

**Wilson Middle School Council Meeting minutes
November 13, 2024**



Attendance:

Andrea Andreachuk (School Board Trustee), Jeni Halowski (Principal), Taylor Keith (Vice Principal)
Cynthia Young, Jessica Hodgson, Linda McKeith, Melissa Bootsman, Phi Jang, Samantha Hawthorne,
Shane Mann, Tasha Olsen

Call to order: November 13, 2024 @ 6:36 pm

1. Errors/Omissions of Previous Minutes – none noted
2. Adoption of Minutes – Jessica / Samantha seconded
3. Additions to Agenda
 - Phi asked for a discussion regarding lunch kits - added under 5a
 - remove item 9
4. Adoption of Agenda - Shane / Jessica seconded
5. Business Arising from the Minutes
 - 5a) Lunch Kits
 - Students are currently eating lunch in grade specific assigned areas, and are then playing inside / outside. They are not allowed back to their lockers to put their lunch kits away. It was asked why are students not allowed to put lunch kits away
 - Jeni indicated they moved to this model, as students were not leaving the classrooms / halls. As such this resulted in no breaks for the staff to eat lunch. They tried having kids put lunch kits away but it would take up to 15 minutes for students to do this and go back to assigned areas.
 - Taylor noted that students are able to leave their lunch kits in an assigned area. There is staff in those areas who can see the lunch kits and ensure there is no theft
 - Jeni and Taylor noted that as the weather changes, they will monitor the situation and changes will be made as needed.
6. Trustee Report – provided by Andrea Andreachuk
 - Introduction provided by Andrea
 - Westside school Boundaries have been updated. Spanish program will be moving to West Coulee station Elementary School in the 2025/2026 year. Busing will be provided to students going to the Spanish program. With the new boundaries, Mike Mountain Horse school population will reduce, and some of the portables will be removed. These portables have come to the end of their life cycle. Students in grade 4, can choose to stay at their school for grade 5, or move to the new boundary school
 - Galbraith Elementary School is on the Capital Plan. They are at the stage of having an architect involvement
 - New report card style is being piloted for grade 1 students.

- The Alberta Government is requesting testing be done for grade 1 students. The Board is monitoring the amount of time required for all the testing
- In response to declining kindergarten registration, there is a pilot at Nicholas Sheran and Senator Buchanan to address the needs of families.
- On November 13 there is a Digital Wellness presentation occurring. Anticipate 30-50 people attending the presentation.
- There has been a Joint City and School Board Committee. The School Board has been notified that the city wishes to end this committee. The reasoning is unknown
- A West Lethbridge Study was done. It was noted that the North and West side of the city has room to grow, while the South side of the city has reached the limits of the coulees. As such the board is looking at the possibility of a new elementary or high school on the Westside.
- LCI has been moved up in the Capital Plan for improvements. It is noted that LCI is not wheelchair accessible and is a significant limitation.

7. Division School Council Report – Tasha was not present. Cynthia provided the update

- Confirmed that Learning Session is by calendar year, and not academic year
- Agreed to ASC membership
- \$500 grant money has been deposited
- Town Hall topics were discussed
- Discussed the need for School Society to have insurance. The cost is approximately \$569 for the year.

8. Administrative Reports

Jeni (Principal)

1. AEAR – 2023/ 2024 Annual Education Results Report is available.

<https://wms.lethsd.ab.ca/about/assurance-results-report>

Success:

- Improvement in student learning engagement;
- Above provincial average in Access to Supports and Services;
- Improvement in parental involvement.

Areas for growth:

- Decline in PAT (provincial assessment test) results. Continue to be below provincial average in excellence. Jeni noted that if student is excused / does not do the PAT, it is scored as a zero, which impacts the overall results.
- Citizenship continues to be concern. Jeni noted, that citizenship has improved in 2024/2025 year with the no cell phone policy. It is noted that students are talking with each other and participating in activities.
- Quality of education is a concern, especially from teacher's perspective.

2. Social Media and The Anxious Generation

- Last week (Nov 4-10) there was some stuff that occurred on Snapchat. There has been discussion with parent / students. Jeni noted that some parents are not aware of their child social media involvement.
- The staff are reading the book "The Anxious Generation". This book discusses how society has instilled stranger danger in kids but this has not extended to the virtual world. When allowing access to social media / online games, we are expanding the number of people our children are exposed to.

Kurt (Vice Principal)

1. Diversity & Positive Spaces Update

- Diwali (Oct 29-Nov 3): Diwali means "row of lights" and is the Hindu New Year. It symbolizes the spiritual victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance. The celebrations generally last five or six days.
- Nove 15, 2024 is Rock your Mocs. If students do not have moccasins they are asked to wear teal.

2. Inclusive Ed

- Teachers have worked hard the past couple of months completing ISPs, BSPs, Medical Support Plans, and EAL (English as an additional language) Benchmarks

3. Fine Arts

- Concerts and Performances:
 - Nov 1 - Pep Band @ Hurricanes Game – great evening
 - Nov 18 - Band students going to the symphony
 - Nov 23 - Pronghorns Game
- Collage of the Arts – Beauty and the Beast
 - Dec 16-19. There will be 3 shows / day.
 - Tickets will go on sale on SchoolCash Online on November 25. Please watch for updated information.
 - Students will be notified which performances they will be a part of, so be sure to connect with your child to ensure you are going to a show they are performing in.

Taylor (Vice Principal)

1. Athletics

- Volleyball has finished
 - The boys team made it to the City Championship.
- Basketball ID camps will run the week of November 18-22
- The division has come out with a new extracurricular manual for students, parents, and spectators. It will bring some minor changes to our athletic program. Most notably, coaches and student athletes will need to complete participation modules on various topics (bullying, social media, mental health, substance use) prior to playing on a sports team. Our basketball teams will be piloting one module prior to the season. There is also a fine arts extracurricular manual in the feedback stages.
- Our Wolverine Classic preseason tournament will be November 29/30. Will be asking for some volunteers closer too.

2. PowerSchool/Term 2

- Term 1 ends November 29th.
- PowerSchool will be down briefly on Dec 9th in the morning, but report cards will be shortly after (afternoon of 9th)
- Term 2A begins Dec 2. Students will have a new exploratory and new option, unless they are in band then their option will remain the same.

3. Fundraiser

- Our fundraiser went okay. We have raised around \$7000. This is down considerably from last year (\$15,000). I think that some people still had cards from last year so it was difficult for

them to sell them again. I would love to do a smaller one in the spring to bring a bit more money. Possibly like a Kernels, Cuppers, or something like that. Open to suggestions 😊

- December 3, 2024 will be Panago North fundraiser. On that day, a portion of all sales will go to the school.

Upcoming Dates

November

29: Term 1 Ends

29/30: Wolverine Classic Preseason Tournament

December

2: Term 2A Begins

12: Winter Concert

16 – 19: Beauty and the Beast Production

18: Student vs Staff Hockey Game

20: Grade 7 Skating

Grade 6 Agora Market

December 21, 2024 – January 5, 2025: Christmas Holidays

Meeting Adjourned @ 8:07 pm

Wilson Parent Advisory Council Society Meeting Minutes

November 13, 2024 – started after School Council meeting @ 8:07 pm

1. Errors/Omissions of Previous minutes – none noted

2. Adoption of Minutes – Samantah / Jessica seconded

3. Additions to agenda – none noted

4. Adoption of agenda – Shane / Linda seconded

5. Business arising from the minutes

- SoundKreations (<https://www.soundkreations.com/>) will be attending the school Nov 18-22, 2024. The school will provide receipt for reimbursement by the Advisory Council.

- Motion: for the Advisory Council to purchase insurance within \$600 range from Marsh Insurance - made by Linda / Samantha Seconded

- Motion: To do a 50/50 draw during the Beaty & Beast show (from November 16, 2024 to November 18, 2024) with 1 draw occurring at the end of the shows – made by Jessica / Samantha seconded

- Motion: To do a 50/50 draw at the December 5, 2024 Band Concert – made by Shane / Linda seconded.

6. Treasurers Report

- Balance in each account:

Chequing account: \$602.11;

Gaming account: \$8,776.82;

50/50 account: \$3,019.09.

- Shane was previously advised by AGLC that a gaming account and a 50/50 account was required.

Recently AGLC has contacted Shane and advised that there should only be 1 gaming. The accounts and records will need to consolidated. The consolidation of the Gaming and 50/50 account will be started.

7. New Business

- At next meeting discuss what to do with the \$500 grant money.

Meeting adjourned: @ 8:19 pm