- The ceremony will run about 45 minutes and then we have some guest speakers. The photos are on May 31. We have 4 graduating classes this year. The school may want to connect with the Council about the festivities after the ceremony.

7. Equity and Inclusion

- This was moved up with the ARE update this month due to scheduling.

8. Council meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm

**The next meeting of the 2021-2022 Council will be held on
Monday, June 13th, 2022, at 6:30pm via Zoom Video Conference.**