

## Windham Ridge Public School January 5, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Present: Anne-Marie Brouillet, Liz Novatsidis, Anna Landry, Abigail Eptein, Jen Bishop, Corrie McBain, Jason Snaggs, Cindy Malapitan, Zoe Zhu, Starr Mills, Mari Dunstan, , Leon Barton, Julie Daniele, Steve Jeffrey

Regrets: Rose Hatzissauvas, Karen Sorbara, Carrie Hoffelner

Item	Description	Action/Vote Results
1.	<b>Welcome</b>	
2.	<p><b>Teachers Report: Anne Marie</b></p> <p>Gail Davie would like \$250 for 500 extra pieces for Knex Pieces would be used for Bridge Building Club (Future Engineers Club) and the Structure Unit for grade 3s.</p> <p>Straight pieces and connectors are needed and would be added to the existing collection</p> <p>In the February newsletter we can ask parents for extra pieces and also ask parents for certain games: i.e., connect 4, othello, cards, and other quick games that can be played in 1 recess</p>	<p>Vote taken 10 for the \$250</p> <p>Steve to put request on eBay for additional pieces</p> <p>Julie will submit this request to Rose/Karen</p>
3.	<p><b>Treasurer's Report Cindy</b></p> <p>See attached report</p>	
4.	<p>\$200 for hot chocolate, marshmallows and cups for Winter Carnival in February. Corrie will be making hot chocolate</p>	<p>Vote taken 8 yes for the \$200</p>
5.	<p><b>Wedo Lego Corrie</b></p> <p>for ages 7-11, computer programming Lego software Order a class set of 12, 2 students per kit, 2 teachers have expressed interest, Stopnicki and Dagher \$2440 total amount, leads into mindstorms, includes site license</p>	<p>Vote taken 10 yes for \$2440</p>

<p>6.</p>	<p><b>Committee Update</b></p> <p><b>Jen</b></p> <p><u>Education Committee</u> – Corrie</p> <p>PRO Grant Contacted Wendy Craig – Prevnet – she will try to find us someone in our area to do a workshop on bullying for both parents and students</p> <p>Toronto Listening Centre – Jason Are we interested in having another free workshop on listening skills for parents to help their kids, Thursday nights would be best</p> <p><u>Fundraising</u></p> <p>Pizza, subs, Kids Kitchen, QSP, Movie nights – it was suggested in the past that grade 8s could use for a fundraiser</p> <p><u>Communications</u></p> <p>Newsletter no content, perhaps change to bi-monthly, 1 page newsletter</p> <p>Grade 9 information night – January 18th representatives needed</p> <p><u>Extra-Curricular</u></p> <p>You’re the Chef, Elizabeth Marchant is going to run it again – Mari will help Girls on the Run, Karate Kids</p> <p>Lego Mindstorms to start soon, perhaps on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:15-7:45 for Grades 4-8</p> <p>What is there for Grade 1 students? One suggestion, a parent run Lego club- at lunch</p>	<p>Corrie will make contact again</p> <p>Jason would call and find out possible dates</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p><b>Discussion and Planning for 2011</b></p> <p><b>Jen</b></p> <p><u>Anna’s wish list</u></p> <p>Choir – choral risers, more netbooks, \$400 per book fully imaged Maya Stopnicki, uses DSs in classes, some extra DSs Anna is to put together a wish list for the next meeting</p> <p>Attached Jason’s email to the minutes</p>	

<p>8.</p>	<p><b>New Business</b></p> <p>Spring photos – May 3rd</p> <p><u>Crossing Guard</u> <span style="float: right;">Christy</span></p> <p>WRPS has been approved for a crossing guard with the help of Greg Beros Got the board to change the location, when the better weather comes, lines will be painted on the road and signage will go up</p> <p>Supposed to be a staff 15 minutes before and rarely happens, Would like to see more staff supervision, increase to 20 minutes supervision before school, invite Police Officer Sgt Lemon for a safety audit.</p> <p>Anna tried to get a crossing guard last year but was declined and states that Leon is outside every morning at 8:20 as well as other teachers. Some parents have agreed with this comment. Anna says that the collective agreement limits teacher supervision times</p> <p><u>Playground Update</u> <span style="float: right;">Julie/Mari</span></p> <p>The bench with donor names at the playground needs repair. The plexiglass is coming off and needs to be fixed. To avoid future ongoing costs, they have suggested a plaque on the wall in the school. The bench with the names on it will remain on the bench and the plaque will be a permanent fixture in the school should something happen to the names on the benches.</p> <p><u>Quest Update</u> <span style="float: right;">Corrie</span></p> <p>Speaker: Don Tapscott Kids should have access to the learning trend of their time which is technology Technology has increased IQ as well as graduation rates</p> <p>Nicholas Car – The Shallows – book suggested by Anne-Marie regarding the anxiety and fear that people face with regards to technology</p>	<p>Anna has agreed to get Sgt Lemon to do a safety audit</p> <p>Julie is to talk to Deb regarding the plaque supplier and Mari will call for the cost of engraving 60-75 names on a rock We will report back at the next meeting</p>
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## Jason's Comments from the Quest Conference

### Technologies in Learning

This workshop gave an insightful look into how commercially available computer games like Nintendo Wii and DSi was being used to enhance learning including literacy, numeracy, language, science and other key areas of the curriculum and to develop social interaction with children in Scottish Schools. Scotland currently leads the world in the use of game consoles in school. Case Studies was presented of schools Scotland using games for individual and group learning like:

- Dr. Kawashima's Brain Training - DS
- Big Brain Academy - DS
- Scrabble - DS
- Nintendogs - DS
- Sony Eye Pet
- Guitar Hero,
- Professor Layton - DS
- Hotel Dusk: Room 214. - DS
- 100 Classic Books Collection - DS

There was also a focus on how to get children from 3-18 years to design their own computer games/robotics in order to help young people become creators and not just consumers of content using very cool websites:

- Scratch developed by MIT which can also be used with Lego Robotics : <http://scratch.mit.edu/>
- Sandbox
- Kodu by Microsoft: <http://www.planetkodu.com/>

A key component to this program was educating teachers about the games with a focus on:

- Inappropriate games e.g. Violence, Bullying, etc.
- Culture
- Professional development
- Platform limitations
- Motivation
- Training

The costs of the games for DSi and Nintendo Wii is not prohibitive today if bought online. Some Scottish Schools lend the Games out of the Library for group and individual learning in the class or to take home to do projects. Eg. Professor Layton, where students have to develop a presentation on a story presented in the game.

	<p data-bbox="186 199 1209 336">Anna Past 3 years WRPS has had Artists in Residence working with students Artist will come in and integrated art into math and literacy with teachers for 24 days this year with intermediate students</p> <p data-bbox="186 378 1153 556">Anna Rainbow Training We are offering teachers this training which helps children deal with a loss, i.e., death or divorce Program will be starting in early February</p> <p data-bbox="186 598 1136 672">Anna Circle of Friends Training This program is for dealing with students with anxiety related issues</p> <p data-bbox="186 703 430 745">Meeting adjourned</p>	
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