

WILLOW PARK SCHOOL SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES



Regular Meeting

Date: Tuesday December 9, 2025

Time: 6:01 pm

Chair: Melissa Stead

Minutes: Renee Klapstein

Location: Willow Park School Staffroom

In Attendance

Melissa Stead (President), Renee Klapstein (Secretary), Greg Luchak (Principal), Victoria Cook (Treasurer), Kate Clifford (Teacher), Lynette Goodwin, Tiffany Solila, Jillian Walker (Vice President), Angie Charpentier, Tasha Halldorson, Tanya Dukeshire (Assistant Principal), Scott McPherson, Robin MacDonald

Review & Adoption of Minutes

The September minutes were reviewed, motioned as accepted by Victoria, 2nd by Jillian

Reports

Administration Report: Greg Luchak (principal)

- Guest Scott McPherson (Lifetouch) – has desk calendars to offer, works with schools in Alberta (80% of schools in AB).
 - o Issues with current photography company (Smart Photography)?
 - Order confusions with split households. Lifetouch: photo companies have to be careful with sharing access codes to get online due to potential legal issues. They have to do due diligence, perhaps can create two sets of proofs.
 - Issues from office point of view
 - o Lifetouch Info: can offer price comparison, have dropped prices, lower by 20-25%, free 8x10 class photos to all students, free shutterfly book with every order, free coupons to the parents who volunteer on photo day, free coupons for families that the staff feel would benefit from help with cost of photos, free photo for teachers, hands out previews for parents, been in business for 80 years, local office in Edmonton, product produced in Winnipeg, owned by Shutterfly (American company)
- January 14th: Willow Park is hosting an in-person trustee visit

- Sledding has started, sleds are brought out at the start of recess, kids can bring their own sleds and school has bought a lot more
- Willow Wear Clothing order has come in and it looks great
- Thank you for the support from parents before, during, and after the strike. Staff felt appreciated and special.
- Cold Weather: try to get the kids outside as much as possible, WP doesn't have a hard number they have to follow, staff goes outside to get an idea of the actual conditions before deciding on indoor recess, -25 is the rough idea, staff out on supervision can decide to bring kids inside if weather is not good.
- Feedback on Parent Teacher Interviews: online booking system went over well with parents
- Point of Sale System (tapping payment system) can be borrowed from division office for future events
- Alberta Classroom Insight Portal Survey (ACIP): talking about classroom complexities and violence & aggression. The survey was tough and a lot of work.
- Google Gemini Pro (AI tool): it's a powerful tool, used it on the Grade 6 PAT Analysis and it generated very good information in a short amount of time.

Tanya Dukeshire (Assistant Principal)

- Staffing Update: Kayla is coming back from Mat Leave in Grade 6 so we need to say goodbye to Hayden Zimmer, (Mrs. Purcell) new EA was able to be hired thanks to head office
- Winter Wonderland Activity Night: front doors open at 5pm, clean up starts at 6:45pm, Mr. Szucs has been working hard to get kids ready for their songs
- Santa's Helpers: two full boxes of donations have been received already
- Fundraiser among staff: pay \$\$ to wear a hat or sweatpants, money will go to Santa's Helpers
- Christmas Market: runs Dec 16th, 17th, 18th. Donations stop Dec 16th – NO TOYS, just gifts for parents. Does anyone have empty boxes or wrapping paper to donate?
- ISSP Guide (newsletter): added to meeting minutes, program is supposed to be coming to an end but schools are trying to present information to convince government to continue the program.
- Muffins & smoothies from Victoria are a huge hit with the kids at breakfast club

Teacher Report (Kate Clifford)

- Halloween Parade – lots of fun for kids
- Remembrance Day – Cst Joe Broccolo and MS Ketchum in attendance, Master Corporal Ron Evans from military visited Gr 4-6 classes in the afternoon as well
- Basketball update: first game on Dec 10th (West Haven)
 - o Girls – 9 girls playing, games have started (gr 5/6)
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- 12 Days of Christmas
- Frozen Field trip, Grade 3-6
- Swimming, Grade 6

- Grade 3 kids are designing Ninja obstacles, Elemental Ninja will make some of them, and then kids will be able to go and use it
- Michael Swampy: Indigenous lead at head office helps incorporate indigenous knowledge, WP will try and have him out more often
- Floor hockey can happen in the winter but we need more coaches.

BGRS: Angie Chapentier

- Willow Park 2027, consultation process of closure and rezoning will begin soon, Blackstone & Woodbend are two locations that are possible locations for a new school
- Blackgold enrollment is down a bit, 0.73%, which means they need to look at utilization rates for schools
- FSL: important to have them in schools, Blackgold will likely continue funding to keep FSL workers in schools,
- MLA Lundy – does not have children so when trustees talk to our MLA, they use real stories from the schools.
- Jordan Principal grant is no longer but still trying to persuade the government to resume the grant
- 2025-2029 board: 4 new trustees
- Will look at the school year calendar for 2027-2028 and will look for feedback
- Classroom Complexity and Aggression Task Force highlighted seven recommendations
 - o We need to define complexity and pay close attention to it
- Hot topic: class size and complexity data
- Designated lots of time to meet with MLAs over the next year
- Annual Education Results Report: early intervention benefits, Blackgold dropout rates are less than Alberta average (so outreach is really benefitting students),
- Parent Engagement: board wants to help to improve parent engagement
- Education Minister: Bill 6 has been approved - to make literacy and numeracy screeners to be mandatory in K-3,
- Blackgold does not get funded fully for 4th and 5th year high school for kids with complex needs, advocacy is being done to improve this

Events/Activities:

Old Business

New Business

Meeting Adjourned at 7:31pm – all in favour

Next Meeting

February 3, 2025 March 17, 2025 May 5, 2025