# Williamson Road SAC

# Meeting Agenda

## March 1, 2023

## 6:30pm

## Virtual Meeting

**Attendees**:

* Mark Duwyn, Principal
* Andrea Kwok, Vice Principal
* Heather McInroy, Teacher Rep
* Lindsay Thompson, Parent Rep
* Janet Theunissen, Chair
* Tamta, Parent
* Maya Kesler, Parent
* Alison Holder (JuneFest lead)
* Kelly Short (Pizza Lunch volunteer)
* Karen D. Hunter, Parent
* Sarah Charters, Secretary
* Simon Yau, Parent Rep
* Karen Hoskins
* Frances Anderson, Administrator
* Dave Winkler, Community Rep
* Anita Davis, Parent Rep
* YE

**Regrets**:

* Gina McCubbin
* Sareh Youssef
* Christine Murray
* Nikki Stiavniky
* Carla Arasanz

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

Janet welcomed everyone and offered a land acknowledgement. Attendees introduced themselves and we heard that the Willy hockey team won the game today! Yay! Wildcats

1. **Principal, Vice Principal, Teacher and Administrator Update**

Mr. Duywn introduced Ms. Kwok. The office Secretary role is currently vacant with Lou Ann coming back to fill the vacancy until the end of the year. What happen next year is unclear.

Willy has 537 students currently in 12 French classes and 10 English classes. The 2022/2023 projections planned for 510 students which led to the reorganization in the Fall. The Administration is concerned that class sizes will be higher next year – the largest is 23 students this year which is lower than in the past. The number of students is projected to attend is fairly consistent this year and next and may lead to a reduction in teachers.

Staffing continues to be an issue with teachers being away and ill and only short term replacements are available. That means teachers are filling in for each other and that can lead to cancellation of classes like Gym and Music when those teachers are called upon to fill classroom vacancies.

In terms of lunch hour, classes will continue to each lunch in the classrooms this year and next as students eat better and it is safer during the pandemic.

**School Improvement Plan:**

The fundraising support (pizza lunches, cookie dough sales, plantables, etc.) offered by the SAC really makes a different in terms of increasing resources in the classroom (e.g. math class packages).

There is a new program that is part of the School Improvement Plan from Logics Academy where classes have access to real robotics tailored to each age group (kindergarten through to grade 6). The robots have block codes that make them run. iPads host an app where the kids can do the programming. Dash robots are on wheels, Dot robots are not. The robots respond to each other and carry out tasks as programmed by the students. Today and tomorrow the English classes participated in this learning. The French classes will have a turn next week. See the website for more details: <https://logicsacademy.com/>

There are many extracurricular activities happening:

* Hockey and volleyball tournaments were today.
* Musical rehearsals continue – dates will be confirmed soon.
* The Student Council is taking on the curating of the STIM room and have plans to expand the offering.
* Earth and Water weeks are coming up as is Pink Shirt Day.

Student Mental Health Day is coming up. On May 5th, students will have a half day outdoors and will be encouraged to take pictures in the Ravine or down at the Beach. There will be a special lunch option (Hero Burger) and then the other half of the day will be and outdoor dance party with DJ Mike.

Willy has been invited to sing the National Anthem on June 7th at the Blue Jays game. Gemma Snider will put together a choir to participate in that event.

The Student Council is a group of Junior students (grades 4-6) who applied to various committees to organize various events and activities. Students from all parts of the school community were encouraged to participate and a large number of students stepped up to take part.

**School expectations re playground:**

The students were consulted about the expectations after the Safe Schools Committee met. The student feedback and input was really exciting and it helped socialize the expectations within the student body.

1. **SAC Update:**

Karen gave a financial update. The bank balance is about $40K which is quite healthy. The total funding requests approved at the last SAC meeting were $41K and of that amount, $24K has been disbursed. Deposits for JuneFest have also gone out.

Pizza lunch continues to be the biggest funder of the work.

Scientists have come to the school 10 times so far to visit with classes as part of the *Scientists in the Schools* program. Other sessions are booked for May.

In between Council meetings, the Council Executive approved purchasing another insert for the mask recycling bin. That should last to the end of the year.

We received a recorded number of reading logs as part of Willy Reads – 109 total! Janet is working on consolidating the details and will be able to announce winners. Lindsay secured prizes from Ella Minnow, Planet X, and Ed’s Ice cream.

Last week we collected 886 pounds of textiles during the textile drive. Thanks to Anita and John for loading the bags into the van in the snow! Congrats to Karen on the success of the program. We expect a cheque in the range of $75-80 for the collection.

The Terra Cotta Cookie fundraiser has started. Willy receives 40% of each purchase in cash. Orders will be accepted for the next 3 weeks. We will need helpers on April 4th (Tuesday) between 3&4 to hand out the cookies.

Orders for the last session of Pizza Lunch are in progress. There have been a bit of an issue with the popcorn snack as part of the lunch so it won’t be included anymore. We will return to chips (Pringles) as the savoury snack. Granola bars will continued to be offered as a sweeter, gluten-free option. A few volunteers are still needed.

Council is not primarily about fundraising but the results, programs and supplies that are possible because of the monies we do raise in support of the School Improvement Plan.

Edge Imaging will be doing class photos this spring.

Dog sign project continues. The organizers are designing the banners and they will be presented to the administration when the drafts are complete.

June 1st is JuneFest. It is the Thursday before the PA Day in June.

Grad plans progress and a couple of volunteers are still needed.

Christine Murray is working with a local Indigenous gardener who will help set up the Three Sisters Garden. There is a meeting March 2nd to talk more about the plans.

Glen Ames has asked if we would host a joint talk in April. We can get funding from the TDSB for parent engagement. The idea is to host the *Get Real Movement* that focuses on inclusivity and anti-racism. It would depend on the topic and if it’s geared to parents in general or parents of a specific age group. It would be worth exploring topics and what would be most applicable.

There is the possibility that a parent social could happen – a couple of people have offered to organize. The Rec Centre is a possible location. The discussions will continue about what’s possible, location, etc.

1. **New Business/Questions**

No new business. Next and last meeting of the Council is on Tuesday May 2nd