

**Sir Wilfrid Laurier Public School  
School Council Meeting Minutes  
For Wednesday November 21, 2018 at 7pm in the Staff Room**

**Attendance:** Elisa Lau, Bruno DesRosiers, Chris Liu, Ron Lynn, Jerrica Lin, Christina Wong, Karen Lau, Paymon Sani, Grace Lee, Houi Awedikian, Amy Wong

**Student Council Co-Presidents:** Bruce Yu, Ibrahim

**Staff:** Deborah Joyce, Penny Lam

Items	Minute Notes
<b>Welcome and Introduction</b>	<p>Student Council representatives, Bruce and Ibrahim (co-Presidents) attended to provide an update. There will be a spirit day coming up on Nov 30<sup>th</sup>. Students are encouraged to wear fall or school colours and can get points for wearing the colours. A few more spirit days are planned before winter break. Ugly sweater day will be the last week of school. Money collected goes to charity and school fund.</p> <p>The Student Council is selling snacks and juice to raise funds during the holiday dance. Student Council members volunteered for specific blocks for this fundraiser and it will be a good opportunity for them to learn about marketing. Student Council meetings are held once a month.</p>
<b>Report from School Admin</b>	<p>Deborah and Penny walked the meeting attendees through the Modern Learning concept and what schools look like now vs. in the past. Penny mentioned that she wants to take great ideas from other schools and spread them. They want to know what's important to teachers. The ultimate goal of kids coming to school should be about learning to learn.</p> <p>They summarized 10 workplace skills to help learners succeed and showed a video. Produced by McKinsey &amp; Company to explain these workplace skills.</p> <p>Some highlights are summarized below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Students need to learn how to learn and become flexible and adaptable. There will be far less structure and predictability in future workplace. Skills required are about the ability to deal with information. The ability to learn independently will be driven by core skills with how students can process information.</li><li>2. There was a statistic quoted about how 60% of all occupations have on average 30% of activities that are automatable. So people will be working more closely with machines in the future. It matters less what students study than the skills they acquire. Important skills not covered by machines include: creativity, being artistic, human skills, and the ability to sell and persuade.</li><li>3. Say yes to every opportunity to learn what you are passionate about. Try new things to discover new talents. Challenge own assumptions about what you're good at or what you can do.</li></ol>

	<p>4. The role of teachers is not to teach content anymore but to be the facilitators of learning. The curriculum is a vehicle we use to teach students how to synthesize, invigorate, build teams.</p> <p>5. They showed a list of the least safe jobs (this is not based on official research but hypothesizing of any role which formulaic) which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Telemarketer</li> <li>● Legal assistant</li> <li>● Taxi driver</li> <li>● Fast food cook</li> </ul> <p>And a list of some of the safest jobs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mental health and social health worker</li> <li>● Occupational therapist</li> <li>● Dietitian and nutritionist</li> <li>● Physician and surgeon</li> <li>● Clergy</li> </ul> <p>6. Showed a classroom photo from the past vs. classroom today. In the past, all students were seated in orderly rows. Today, some students choose to stand, others to sit on carpet – wherever they learn best. Penny found images of modern workplaces to illustrate that the learning environment reflects the workplace of the future.</p>
<b>Treasurer Update</b>	Bruno mentioned that there are not many changes in financials vs. the last report. We are expecting the next influx of funds in January from the next round of lunch orders. Otherwise, we are on target and will have a better picture in January.
<b>Ad Hoc</b>	Ron Lynn introduced himself as the Markham wards 2, 3 and 6 School Trustee Elect. As he gets into the system, he will be working closely with parents to make sure their interests are represented with the School Board.
<b>Anti-Bully Magic Show</b>	Elisa introduced herself and Paymon as co-chair. There were over 150 attendees. Magicians presented 3 different sessions in the gym for catered age levels and nighttime was for parents, which coincided with anti-bullying week. Event was funded by School Council because funds were cut by government.
<b>Review of Constitution and Bylaw</b>	This was circulated after the last meeting. It didn't have to be updated during this meeting but it should be reviewed by the Council for feedback. There have not been any changes to the constitution. Deborah suggested it could be a good subcommittee topic.
<b>Review of Principal Profile</b>	School Council to review for changes. Deadline is December 21 <sup>st</sup> .

<b>Fun Fair Committee and Planning</b>	<p>Looking for volunteers and new ideas for Fun Fair. Penny asked SC presidents to get opinions from students. Deborah asked Council to think about direction for this year in terms of charging for tickets to help cover some of the costs as we did last year. June 13<sup>th</sup> date set with no rain date. One of the concerns has been whether or not we are catering to the right audience but the Student Council Co-Presidents agreed that students of all grades still enjoy the Fun Fair and the bouncy castles.</p>
<b>Proposed Events</b>	<p>It could be one or two items and they would be funded with Council funds.</p> <p>1. <b>Wind Turbine</b> – part of renewable energy – want to introduce STEAM to school because math isn’t usually included. Groups of 4 students per team will be shown what to build. Project would be to design their own propeller. One teacher per 5 teams. Grades 5 and 6 only. \$20 per team to pay for material. College students are hired as part of the event. Duration of program is 4 hours. Wind Turbine project is on YouTube in 2012 for reference and done in collaboration with YRDSB and Professional Engineers of Ontario Chapter. GE Canada, Sheridan Schools, etc. can be sponsors.</p> <p>2. <b>Hot chocolate</b> – thinking of 2 separate days. Student Council Co-Presidents say that it’s super popular. They sell hot chocolate and give students who volunteer a free hot chocolate. They use this fundraising initiative to get fans for the classrooms. Need at least 2 fans per class because it’s too hot when the weather warms up.</p> <p>One parent made a suggestion about inviting students back to record a video that can be shared online among students. They need to have a mentor to have more confidence in themselves. Test bank is a good idea to be able to drill on something or more resources – not necessarily just rehearsing for tests but just to practice. Penny suggested that we re-table discussion about memorizing past tests because it goes against the modern learning. But the parent who raised this is suggesting that we get more resources and that it’s not specifically about the tests. Deborah suggested we table “assessments and how teachers assess” to next meeting. The point of the test bank is not to memorize the answers but it’s like having notes but better because they are written by a teacher.</p> <p>3. <b>Holiday related baked goods</b> – PPM150 prohibited this in the past. Food allergies and special diets. Jerrica mentioned “Letter of Thanks” initiative in the past. Students write a letter of thanks and have a makeshift box for kids to drop the letters. A few days before the holidays, they take them out and deliver them. Positive holiday spirit project. High school students are loving the idea and asking Jerrica if she can go and teach them how to run them. Whoever is interested can speak with Jerrica. This could be for all teachers instead of gifts. Would not want to focus this on students unless all students were to received a letter so that it does not become a “popularity” contest, leaving students with no letters being upset.</p> <p>4. <b>Helping another school</b> – Idea from Jerrica – Victoria Square is a new school and there are a lot of things that they need. Deborah said they know the principal there</p>

	<p>well and because it's a new school, they will have sufficient budgets. Instead we should be targeting schools of lower socio-economic status.</p> <p>Penny mentioned she came from a Performance Plus school – family plus grandparents living under the same roof with under \$50K HH income – English not first language – single income, mental health challenges. Staff pulls together to get winter boots and families cook for the school. Those types of schools would be good candidates for support.</p> <p><b>5. Multi-cultural activities</b> – Black history month – last year was the Lunar Celebration. Haven't done Black history month – Sean Booth (2 years ago) – he now goes to universities across Canada and the US. Elisa asked if he would be willing to come back but only available in Feb for 2 dates (2019). Elisa asked Christina if SJAM would be interested to share cost. Could ask students to bring \$1 or \$2 to help with the funding. Only issue for SJAM is financial. Sean Booth is a hip hop artist and teaches history through rapping. Penny asked if he can come in alternate months because he may have more availability and be willing to come at a lower cost. It would have to be 2 presentations because not all students could fit in the gym. Christina said there is a list of pre-activities as a teacher's guide from him online. Elisa said she will share the link. 1 presentation is \$2K for one hour.</p>
<b>Open Forum</b>	<p>Bruno asked what school is doing for the holidays. Deborah answered that the school is participating in Holiday Heroes with a drive for new toys and clothing donations. This started yesterday and is continuous until the holidays.</p> <p>One parent mentioned there is a forum to submit feedback for Ontario curriculum. Elisa asked if she can send information to circulate. School board put it on the YRDSB website and School Council and pull the link and put it into email blast to share with parents. Dec 15<sup>th</sup> deadline.</p>