

## LAKE WILCOX PUBLIC SCHOOL SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2023

### Attendees:

Principal: Andrea Welburn	Regrets:  Anita Fancy Christina Gianopoulos Chuan Li Parvaz Kirouac Simone Chan
Vice Principal: Samadi Afrouz (regrets)	
Teacher Representative: Mike Cerullo	
<i>Co-Chairs:</i> Nikki Andal & Angela Missaghian	
Treasurer: Anne Marie Kirkness	
Secretary: Cathy Proiakakis	
<i>Members at Large:</i> Farnaz Sardari Georgia Petinarelis Jessica Ng Julie Pesonen	
<i>Guests:</i> Barb Kwolek Mohammad Haddad	

1.	<p><b>Meeting brought to order @ 633PM</b></p> <p>Barb Kwolek has expressed interest in becoming a voting member</p> <p><b>Nikki put forward motion, Angela seconds. Motion Carries. WELCOME!</b></p>
2.	<p><b><u>Adoption of Minutes &amp; Treasurer's Reports</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Minutes were distributed ahead of time. Two items were added (voted on via email). One was for revised Treasurer Reports and the other for small incentives for Direct Donation and a \$500 deposit for YE BBQ.</li> <li>– Question re: commitment on the Staff Appreciation Brunch; date is to be voted on this evening.</li> </ul> <p><b>Adoption of the minutes put forward by Cathy P, seconded by Jessica. Motion Carries.</b></p> <p>Treasurer Report for March sent ahead of meeting with increased dollars for Purdy. Up to date, direct donation cannot be posted until it's put against Lake Wilcox Books but currently trending @ \$1,810.00. (yey!).</p> <p><b>Adoption of Treasurer Reports put forward by Nikki, seconded by Julie. Motion Carries.</b></p>
3.	<p><b><u>Principal Report/ Mr. Cerullo Update</u></b></p> <p><b>Update from Principal Welburn:</b></p> <p>Presenting the SIP (School Improvement Plan). SIP is important because it guides our learning and spending for the school – we are trying to achieve these goals in the activities that we are supporting. Sometimes finding funds is difficult and it would be good to prioritize based on the Improvement Plans.</p> <p><small>** Note: MLL – Multi-lingual learner</small></p>

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## Lake Wilcox PS – School Improvement Plan Goals & Objectives

### 1. Foster Well-Being & Mental Health

Build relationships to identify the diverse needs of students in order to support the mental health and well-being of students.

- Listen to voices of students and act in response to their needs
- Provide individuals what they need to succeed and thrive
- Create an inclusive environment for all learners
- Support instructional entry points for MLL students

### 2. Provide Effective Instruction and Assessment

Provide instruction that is focused on personalized learning goals and assessments that are flexible, relevant, and authentic.

#### Professional Learning Teams focus on:

- Students reading at grade level
- Students using various forms of writing for different purposes
- Automate number facts and develop numeracy
- Inclusive design of whole class learning that centres the voices of MLL at the onset of planning

### 3. Champion Equity and Inclusivity

Intentional creation of identity-affirming spaces and practices that are inclusive of all communities, free of racism and hate

- We are anti-racist educators; classrooms are safe spaces where students can be their authentic selves
- MLL students have opportunities to use their native language in classwork, as needed, in order to further their learning
- MLL students see themselves and their culture reflected in classroom learning resources.

#### Update from Mr. Cerullo:

- The Well-being Team continued to host drop-in board game play every Friday @ lunch, shifting back to the Walking Club
- The library is open to students during recess time - 'Lounge & Learn' activities
- Chess Club runs Wednesday's for students in grades 4 to 8
- Community Class Karaoke Cart Club on Friday's at morning recess
- Popcorn & Hot Chocolate sales continued - Frozen Yogurt Coming Soon!
- Family Literacy Night February 2nd
- Guest speaker, Duane Gibson (Gr. 1 - 8 & for families in the evening) February 13th
- Pink Shirt Day February 22nd
- Grade 8 course selections completed - late February
- Intramural activities - Intermediate basketball, Junior basketball (Gr. 5 & 6) concluded, shifting to soccer Tuesday's & Thursday's
- GSA meet every Tuesday & Thursday in library

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gr. 2 &amp; Gr. 4 trips to VORC</li> <li>- Gr. 1 field trip to this month RH Performing Arts Centre - The Ugly Duckling</li> <li>- Mad Science program to visit Ms. Hodgins &amp; Ms. Lue's classrooms - All About Matter</li> <li>- Students continue to play instruments in (insert classrooms)</li> <li>- Grade 4 Medieval Brass Rubbings day activity this month</li> <li>- Mr. Magel's &amp; Ms. Paterson's classes Earth Day Park Clean Up</li> <li>- Intermediate Boys &amp; Girls basketball teams competed in exhibition and tournament play; Inter. Boys won CEC Central Area &amp; competed in the Regional Semi Final game</li> <li>- Graduation Photos on March 8th</li> <li>- Day of Dance on March 10th - K to 8</li> <li>- Youth Speak Presentation (Grades 5 - 8) on March 24th</li> <li>- Grade 7 &amp; 8 Trans Day of Visibility Presentation on March 31st</li> <li>- Grades 6 – 8 playing instruments</li> <li>- Neurodiversity Assembly on April 24th - Inclusioners &amp; Co. meet on Monday's</li> <li>- Grade 3 Trip to Pioneer Village on April 26th</li> </ul> <p>Currently working through options for the younger grades for indoor recess activities.</p>
4.	<p><b><u>GSA Update</u></b></p> <p>Ms. Hodgins provided an update on the GSA; notes captured were quick and may not contain all the information that she provided in her slide deck. GSA stands for Gender and Sexuality Alliance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- School club; involves students who either identify as 2SLGBTQ+, are discovering their identities or consider themselves as allies</li> <li>- Provides safe space</li> <li>- Come together to support one another, discuss issues of concern, carry out school-wide activities with a focus on sexual/gender equality and justice</li> <li>- Led by students/advisors</li> <li>- May use other names (decided on by the student members)</li> <li>- 12 to 15 students (inviting allies in would be roughly 30-40 students)</li> <li>- Looking to launch pride activities for June</li> <li>- Survey was conducted in 2017 that showed that 10% of Gr. 7 &amp; 8 YRDSB students identify as having sexual orientations other than heterosexual</li> <li>- 78% of heterosexual students feel welcome (always/often)</li> <li>- 76% of 2SLGBTQ+ agree/strongly agree they feel safe</li> <li>- Bullied statistics have been more staggering with a much larger proportion of gender diverse students reporting being bullied</li> <li>- GSA make students feel safe and represented</li> <li>- Trans Day of Visibility took place on March 31</li> <li>- Ms Newman and students from GSA facilitated a presentation for Gr. 7 &amp; 8 students on how to be a better ally.</li> <li>- Excited about going into next year.</li> <li>- Focused on connection – seeing a lot of students knowing what they're up to</li> </ul> <p>This leads us to the gap in our school and the ask from our GSA: There are gender diverse books and materials for our younger students, but we do NOT have a strong representation of books/materials for our Junior Intermediate Students (Gr. 5 to 8).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Students compiled a wish list of books they would like available; when Ms. Hodgins did the quick research, 15 books cost approx. \$190</li> <li>- Books are approved by YRDSB; Need to ensure the content is appropriate and need to</li> </ul>

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	<p>purchase through an approved vendor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ideally, if there are 12 active students in GSA, we would love to at least provide one book for each member. Estimated costs... around \$200 (we can revote if the amount is higher once we have a list of appropriate books).</li> </ul> <p><b>Barb putting forward motion to allocate \$200, seconded by Nikki. Motion Carries.</b></p>
5.	<p><b><u>Social Work</u></b></p> <p>School social worker: Joyce Leung Comes to the school about 1x per week</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Social worker and attendance councilor</li> <li>- Registered social worker (assigned 5-6 schools per year)</li> <li>- Provides support to students K to 12 experiencing mental health issues that impact their health and well-being and their success in school</li> <li>- May include             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Advocacy</li> <li>o Attendance intervention</li> <li>o Short-term counselling depending on concern</li> <li>o Support looks different based on student</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Collaborative support; relies heavily on school team to support students</li> <li>- Broad range of support – connects families with services available in the community</li> <li>- Engaging with social work is a voluntary service (consent by student and family)             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Under 12 requires consent of parent and guardian</li> <li>o over 12 parental consent it encouraged, but if health &amp; safety compromised it could be waived (approved by supervisor)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- To access her support – Principal or Vice Principal engages (anonymous) through social worker</li> <li>- Supports with attendance issues</li> <li>- Situations where student is not attending or disengaged, supports student and family to improve attendance and engagement</li> <li>- Attendance does NOT require consent; mandated by law</li> <li>- If parents want more information, they can type: “YRDSB social worker” in search engine to find a public-facing website</li> </ul> <p>Questions:</p> <p>If a parent wanted support, how would they get it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Parent would contact P or VP – and P or VP would connect for consultation. They would determine best support for student.</li> <li>- Conversation with parents first (they would likely confer with P)... Joyce would determine if appropriate case to take on – and then would contact parent</li> <li>- Details that are confidential are shared parent or child to social worker. If parent spoke to teacher about it – they would refer to P and P would refer to Joyce</li> </ul> <p>Do you feel like you’re meeting the needs by engaging once per week? Are your sessions keeping up with the need? Is there a backlog?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support with students is short-term.</li> <li>- Not providing support the entire school year... short term looks different depending on</li> </ul>

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	<p>what providing... at this point – meeting needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Making use of the community partners (community agencies) who do provide mental health services. Liaison with broader community support.</li> </ul> <p>What specific trends have you observed in the past year compared to years prior?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Impacts after virtual learning and the impacts of the pandemic.</li> <li>– Unique needs at each school.</li> <li>– Mental health – broad range – anxiety to depression to bullying to grief. General trends. Not unique to post pandemic, but perhaps augmented due to the affects of covid and being in-person</li> </ul> <p>What are you seeing at LWPS that is different from other schools?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Not specific to LWPS – every student need is different... (not our school) has a student with a lot of grief and loss due to death of a family member – just so happens that at this school they're experiencing other cases of grief this year.</li> </ul> <p>Are there areas that we could support/promote/educate/focus on for the school without breaching trust or crossing lines?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Something that has come up – at the schools – bullying and students not being nice. Peer conflict. Cyber bullying. Students not being nice during recess. Has been supporting students through this. Perhaps an area to focus on.</li> </ul> <p>IF you have a student or referral and family/student is seeing external help – is there a conflict of interest?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Yes – duplication of service (i.e private therapy or private based agency) she cannot be involved because student is seeking support/help.</li> </ul>
6.	<p><b><u>Upcoming Events &amp; Sub-Committees, Proposals &amp; Purchases:</u></b></p> <p><b>School BBQ – solidified food vendor and deposit has been sent: June 13<sup>th</sup> (530PM to 730PM)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Timing – permit for the gym starts @ 530PM to 730PM</li> <li>– Need minimum of \$1500 in (food) sales, extra would be profit</li> <li>– Think about of wonderful ways to promote and get kids excited</li> <li>– Create sub-committee of people who could help find vendors and cost effective activities.</li> <li>– Ideally come up with a list of activities and procure vendor (see if they're approved) and/or get volunteers. Angela has checked with Art High School</li> <li>– Want to make this budget friendly to support maximum engagement from families</li> <li>– Selling tickets to food (school cash online) – hoping this would cover the food cost</li> <li>– Could be neat to sell tickets at the event for certain activities – try to increase profit? For example, ice cream tickets?</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Subcommittee:</u></b> Angela, Nikki, Georgia, Anne-Marie, Cathy</p> <p>Parents responded well to Literacy Night</p> <p>In support of the SIP – do a similar <b>MATH &amp; NUMERACY</b> night on May the 4<sup>th</sup> 530PM to 730PM</p>

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Have families come in – use gym and library

- Angela has been in contact with STEM minds in Aurora (come in at a cost) – got some grant funding from government – Anne-Marie can speak to them too. Offered 4 workshops \$900; could we just use funding for 2 workshops – may be part of it.
- Scavenger hunt (math related)
- Math related board games – donations – take home boardgames – push community for that
- Can we ask for teacher volunteers?
- **Georgia and Mohammad volunteered to be on sub-committee with Angela and Nikki.**

Looking for possible Parent Engagement Opportunities (Virtual)

- Sending home communication for students to participate in Babysitting Course (offered by Red Cross) on the PA day in June (June 2nd)
  - 15 to 20 students to join the babysitter course ages 11 and up
  - \$75
- YRP Internet Safety Session for parents & Students
  - Were hoping to get this session this year as common issue amongst kids is cyber-bullying. Principal reached out to Superintendent for approval; was advised program is currently on-hold (possibly due to updates). Will advise when program resumes and/or we have “go-ahead” to book for our families

## June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Staff Appreciation

- Mirror what was done last time – great response. **Julie** will lead this event and put out a communication to interested parents.

## Proposals & Purchases:

- \$2300 proposed at our last meeting for lights – Barb looked into it and for the equipment brand, quality and value, this was an excellent deal.

**Cathy put forward motion for spend of \$2352.64 on lighting system; Julie seconds. Motion carries.**

## Direct Donation – have a few months left – would love a great push for April

- Kids have created awesome videos (sent 2 out); Mr. Cerullo will continue
- Incentives: \$1,000 (stickers), \$2,500 (freezies), \$5,000 (extend recess)
- Unofficially @ \$1,810 so we hit the first incentive.
- Lesson learned – start sooner

## Grade 8 trip; going to Blue Mountain (Day trip, not overnight)

- Depart @ 730AM, return approx. 530PM/ 6PM with a pizza dinner in the gym.
- Students did a great job with fund-raising and will be starting frozen yogurt sales soon.
- Fundraising mainly going to cost of grad, with surplus going to trip
- Max portion of the trip cost is bus
- Permission forms went out; deadline to finalize is end of month

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7.	<p><b><u>Open Discussion</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lice case – before pandemic, we did regular lice checks. Cost has increased exponentially; currently \$2.50/student/check</li> <li>- Determine value; lice check clear today, could be lice tomorrow. Need to perhaps provide education to families on what to look for? Tools to help mitigate lice cases?</li> <li>- Yearbook – hoping to start for early next year.</li> </ul>
8.	<p><b><u>Adjourn</u></b></p> <p>Motion put forward to adjourn by: Nikki</p> <p>Motion seconded by: Jessica</p> <p><b>Motion Carried</b></p> <p>Meeting adjourned @ 803PM.</p>

**Action Items:**

Meeting Date	Action Item Description	Owner	Status
Nov 1	Follow-up with Air Ryderz  <b>UPDATE:</b> <i>Reviewed by Andrea and Superintendent. Forgoing event due to liability and waiver forms; too high a risk for school/student participation.</i>	Parvaz/Nikki	CLOSED
Nov 1	Follow-up with with Music Teacher on needed \$ Establish Subcommittee  <b>UPDATE:</b> <i>List provided today; committed \$500 for proper speaker.</i>	Andrea/Michael Georgia	CLOSED
Nov 1	Follow-up with Miko/Samco; can we move forward with this fund-raising idea and when	Julie	
Jan 10	Andrea to bring 5-year trend information in relation to EQAO results to next council meeting	Andrea	
Feb 7	Nikki to send Andrea the School Council Strategy Survey results	Nikki	