# Williamson Road SAC

# Meeting Agenda

## April 9, 2023

## 6:30 – 8:00pm

## School Library

**Regrets:**

Karen

Shelly

**Attendees:**

Principal Malini Hyland

Vice Principal Andrea Kwok

Teacher Rep Heather McInroy

Janet

Lindsay

Stella

Nikki

Kate

Carla

Sarah

1. **Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and Introductions**

Janet let the group in a land acknowledgement and brief intros.

1. **Principal/Vice Principal Update -Mme. Hyland/Ms. Kwok/Mme McInroy**

Sports – right now, or starting shortly, there is co-ed flag rugby, track and field (grades 4-6), run, jump, throw (grades 1-3 with local schools), slo-pitch (grades 4-6), and primary intramural soccer is wrapping up.

Arts

Ukulele club (grades 4-6) and primary singing club continue as well. The Ukulele club varies from 5-15 kids and the singing club has upwards of 30 kids a session.

Other Activities and Events

Day of Pink will be celebrated April 10.

Blue Jays Game April 30 with Junior Choir performance

Willy Blanche – May 9th show cases arts at the school in the evening 530-730; classes have art displays, workshops (arts, dance, music), Junior choir performs in the cafeteria to kick off the event.

Congrats to Coach Semes for cultivating an excellent Spring Sprint event attendance by Willy Students and to his mom who medaled!

Mosa McNeilly started seed pouch workshops that are very well received by the kids in grades 4 and 5.

Malini expressed appreciation for all the work of the staff. Even though they aren’t able to access regular preparatory periods, they continue to support students with extra-curricular activities to an excellent degree.

About 400 new books have been added to the library’s collection and French junior classrooms have also made several purchases to supplement existing resources. More decodable French books have also arrived for new readers.

1. **School Improvement Plan (SIP) Update - Mme. Hyland**

Indigenous Art Education – objective is to teach appreciation for Indigenous cultures via the arts – music, dance, visual art, etc. Staff have had many conversations about how to do this and have paid a lot of attention to how to differentiate between appreciation and appropriation. The staff have created a program of expected outcomes for arts at all levels.

For Children’s Mental Health Week events and activities will focus on connection to nature and local community

Learnings from this year will inform plans for next year.

Early Reading intervention

Key staff have been trained on a particular resource to identify early students that are struggling and what the barriers to learning are so they can be addressed. This is applicable to students in grades 2 and 3. A number of students were identified as being below grade level or approaching grade level. Intense 8-10 weeks of sessions with a teacher, sometimes in groups, have worked well. The program has resulted in the amelioration of many of the students. Work continues with those who need it, and some children were identified for Individual Education Plans thereby increasing support for their academic success. If additional intervention is required, the school can and does make referrals to TDSB specialists.

Parents and caregivers can access the TDSBs virtual library through their student’s log-in to the Willy AW site.

Mathematics & STEAM

Classroom kits and inventories are on-going. Some kits are shareable, others are need on a per class basis. There will be a STEAM room with a variety of resources available in the near future.

Scientists in the School and other activities continue to engage students in this learning across all grades.

Universal Design

Refers to addressing different needs in classrooms. 28 students have diagnosed learning impediments; 46 have IEP and 18 have modified programs 9 students on formal safety plan; 55 students are presenting with self-regulation or other undiagnosed issues. This is approximately 20% of the student population. This is higher than in the past and most elementary schools are seeing the same sort of increase.

The staff is working on developing a number of strategies to support and integrate the diverse styles and needs of students.

Belonging and Well-being, Integrated with Equity

Events and discussions with students all in response to situations at Willy with students related to discrimination. Schools in Willy’s learning network (approx 25 schools incl. secondary) have the highest rate of incidents with a total of 19 so far this year.

This is ongoing work and requires assistance from everyone in the Willy community to ensure that Willy is a safe space for everyone. On April 25th there is a workshop for parents and caregivers on how to talk about Race with their students, families, friends, etc.

Staff are working with resources at the TDSB to develop a three-year plan to address the issues within Willy. One of the components is parent and caregiver participation including, but not limited to, School Advisory Councils. Students and teachers both benefit from the learning opportunities that have been available.

Anti-bullying

Presentations have been ongoing with students to highlight that bullying can occur in person as well as online and that if something happens out of school but affects the learning environment, it is an issue for the school and will be addressed as such. With the increase in use of cell phones and social media in the Willy student population, the rate of online incidents is increasing.

Boundaries and Consent

This area of work refers to treating others with respect and understanding responsibilities and responses to unwanted intrusions into personal space.

All of these areas will carry-through into next year and the work this year will create the foundation for increasing staff, student and community proficiency in all these areas next year and beyond.

1. **SAC updates & upcoming events**

Financial update will be upcoming closer to the end of the year when the situation is clearer.

April 12th – Parent Social

April 18th – Textile Drive & Willy at the Movie

April 19th – Belly Busters Lunch

April 23rd – Pizza Lunch

April 24th – Grad Photos

April 25th – Families Talking Race (parent and caregiver evening)

April 30th – Willy Choir at the Blue Jays

May 7th – Pizza Lunch

May 9th – WillyBlanche

May 21st – Pizza Lunch

May 28th - SAC meeting

May 31st - Dance party

June 4th - Pizza lunch

June 6th - JuneFest

June 7th - PA Day

June 13th - Kindie Bike Rodeo

June 18th – Pizza Lunch

June 26th - Report Cards

June 28th – Last Day of School

1. **New Business/Questions**

Volunteers are needed for JuneFest to organize various stations and Council needs to provide feedback on the fall 2024 fundraising letter. More information on both will be forthcoming.

The meeting adjourned just after 8pm.