



## 2018-2019 Wilkinson School Community Council

### June 3, 2019

#### Meeting Minutes - Approved

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The 2018-2019 Chair, Angelina Diassiti called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

#### Agenda

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>1.</b> Approval of May Agenda    | <b>4.</b> Committee Updates<br>-                                                                 | <b>6.</b> Adjournment of Council Meeting |
| <b>2.</b> Approval of April Minutes | <b>5.</b> New Business<br>- Funding Requests<br>- Hooktheory Examples<br>- Political Involvement | <b>7.</b> Annual General Meeting (AGM)   |
| <b>3.</b> Principal's Update        |                                                                                                  |                                          |
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#### Attendance

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##### Present:

Jenny Georgiou (VP)  
Angelina Diassiti (Chair)  
Stephanie Lamb (Vice Chair)  
Ben Elling (Treasurer)  
Shanna Breslin (Secretary)  
Batya Levy (Staff)  
Susan Jim (Staff)  
Sophie Barbier (Staff)  
Rob Jefferson  
Lilian Ling

Elizabeth Manafò  
April Moon  
Brenda Ohngemach  
Fernanda Perdikaris  
Jennifer Stiff  
Julia Warrender  
Michela Pasquali

##### Guests:

Farah Ganpaul

##### Regrets:

Allan Kelly (Principal)  
Elizabeth Dhuey  
Safran Lafeer  
Lisa Zivontsis  
Anthea Moreau (Dandylion)

##### Absent:

Dayna Tekatch

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#### 1. Approval of June Agenda

- Lilian and Julia approved.

#### 2. Approval of May Minutes

- Stephanie and Julia approved.



### 3. Principal's Update: Jenny Georgiou

- EQAO is done: We do the testing over a few half days so that our support staff can support the students properly as many are half time. Also, a morning is often enough for the students.
- Staffing: The process is still ongoing.
  - It started later this year because of the budget announcements from the government.
  - Support staff allocation was just received > we will be keeping the positions that we currently have (lunch supervisors, ECEs, EAs).
- New Principal: No news yet.
  - The acting principal for this month is Bill Harrison.
  - Mr. Kelly is scheduled to be here for the last week in June.
- OPAL [Outdoor Play and Learn](#): Our application was approved.
  - The program is about creative, self-directed play and it involves found objects (tires, wooden spools, logs, etc).
  - It aims to teach kids creativity and responsibility in play > it's supposed to promote active play and result in fewer yard conflicts.
  - We will begin in September, and a staff committee will be working on the program.
  - The play objects will change as the program moves forward > new things will be introduced and evaluated (safety and responsibility).
  - Please note: It is a structured program and does not involve people leaving their own used items in the yard.
  - we need to store the objects > they are quite large.
  - There has been discussion of storage containers in the yard revitalization plan. We will have to see if funding is going to be required for storage. Perhaps it can be combined with the daycare and Council needs (to get a bigger container).
  - Note that often people climb on storage containers so don't put them close to the neighbours' yards.
- The Grade 6 trip this year is Canada's Wonderland on June 18th.
- June 19th: Kindergarten and Gr. 1 concert. There is no Kindergarten graduation.
- June 20: Spirit assembly
- June 21: Play Day for all grades. Rain date is June 26
- June 25: Gr. 6 graduation. Photos begin at 12:45 (for students). Parents arrive at 1pm. The format will be the same as other years (ceremony and refreshments).
- June 27th: Last day of school and report cards go home!
- Staff Appreciation (from Council for staff): We provide snacks and drinks.



- Will do it on Play Day (June 21).
- If you'd like to help set-up or would like to bake or cut fruit, please [let us know](#).
- If you know of anyone new moving into the area, please encourage them to call the school early (before September) to register so the kids can be placed and all info is gathered in advance of the first day of school.

#### 4. Committee Reports

Committee members provided an update of upcoming and ongoing initiatives.

##### Fun Fair: April Moon

- We usually have about 27 team leads but have fewer this year > We have combined a number of areas to make up for that.
- Lisa is planning to take over as event lead after April moves on and has been shadowing April this year. Yay, Lisa! April has been keeping notes to help with the transition.
- The planning is going well and the June date has been helpful.
- Volunteers: The numbers are a bit low so far. High school students may have a conflict with exams in June.
- If you know any high school students, we really do need people!
- A lot of leads are graduating this year so next year we may start to meet in September to regroup and figure out a strategy.
- Are there lead roles that involve time before the event but not on the day of? My partner volunteers at the event so I need to be with my kids.
  - Yes! There is something for everyone. We can figure something out for you.
- Can we relocate the popcorn this year to outside? Yes. *April to coordinate with Jenny / caretaking (circuit breaker issues).*

##### Greening Committee: Michela Pasquali

- Lots of people came for the Learning Garden Cleanup, including many new people, which was great!
- There was a miscommunication and some volunteers accidentally dug up the seedlings that were planted in the raised beds with the gardening program.
  - There were hurt feelings, but everyone involved is sorry for their part in it and we will keep this in mind for next year if we fund Elin again.
  - The Committee will make sure to communicate to ask if there is anything we should not be touching.



- Parents bought new seedlings and the Council is happy to reimburse them > please [send in receipts](#) if this applies to you.
- We could really use some volunteers to water the garden over the summer. If anyone is available, please [let us know](#).
- *April will ask Dandylion > maybe they can get the kids involved.*
- Sadly, Ben is stepping down from the Council. He will be missed! Thank you for all your hard work, Ben. If anyone is interested in being Treasurer, there is an opening!
  - There are now lots of new processes and spreadsheets in place so this job has gotten easier over the last year or so.

## 5. New Business

### Funding Request: Junglesport

- We will revisit this in September once we have our Fun Fair numbers.

### Funding Request: D.O. Gibson

- *“D.O. Gibson is a Guinness World Record setting rapper, published author and University graduate that has been inspiring hundreds of thousands of youth since 2001. He set a Guinness World Record for longest freestyle rap by rapping for 8 hours and 45 minutes. Gibson has performed at over 1000 schools. He’s toured Canada, US, Asia, Europe and had ten videos play on MuchMusic, including one where Drake made a cameo.”*
- Stay Driven is a one-hour assembly that combines speaking with live performances to engage students while delivering a solid message. The program has been featured on CBC Metro Morning, MuchMusic and MTV.
- Please see the attached document for information about the program.
- The cost is \$850 to \$1000 for two presentations > we would like to bring in the H.O.L.L.A. Anti-bullying and the Black Canadian History programs.
- Motion to approve funding both presentations. *Motion carried.*
- *Stephanie and the Arts Committee will book the programs.*

### Funding Request: Drums

- The school gave Ms. Levy money to purchase 10 Tubano hand drums.
- Ms. Levy took a drum circle course (Rhythm for Youth) and thought it was really wonderful. She wants to do units with the classes (at least from Gr. 1 up).
- She would like to get 10 more drums in order to have a full class set. These would be used with other percussion instruments.
- The total amount is \$1730.65. Includes tax and shipping etc. From St John's music (TDSB approved).



- Does new equipment have to go through TDSB vendors or can we use someone in our community?
  - The school purchases through an agreement that guarantees the quality of TDSB equipment (safety). It also allows for volume discounts. The school has to use this agreement so if we went outside of these vendors, the Council would have to purchase on our own and donate to the school.
  - We are looking for a nesting set and the kids' size drums.
  - Are we allowed to purchase instruments or does this fall into the category of items that a school council can't purchase? We are supplementing a purchase that was already made so we feel that this purchase would be allowed.
- Motion to approve the purchase of 10 additional drums: *Motion carried. Ms. Levy and Rob J. will research some local vendor pricing.*

#### **Other Funding Requests: All**

- The school would like to have the garden educator in as an annual program, either with the same number of visits as this year or more.
  - *Mme. Barbier will submit a funding request for September.*
- Right now we don't purchase French books for Silver Birch. If we want to increase funding for this program, we could add this in to enrich our library.
  - *We will discuss in September.*

#### **Political Involvement: All**

- On June 6th there is a Walk-In for parents and educators. Meet in front of the school from 8 to 8:30. The purpose is to show solidarity and provide information around the budget cuts.
- The Walk-In was organized by the West End Parents for Public Education group and is spreading through the city.
- At 8:30, all the teachers will walk into the school together.
- There have been huge cuts to education but the government has backed down on certain things so if we keep up the pressure, we may make a difference.
- Government revenue sources have been cut as well so now there is less funding for public programs.
- From the Communications Committee perspective, we have been inundated with requests to communicate messages and events dealing with the funding cuts > the sheer volume of these requests has been too great for us to pass them along via email.



- Our email list comes from the school and we share not only Council information, but also school information. Because we're the voice for both, we're in a tough position in terms of what we can and can't share.
- We also receive feedback, questions, and complaints about our communications, which means that we need to be equipped to respond.
- Our community has varying political views and many people feel that it is inappropriate for us to share political information via our email distribution list (we have received feedback to this effect).
- Instead, we have been requesting that people post information and events to our Facebook page. Anyone can do this, and we will approve it but we really can't post it as the Council.
- The west end group is rallying school councils to send a letter to the Ministry on behalf of each Council group.
  - Is everyone comfortable sending in the letter on behalf of our group?
  - Motion to approve signing and sending the letter. *Motion carried.*
- At [www.buildingbetterschools.ca](http://www.buildingbetterschools.ca) people can sign up for news or check for updates regarding issues impacting schools.

#### **Other: All**

- EcoTeam logo winner > We are looking at adding the junior winning logo to reusable plastic products. We would sell them for a small profit as a fundraiser.
- The logo has been digitized.
- *April is looking into products and will present information in the Fall. She will work with Mme. Barbier.*
- Arts: Can we look into programming for next year? Yes, if the programs are within the committee budget, they can be booked. If additional funding is needed, we will vote on that in September.
- If anyone knows of visual arts programs that are TDSB approved, please get in touch.
- Wandering Spirit school has an artist list that is already vetted > we will look into this.

#### **6. Council meeting adjourned at 8:00pm**

**The last meeting of the outgoing 2018-2019 Council will be held on  
Monday, September 9, 2019 at 6:30pm in the Library.**