

Wilkinson School Community Council – 09 June 2014 – FINAL Minutes

Next Meeting: 08 September 2014	08 September 2014 Agenda 1. Approval of June Minutes 2. Approval Of the Agenda 3. Principal's Update 4. Dandyllion Update	5. Budget 6. Current Events a) Track & Field Days b) Pizza Lunches c) Curriculum Night / Parent Council Elections 7. Committee Reports 8. Other Business					
Attendees: Y = Attend R = Regrets G = Guest M = Missing							
Y	Ruby Lederman – Chair	R	Manpreet Chana, – (Dandyllion Representative)	Y	Raihana Ingar	M	Catherine Hewlett (Zik-kovitz),
Y	Erin Vaillancourt – Vice Chair	M	Adriatik Alimerkaj	M	Leanne Jeans	M	Salima Headley
Y	Jill Spellman – Secretary	M	Sabmam Bharuchi	Y	Rob Jefferson	G	Natalie Kauffman
Y	Sharon Hennessey – Treasurer	Y	Laura Bullard-Brezovsky	Y	Kris Kearns	G	Zoobia Safdar from SRHC
Y	Allan Kelly – Principal	Y	Angelina Diassiti	Y	Bruce MacDonald	G	Lori Zinger
Y	Yasmin Buhariwalla – Vice Principal	R	Paul Dobson	Y	April Moon	G	Claire Gagne
Y	Batya Levy – Teacher Representative	Y	Sarah-Jane Gillespie	R	Deanna Rosolen	G	Julie Stanely
	Susan Jim – Teacher Representative	Y	Alison Howson	Y	Paula Weekes Kahn		

Wilkinson School Community Council – 09 June 2014 – FINAL Minutes

Annual General Meeting Summary (2013-2014)

Wilkinson School Community Council Chair, Ruby Lederman, at the Annual General Meeting held on Monday June 9, 2014 presented the following summary.

Overview of the Wilkinson School Community Council

The role of the Council is to:

- Encourage parental and community participation and input into school activities and programs that improve student achievement,
- Maintain and foster the partnership between staff and parents,
- Keep parents and community members informed about changes in education policies and programs and their effect on Wilkinson,
- Raise and distribute funds for Wilkinson School.

We try to meet monthly to provide input to the principal and staff on issues that affect the school and our children.

Highlights of the 2013-2014 School Year

Wilkinson Public School's council grew from 18 council members last year to a total of 20 council members. For 7 of the members this was their first year on council. With many new parents, Council benefited from fresh input into existing and new topics.

Update to the Constitution: *Ensuring All Who Want to Join Council Can*

- This year we had a couple of parents wish to join council, though voting in of the Council had already taken place. We noticed that the then current Constitution did not make a provision for latecomers.
- The Constitution now enables the Council to vote in new members so long as Council has not already met its membership limit of 10% of the student population.

Wil-Kitchen: *connecting parents through cooking*

- Wil-Kitchen hosted a holiday baking evening where cookie, truffles and other festive goodies were made and sampled.
- Wil-Kitchen hosts a Fun Fair prep night, where delicious salads and cheese triangles get prepared for the day of event.
- Wil-Kitchen has been an integral part of our parent outreach as it brings together a mix of new and longer-term parents of diverse backgrounds and abilities to connect and learn from each other.

Safety Committee: *Ensuring we provide a safe learning environment*

- This year saw the front doors of Wilkinson Public School locked at all times. A buzzard was installed that connected one to the office.
- A complete walkabout of the inside and outside of the property was conducted.
- A number of Work Orders were submitted this year. More signage for the yard was installed, and a number of recommendations for the Dandy Lion site were made.
- Asphalt that was torn up has now been replaced.

Wilkinson School Community Council – 09 June 2014 – FINAL Minutes

Fun Fair: *Wilkinson's day to give back to the kids*

- This is Council's biggest fundraiser and community event of the year. It takes a lot of committed parent volunteers to bring together an event like the one we had this year. All one has to do is stop and look out at the people in the field to know that Wilkinson parents have made the Fun Fair an exciting, beautiful and worthwhile event.
- Promotes Wilkinson in the community and enables us to provide services and programming to the students and fulfill funding requests from the staff.

Movie Nights: *flicks for fun and fundraising*

- Council held 7 movie nights this year, which are community events that turn a profit for our fundraising initiatives. We choose films that appeal to a wide range of audience.
- This event demonstrates the confidence the principal and staff entrust in the council to use the school premises regularly and manage all aspects of these events. This is significant for us as it fosters and maintains respect between parents and the administration.

Sweetheart Sale: *controlled chaos for one's sweetheart*

- Council held another successful Sweetheart bake sale February 14th. This is a much-anticipated event for the kids.

Pumpkinfest: *enjoying the fall and our community*

- Pumpkinfest fell yet again on a beautiful day to be outdoors.
- A community event held in the fall that includes selling pumpkins and other items. Though this event brings in some funds from the sale of pumpkins, the focus is to bring the community together and to enjoy the fall weather.
- Free coffee and apple cider shows that community activities don't always have to be about raising funds.

Pizza Lunches: *how excited the kids are on those Fridays*

- The last Friday of the month has become to be known as Pizza Days.
- Reduced the registration from three cycles to two. Feedback was good from parents.
- This offering by dedicated parents is no small feat.
- Bringing kids together to share in a lunch is really nice to observe.

Communications: *keeping parents informed*

- Council was not able to get out timely newsletters this year. As Chair of the Council, I want to apologize to all parents.
 - Though newsletters were few this year, frequent communications via Wilkinson's Communications emails did occur. These emails provided timely information about upcoming events or calls for support.
5. This year Council has a committed group of parents sitting on the Communications Committee. This group of parents have volunteered to revamp Council's website. Money has been set aside to move the website to a hosted environment and implement software that will making updating content easier.

Arts: *developing appreciation through painting and performances*

- This year Council paid for an Artist to come into each class (Grades K to 6) for half a day to do a special art project with the class. These sessions, much like the scientists in the classroom, was well received by both teachers and children.
- Council also sponsored a theater performance for all of the children in grades 1 through 6.
- The performances this year included Dufflebag Theatre (The Three Musketeers), Infinitus, and Menaka Thakkar.
- Bringing the arts into the school ensures that Wilkinson students are given the opportunity to develop an appreciation of artistic expression in various forms.

Wilkinson School Community Council – 09 June 2014 – FINAL Minutes

Aussie-X: *developing confidence and playing fair*

- This year Council sponsored Aussie-X to come into our school to promote active living and fair play through the game of Cricket (Grades 3 to 6) and Netball (Grades K to 2). The kids also learned a little bit about Australia!
- Each class had a half-day session with the Aussies from down-under.
- Unfortunately the parent participation evening was held on the night of a snowstorm and so only a handful of parents came out to see what Aussie-X was all about.
- Aussie-X did however volunteer their time at this year's Fun Fair, so it allowed them to connect with more parents and see some of the kids again.
- As part of the program, equipment was left at the school for ongoing promotion of the sport.

Garden Party Clean-Up: *Community families keeping Wilkinson "green & tidy"*

- An eco-focused, community effort to keep our school yard green and relevant
- Part of the Council's ongoing support of the Native Learning Garden Revitalization
- This year two Council Members were on this committee.

Financial Highlights

- Several fundraisers were held this year: Pumpkinfest, Movie Nights, Pizza Lunches, Sweetheart Sale, and Fun Fair.
- Council provided full or partial funding for:
 - Scientists in the School (1/2 day sessions)
 - Artists in the Classroom (1/2 day sessions)
 - Aussie-X Sports (1/2 day sessions)
 - Field trips
 - Performances for all grades
 - Blue Spruce/Silver Birch reading programs
 - School yard greening initiatives - Learning Garden Revitalization, Veggie Garden
 - 1 Wil-Kitchen
 - Graduation awards
- The Treasurer at the final meeting of the current Council on September 8, 2014 will present full financial details separately.

- End of Annual General Meeting report. -

#	Topic/Issue	Status/ <i>Action</i>	Who	When
1	Minutes	The May minutes were approved by April Moon and seconded by Angelina Diassiti.		

Wilkinson School Community Council – 09 June 2014 – FINAL Minutes

2	Agenda	<p>No conflicts of interest regarding the meeting's agenda were declared. The agenda was approved by Laura and seconded by Sara-Jane Gillespie, "The agenda for the 09 June 2014 meeting is approved." – CARRIED</p>		
3	Principal's Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcomes new faces • Thanks Batya Levy and Susan Jim, the teacher representatives for the past academic year • Thanks to Council for all the hard work • Safety Committee was covered off by Ruby in AGM summary- nothing to add • Uke Day on June 19th; festival that Melanie Doane organizes it (works with students year round) along with Marianne Bartkiw; special guests - one of the BNL will be there and Melanie's brother will also be there. Schools start arriving and should be there all day. It is a fun day everyone is looking forward to. • Grad Trip is organized, they are going to Toronto Island. • Play day is on the 25th; thank you to parents who will volunteer that day [with snack] • Permit is booked for Grad Party, on the evening of June 25th - people have held the date and now confirmed. Permit free of cost since there is a teacher in charge (Jackie Currie). • Curriculum Night is Sept. 18th (6-7pm); Council voting & meet the teachers. • Welcome Package needs some discussion to get organized and distributed in September. 		
3	Riverdale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeat visitor to our Council; Zoobia was invited here to tell Council about what is going on over the Summer • Diana sent email to Erin and Ruby. • Suggestion first workshop last week in September or first week of October; concept would be a workshop on healthy eating; work with Zoobia to establish dates and confirm permit details • Information to be sent and can be completed and inserted in a newsletter. • Zoobia confirmed that any information will be printed in hard copy and circulated electronically. • Zoobia says thank for letting them attend Fun Fair and April thanks her for the translations. 		
4	Dandyllion Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April provided brief update on preparations for summer and new academic school year (all-day learning). 		

Wilkinson School Community Council – 09 June 2014 – FINAL Minutes

5	Treasurer Report - Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasurer presents a financial summary. • Reminder that PRO Grant funds must be spent. • Reminder that actuals are not final as some events are not complete. • FF was down this year. Overall a slight net lose but we did add \$10K extra funding for new activities • Key message is money is down but funding is up. What we want to think about is how we fund and what we fund. Short term (within year funding) vs. long term funding. What do we want to accomplish with our activities. Ruby says this is something to think about for the new Council. • Ruby thanks Sharon for a the financial summary. • Beginning of next academic year there will be a firm financial statement but projecting \$10.5K. 		
6	Funding Re- quests	None.		
7	Fun Fair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April thanks everyone for his or her help this year on event day. • Next main planning with leads (?) will start in January 2015; main meetings start taking place in March; remember that there is something to everything. • Event is one of the larger events that we have but the net energy is the same for a person but for FF there are more people. • There is a budget involved and purposefully spent. • Net profit is projected out. This year was a surprise as some areas under performed while others excelled. • One injury this year - first time in April's history. • Seems like attendance was down overall. • Tight communication this year with Erin & Gerald. Tactical plan on email send outs. • Thank you again to everyone who came, spent money and volunteered. 		

Wilkinson School Community Council – 09 June 2014 – FINAL Minutes

8	Preparation for 2014-2015	<p>Staff Appreciation Lunch on Tuesday June 17 with a potluck theme and there is a core group of people who put together a meal and serve.</p> <p>Things that people would like to have discussed:</p> <p>-Rob (1) Pinewood Derby Race; operate and a good Fall fundraiser (2) BBQ competition; Wilkie parents or fathers and sell tickets for the foods. April asks if (2) could be combined with Pumpkinfest - (1) Early winter and February. Recommend to bring it up in September. (2) Kris motions to approve. All in favor.</p> <p>-Rhiana (3) not a fundraising idea; Eid celebration in mid-September potentially the weekend after Curriculum night. Paula says that if it is on a Saturday there will be care taking hours to consider (overtime). Rhiana mentioned that a donation box could be put out and would cover the cost of the overtime staff. (Last Eid celebration made approx. \$200.) (3) Paula estimates \$500 permit in September. Erin motions to approve; all in favor.</p> <p>-Erin (4) Direct Donation form draft is getting put together and April asks if the Fundraising Committee will be involved along with Parent Council Nomination Form. Jill asks about a centenary spin towards the direct donation. Rob asks about the sign for next year, as it is a substantial cost. (5) Small group of parents who would like to do an offsite event. Centennial College could take the lead on this event. CC would like to do a fundraiser as part of their curriculum. Wilkinson would be the client and time frame would be in November. (5) Bring back in September.</p>		
9	Committee Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ran out of time. Published in final June Newsletter. 		
10	Other Business	<p>Paula wants to be sure that the fact that we cannot permit for an outdoor movie night is clear.</p> <p>Erin gave a heartfelt thank you to Ruby for all her hard work at the school and at the community. A great guide and mentor.</p> <p>Jill moves to close the meeting and Kris seconds.</p>		

Wilkinson School Community Council – 09 June 2014 – FINAL Minutes

	Adjourned	It was moved by Jill Spellman and seconded by Kris Kearns. "That the meeting be adjourned at 8.00 pm" – CARRIED		
	Next Meeting	Monday 08 September 2014		

Signed:	Date:
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