

**Windham Ridge Parent Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
November 6, 2012**

Regrets: Jacqueline Faingold, Karen Sorbara

Windham Ridge has a new Superintendent, Mr. Clayton LaTouche. Mr. LaTouche was a former principal in Newmarket.

ACTION ITEM: Liz to invite Clayton to WRPS council meeting

Boundary Changes

There has been a school boundary change in our area, which does not affect families at WRPS.

School Climate Survey

Survey results were communicated to council this past June.

Preferred communication for parents is email, sent out in timely manner.

Results will be used this year:

- In conjunction with our equity goals
- To focus on extra help for students
- For staff and office
- 76 families completed survey
- 76% find the school welcoming
- 21% find the school unwelcoming
- 83% of respondents believe we are a good school
- 90% believe diversity is respected in our school
- 54% are aware of Board's Equity policy

School Bullying Update

- WRPS currently is not having issues
- Teach students through VIP Police Program (grades 3, 6, 7, 8)
- York Region survey suggest kids would like anonymous reporting
- Teachers proactively monitor and access daily

Overnight Field Trips

- Procedure 642.2 is complete and in place with no further comment per Superintendent Alan Hoyle
- WRPS Council needs to collectively provide input on Overnight Trip communication to parents and students regarding:
 - Behavior
 - Who will participate
 - Cell phone and camera usage etc.

ACTION ITEM: Council members to provide Starr with written input on or before Tues. Nov. 20th. Starr will consolidate and forward to Veronique.

Constitution Update

- Voted to add provision for number of council members

When 2 or more people submit nomination forms above the 10, we will go to an election. If we receive 11, the 1 will be accepted for that term only.

- Vote passed unanimously, with 8 in favour

You're the Chef

- Corrie McBain requested \$800.00
- Vote passed unanimously, with 8 in favour

QSP Update

Our program ended very successfully with \$21,500 in sales this year.

Lice Checks

- Council reviewed the \$1800.00 expense per school year (3 lice checks)
- It was put forward that the expense is out of line with the return
- After debate, council voted to cancel lice checks
- Vote passed with 7 members for, and 1 against
- There is no company contract

ACTION ITEM:

School Administration will notify parents of lice concerns as needed and cancel any currently scheduled checks.

School Council Forum Update

Information provided:

[Parent Engagement Toolkit](http://www.ontariodirectors.ca/Parent_Engagement/Parent_Engagement.html)

http://www.ontariodirectors.ca/Parent_Engagement/Parent_Engagement.html

[Parent Engagement \(Ministry\)](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/getinvolved.html)

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/getinvolved.html>

[School Council Code of Ethics](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/pdfs/w/council/YRDSB-SCCodeofEthics-2012.pdf)

<http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/pdfs/w/council/YRDSB-SCCodeofEthics-2012.pdf>

[School Council Policy](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/pdfs/p&p/a/policy/262.pdf)

<http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/pdfs/p&p/a/policy/262.pdf>

[School Council Communications Protocol](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/pdfs/w/council/SchoolCouncilsCommunicationProtocol.pdf)

<http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/pdfs/w/council/SchoolCouncilsCommunicationProtocol.pdf>

[Ministry of Education – School Council: Guide for Members](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/council/council02.pdf)

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Homework Policy

Reviewed by all members with no comment

****COMMITTEE UPDATES****

Finance

Council discussed the idea of a consolidated budget list – all agreed

ACTION ITEM: All committee chairs to provide financial wish list forwarded to Liz and Starr before next council meeting

Volunteer Coordination

- Mari has created a working calendar
- Working well

Education

- Amir is a new member to our council
- Pro grant of \$1000.00 – event will be planned for this year
- Will apply for next years grant Jan/Feb 2013

ACTION ITEM: Amir to provide council with top 3 ideas for discussion and decision at Dec. council meeting

Fundraising

- Movie Night event is being considered
- Skate Party – date of Sat. Dec. 29th to be tentatively booked by Adrienne
- Dance-a-thon – Mardi Gras/Masquerade theme in February
 - Thurs. before PA a possibility

Student Programs

- Mad Science – rollover from last year
- Lego Club – roll over from last year
- Grade 3 Lego – Corrie McBain
- You're the Chef – Corrie McBain
- Girls on the Run – rollover program from last year but needs all new volunteers
- Rocks and Rings – Grades 4-5-6, \$175.00 per day, pending council approval

New Ideas to consider:

- Photography club
- Book club
- English reading club
- Homework club
- Chess club
- Knitting club

ACTION ITEM:

Robotics – Anne needs to get up and running

Lego Mind Storm – Anne needs to get up and running

Anne – “Lego Mindstorm and Kinex Bridgebuilding are usually centered around competitions. In the past we have had a teacher running these programs. I'm not sure what the status is at this time but I will be looking for volunteers in January as these are programs that in the past have run in the late winter/spring.”

Playground Trees

- Oakhill Garden will be dropping by school to make recommendation to Steve
- Likely larger trees for sustainability
- Will plant, deliver and take away old trees

ACTION ITEM: council may need to vote electronically to have trees planted in a timely manner – STEVE to advise

Citizenship Committee

- No update presented

NEXT MEETING: Tues. Dec. 4th, 2012

ACTION ITEM: Holiday treats (bring your favorite) and coffee