

# Wilkinson School Community Council

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## Second Meeting of 2014-2015 Wilkinson School Community Council – November 03, 2014

### Meeting Minutes – Pending Approval

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The 2014-2015 Chair Erin Vaillancourt called the meeting to order at 6:29 pm

#### Attendance

<i>Faculty &amp; Staff</i>	Allan Kelly (Principal)	Present
	Yasmin Buhariwala (VP)	Present
	Susan Jim (Teacher Rep)	Regrets
	Baty Levy (Teacher Rep)	Present
	Manpreet Chana (Dandylion Rep)	Regrets
<i>Elected Council</i>	1. Erin Vaillancourt (Chair)	Present
	2. Jill Spellman (Vice Chair)	Present
	3. Sharon Hennessey (Treasurer)	Regrets
	4. Deanna Rosolen (Secretary)	Present
	5. Laura Bullard	Present
	6. Angelina Diassiti	Present
	7. Paul Dobson	Present
	8. Sarah Jane Gillespie	Present
	9. Amoy Hugh-Pennie	Present
	10. Raihana Ingar	Present
	11. Rob Jefferson	Present
	12. Paula Kahn	Present
	13. Natalie Kauffman	Present
	14. Kris Kearns	Present
	15. Carol Lee	--
	16. Anna MacDonald	Present
	17. Navarius Mombo	Present

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	18. April Moon	Present
	19. Michela Pasquali	Present
	20. Kathryn Underwood	Present
	21. Tatiana Zryanina	--
	22. Dan Dumitrescu	Present
	23. Yoralda Taveras	--
<i>Guests Present</i>	Zoobia Safdar	
	Naheed Sarwer	
	Parveen Akhtar	
	Donna Lindell	
	Martin Saxton	

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## 1. Fall/Winter Fundraiser

Donna Lindell, who is the program coordinator of the Corporate Communications and Public Relations program at Centennial College, gave a brief overview of what a group of her students have planned for the Dec. 3 fundraiser.

As part of their project management and event management course, students are required to produce an event for a charity of their choice. Six of her students chose to work with Wilkinson. Donna explained that all six students have experience in PR and event management.

### The breakdown:

- The event is booked for Dec. 3 at The Forth on Danforth Ave.
  - The idea is to leave the kids with a sitter and enjoy a night out, mingling with fellow parents and guardians, and raising funds for the school.
  - The room is on the 3rd floor and is accessible by stairs or elevator.
  - Tickets are \$18 each in advance (and can be purchased online) or \$20 each at the door.
  - Ticket prices include appetizers.
  - There will also be a Silent Auction.
  - The event is open to parents and guardians, alumni, staff, etc.
  - All funds raised will go to the Community Council.
- The event is being promoted by e-mail, backpack inserts, posters, Facebook.

## 2. Approval of Minutes from October 6, 2014

Kris Kearns and Paula Weekes Kahn approved [pending amendment to layout of eMotion].

## 3. Approval of Agenda for November 3, 2014

Rob Jefferson and Michela Pasquali approved.

## 4. Principle's update (Allan Kelly)

### A. School Improvement Plan.

Each school in the TDSB must submit one. The plan is divided into several categories including: Literacy, Numeracy, Pathways, and Community, Culture & Caring. Schools must outline their goals in improving in each category.

Wilkinson is finalizing its plan and will submit it to the TDSB. A copy will be posted on the bulletin board for everyone to see.

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## B. S.T.E.M.

S.T.E.M. stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. It's a new approach to teaching and learning science and technology. Instead of separating these areas into different subjects, the TDSB is looking at incorporating all of them into all aspects of the curriculum. But that doesn't mean the curriculum will be drastically different from what it was before.

Right now the TDSB is training STEM coaches, who will visit schools to offer support.

## C. Globe and Mail article (Nov. 3, 2014) on fundraising:

["Toronto school fundraising raises questions about equity in public school education system."](#)

### How did Wilkinson stack up?

Wilkinson ranked 338 out of 469 schools with fundraising of \$95.60 per student. That's 1.56 times less than the average of \$149 per student.

(Noted by Jill Spellman that these numbers are not necessarily a true reflection and can be skewed.)

## 5. Committee updates

### A. Communications

- The committee met on Oct. 20 and is considering appointing a Communications Manager.
- Work on the new website is underway, but there is a need for content.
- The committee is also looking for school colours, mascot, etc.
- The calendar feature is live and up to date.
- The committee would also like feedback from everyone regarding what they would like to see on the site in terms of tabs.
- The committee's goal is to complete the site by the end of this school year.
- The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 17, 2014. (Note: this meeting was later cancelled).

### B. Safe Schools

- Toronto Fire came to review the school's fire drill procedure and Wilkinson passed.
- There are still issues with the new FOB system. For instance, Dandy Lion Daycare has had to pay for someone to stand at the Wilkinson doors so that parents can access the All-Day Kindergarten room in the basement.
- There have been incidents in the playground and at recess among students. The school is looking at the best way to resolve these issues.
- School Climate Surveys:** Every other year the TDSB conducts these surveys to hear directly from students, parents and school staff to make sure everyone feels safe, accepted and included at school. A survey of Grades 4-6 students was conducted and results will be discussed at the next council meeting.

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## **C. Education**

As of this council meeting, the committee had not yet met.

## **D. Fundraising**

Pumpkin Fest / Harvest Fest (which took place on Oct. 26 at Wilkinson) made between \$500 and \$600. Some issues raised: there may have been too many pumpkins and they might have been priced too high.

## **E. Arts**

The committee wants to book Groove Edgeucation. The dance troupe came from a suggestion from Madame Barbier. The troupe's approach is to inspire participants to be unique, creative, playful and active, and the event is interactive through movement.  
>Funding requested \$819.25 (\$725 plus HST).

## **6. Tech Club.**

A group of Wilkie parents is launching Tech Club, a venue for budding rocket scientists or games builders to hone their skills. The club is parent-led, and will encourage kids to explore projects such as building gliders and robots, stop-motion animation, video editing, programming and more.

Registration is \$5, and the group will meet Thursdays from 6-7p.m. in Room 3.  
Martin Saxton, one of the dads heading up the club.  
>Funding requested \$300 for supplies.

## **7. Hockey.**

Mr. Kasaval is requesting \$555 to go towards ice time rental and referee fees for hockey this school year. Students don't have to be in a league or on a hockey team to join. It's open to students in Grades 4-6.  
>Funding requested \$555 for ice time rental & referee fees.

## **8. Pinewood Derby Car Fundraiser Proposal**

Rob Jefferson (also Communications chair) will organize a Pinewood Derby Car Fundraiser, possibly for one day in February. He would order a kit for each classroom at Wilkinson. With help, students can build the car and racetrack and then each classroom will raise money to race their cars as part of a friendly competition in the school gym. He asked for \$500 to get the fundraiser started and to purchase the Pinewood Derby Car building kits. A possible date could be during the Family Day weekend in February.  
>Funding requested \$500 for derby building kits.

## **9. Funding requests summary.**

The council put forward a motion to approve the following requests for funding:

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-\$819.25 for Groove Edgeucation.

Approved by Angelina Diassiti and Rob Jefferson.

-\$300 for Tech Club.

Approved by Navarius Mombo and Natalie Kauffman.

-\$555 for Mr. Kasaval and the hockey program.

Approved by Sarah Gillespie and Michela Pasquali.

-\$500 for the Pinewood Derby Car fundraiser.

Approved by April Moon and Paula Weekes Kahn.

## **10. Two upcoming events to keep in mind:**

-Parents for Education 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Nov. 8 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto. (\$60)

-PIAC (Parent Involvement Advisory Committee) 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Parent Involvement Makes a Difference Conference on Nov. 15 starting at 8:30 a.m. at Earl Haig Secondary School. (Free)

## **11. Council meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.**