

Willingdon Governing Board

Meeting Minutes

May 28, 2020

Regrets: Commissioner Lalla and Gabriel Latino

I. Principal's Remarks/Welcome

II. Approval of the agenda

Cynthia Quarrie moved. Matt Follett seconded.

III. Approval of minutes from January 30, 2020

Minutes missing due to Covid 19. Tabled.

IV. Business Arising

a. Parents' Green Committee

Nothing to report at this time.

V. New Business

a. Willingdon's COVID response and plans moving forward

Update from the admin: So much to report. Many phases since the shutdown.

1st two weeks' directive was that students were on a "break"

2nd directive was teachers should start contacting students and sending packages from the ministry. Willingdon began to check in with all the students and to look to support vulnerable families and children. H&S had a fundraiser to help families as some were asking for support. The school personally delivered groceries to many families. Thanks was given to everyone who donated. The fundraiser raised 8000 dollars in the matter of a week. The school also began collecting feedback on which students hadn't been contacted. Staff went to knock on doors to check in in person where necessary.

Next two weeks were told school would restart.

A survey was sent out by the school board. Willingdon already had almost everyone on the portal so only had to call about 60 families to complete the survey. 15% said

they would return meaning 21 students at senior campus and 80 at junior. Then the school put together a plan for the reopening. Then this plan was canceled.

The past 2 weeks the teachers have been doing so much professional development. Learning all the technological platforms, trying to getting students to open their own email etc. The teachers have been busy and resilient. In 2 weeks they've learned years of professional development. Monday May 25th, classroom online classes began. Struggling students are being reviewed and supported to be able to pass at the end of the year. Non homeroom teachers are providing this extra support.

September is up in the air. It will be impossible to fit everyone with the 15 per room rule. No one knows how this will be organized. Enrollment is at 620 students. Increase of 50 from present numbers. 6 Kindergartens for next year.

Staff meetings are happening every week on zoom. All 64 of the staff!

b. Budget 2020/2021 approval

Carmen Nicolas Presented:

Not all the funds have been released yet by the ministry, so this is just the 1st round. Special funds have not been assigned yet. This is just the operational funds with the per ca pita calculations. This is already based on last year's student numbers. Sep 30th 2020 this will be updated.

No rollovers this year. All leftover funds will be re centralized at the school board and re distributed.

Carmen Nicolas reviewed the numbers and explained the different budgets. Increase in cost of cleaning products has been covered by the schoolboard.

Technology budget is still unknown at this point.

School fees are going down as teachers move away from workbooks, which they find are not effective.

Lunch fees might change slightly as number of students change. Most of that budget pays the lunch supervisors and for emergency food for students who have forgotten their lunch.

Carmen Nicolas commented as an aside that parents will be reimbursed for lunch fees that weren't used this year due to Covid-19 measures; Lunch monitors were paid despite the shut down. School board and ministry still discussing how this short fall will be addressed.

Special funds will be distributed at the start of the school year.

Kathleen Usher moved/Mark Ellinger seconded the approval of the initial budget for 2020/2021

c. Approval of Financial Statements

Matt Follett moved and Lara B seconded the donation of the GB budget to student scholarships.

d. Approval of Calendar 2020-2021

Lara Belinski moved and Kathleen seconded the approval of the Calendar for 2020-2021

e. Approval of School Fees for 2020-2021

Nick Batzios moved and Cynthia Quarrie seconded the approval of the School Fees for 2020-2021 with potential modifications as discussed at the meeting.

f. EDP Request to Exist

Be it resolved that the The Governing Board of Willingdon School reaffirms its support for the Willingdon Extended Day Program as the provider of before and after school childcare services, extra-curricular programming, PED days, and March Break programming at Willingdon School.

The Governing Board approves the use of Willingdon School premises for, and authorizes the Willingdon Extended Day Program to continue organizing, before and after school childcare services, extra-curricular, PED day and March break activities for our students on such premises for the 2020-2021 academic school year without interruption, renewable in subsequent years at the option of the Governing Board.

Use of the following rooms are requested: Jr campus EDP office space and EDP Kindergarten classroom. The Gymnasium, Mini Gym, Royal and Draper lunchrooms for before and after school. For use at lunch: the Library and EDP kindergarten room for piano & Violin, and 1-3 classrooms for Chess. Additionally, for afterschool use only: the Library for homework supervision, the School Yard as of 4:00pm, and for afterschool EC courses: the Music room (#26) for Drama, the teacher's lounge and one additional classroom. The senior campus EDP office and other classrooms or areas for lunch courses with advance permission of the school Administration. We understand that while the Covid -19 pandemic continues these rooms might not all be available.

Lara Belinski moved and Cynthia Quarrie seconded the approval of the Request for confirmation of status.

g. Safe School Action Plan

Noted that main changes from the previous year was the addition of the existence of the 2 campuses and the differences in the senior campus space.

Mark Bellinger moved and Monique Imbeau seconded the approval of the Safe School Action Plan for 2020/2021

h. Annual Report 2019-2020

Kathleen Usher moved and Cynthia Quarrie seconded the approval of the Annual Report 2019-2020 with minor modifications to add the approval of the budget today.

VI. Question period

No questions were presented for Governing Board

VII. Reports

a. Principal

End of year activities are underway: Class lists and report cards as well as planning for next year. Steve is moving to Royal Vale. A new Vice Principal will be joining the junior campus.

b. Vice-Principal Junior Campus

Mr. Steve will be moving on to Royal Vale. Currently there is lots of planning. Supporting teachers and families with technology.

c. Vice-Principal Senior Campus

A year ago we had just learned we had approval for the senior campus. It's been a phenomenal year. Thank you to the principal and all the teachers who have worked so hard. Lots of work with the grad committee. There will be a virtual zoom ceremony on June 22nd.

June 23-26 drive through pick up/photo shoot for the graduation. The students can enter the building to pick up their diplomas and various awards and be safely/socially distanced cheered by the administration and the staff.

d. Home and School

Not present to give report. Carmen reported they elected Margo and Karen Moore as the new co chairs.

e. Teachers/MTA

Kathleen Usher: pressuring the minister to clarify directives. Peter Sutherland working hard to protect teachers and create a safe working environment, despite many of the changing directives from the ministry.

Negotiations are ongoing with the CAQ.

Nick Batzios reported that the year in music was successful. Lots of new opportunities and experiences and instruments. The shut down has limited some of that, but the kids for kids choir is still working on graduation.

Monique Imbeau: Teachers are trying very hard and trying to keep up with all the new media and technology. 3 staff members are leaving. Monique gave tribute to them as pioneers and recognized the loss this will represent for Willingdon.

Lara Belinski added that she's been trying to help around the edges and feeling like it's hard not being at the school. This is a really hard time, but the staff has been pulling together and working as a team through the difficulty of translating their expertise into this new paradigm.

Monique Imbeau recognized the great leaders at Willingdon.

f. EDP

In the process of writing cheques to refund the EDP courses that were not able to take place.

Registration will take place in August given the uncertainty of so many things right now.

This year's donation will have to be limited until everything has been figured out for next year. Tanya hopes that this can be increased next year.

g. PAC

No one from PAC was in attendance to give a report

h. EMSB Parents' Committee Representative

Mark Ellinger reported weighing into some of the email chains.

Aurora Flewwelling-Skup reported a lack of elementary school representation at the meetings.

Lucas Reindler supported the impression that the email chain had become a bit combative.

i. School Commissioner

Mr. Lala was unable to attend.

VIII. Varia

IX. Adjournment

Mark Ellinger moved to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted by Aurora Flewwelling-Skup



Principal's signature



Chairperson's signature