

**Windsong Heights School
School Council AGM
September 25, 2024 at 6pm**

School Admin: Scott Woodward, Eric Schubert, Gwen Dawes Harker

Trustee: Todd Brand

Attendance: Tori Vanderzee, (grade 1) Marcie Keeping (grades 6 & 2)
Kayla Caranay (grade 3 &6), Pam Oler (grade 5 and Kinder)
Bishdir (grade 1)

Online Attendance: Gillian Greene, Aisha Sudduqa, Kudirat, Charlene Fisher, Sunnyra Odhwani,

Start Time:

Call to Order: 6:07pm

Who: Scott Woodward

Second: Eric Schubert

Gwen Dawes Harker volunteer to take meeting minutes for this meeting.

Introductions

Attendees went around the table to introduce themselves and identify their connection to WHS.

First order of business

Scott Woodward explained how all council positions/roles are open this year. Made attendees aware Gillian Green has put name forward for Vice Chair.

Asked if any other attendees would like to put their names forward for a position.

Woodward explained council roles/roles of electives.

Woodward asked after filling positions, council members create/move to include Meeting Norms, and adhere to these, eg: Time Sensitive, Treat with Respect, Non-judgemental, presume positive intentions, it's ok to disagree, simply do this respectfully.

Scott Council shared the following resource with members.

- [School Council Best Practice Guide](#)

COUNCIL POSITIONS

Scott Woodward asked if anyone would like to put their names forward for any of the available council positions.

The following attendees put their names forward for the following council positions:

Pam Oler for Chairperson

Gillian Green for Cice Chairperson,

Kayla Caranay for Secretary,

Marcie Keeping for Treasurer,

Scott Woodward asked if there are any objections to the following people serving in these positions.

No other attendee put their name forward, and no nominations were made.

No objections.

Move to accept the names listed above put forward for each council position.

No objections.

Motion passed.

2024 -2025 School Council Members stand as:

Chairperson: Pam Oler

Vice Chairperson: Gillian Greene

Secretary: Kayla Caranay

Treasurer: Marcie Keeping

School News/Principal Report: Presented by Scott Woodward

Introduced school administrators

Briefly explained the purpose of our Fall School Education Plan (SEP) and the process of sharing this document with school council at the next meeting.

Introduced, explained what PBIS is, and where WHS currently stands with respect to moving forward with PBIS.

Advised current members of the process followed last year for choosing future council meeting dates, and asked that, at the very least, council's next meeting date (October) be determined before adjourning this meeting.

Teacher Report: No teacher was present, but the process of teacher's presenting to council was briefly explained.

Student Report: No student was present, but the opportunity for students to present to council was briefly explained.

Trustee's Report: Todd Brand:

Send link to council members Re: link to presentation about role of councils

<https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/get-involved/school-councils>

Updated School Board Highlights

2 meetings to date:

Sept 5 – Update Strategic Plan, enrolment and growth in Airdrie,

Sept 19 – Organizational meeting, committee appointments, roles of trustees, finances up-to-date & on track.

Joint School Council Meeting

October 24

5:30 – 7:30 pm

Education Centre

Bring together all executive members, supper provided, opportunity to get insight on what is happening across the division.

School Council and Friends of “school” Society

Reason for the requirement of all School Council groups and Friends of “school” groups needing to be separate entities explained by Scott Woodward and Todd Brand

Role of fundraising within school council explained.

Fundraising is expected to be intentional, purposeful, and used for the reason it was raised.

Eg. Healthy Hunger, grade 8 farewell, band camp, special requests by teachers and/or student groups. While the members of School Council and Friends of “school” groups are commonly made up of the same members, this is not a requirement.

More to be discussed as part of the Friends of Society meeting.

Parent Education:

Scott Woodward explained how council created opportunities for parent education.

Reference was made to a learning opportunity presented to parents by WHS in the past.

Paul Davis came to present about internet safety. Scott shared feedback from this offering included it served to be a valuable opportunity and was appreciated by those in attendance.

The cost to provide this was quite high, and he explained how school council groups from different RVS areas (neighbouring schools) will coordinate how to pool resources, double attendance and hopefully increase impact.

Scott Woodward suggested to council members that a typical start of the year focus for council to explore is to identify what our current parent community would like to learn more about, and how WHS can support council members identify this.

Round Table Wonder: Would finding this information out be best provided through a parent survey? It was agreed this can be added to a future meeting agenda and discussed in more detail later.

Parent Question

What opportunities are available for WHS students to learn French?

What is Alberta Education’s requirements for students learning French, or other second language?

Woodward stated we currently have several bilingual/trilingual staff members.

Second Language learning requirements vary depending on the grade.

In collaboration with council members, school administration, RVS trustee, and area director, some schools may choose to not teach a second language.

Currently WHS offers French to Grade 4 and 5 students.

Our grade 7 teacher, Mr. Josh Menjivar-Cruz is trilingual in the following languages, English, French and Spanish.

Opportunities for middle school students to learn French exists as part of our option program, and this offering reflects student interest /numbers.

Volunteer Coordinator

Gwen Dawes Harker asked if we could explore identifying a council member who will support the school with coordinating school volunteers. Eric Schubert suggested this topic be added to a future meeting agenda, so it can be discussed in more detail later.

Future School Council Meeting Dates

Scott Woodward asked if council would like to set meeting dates/times for the remainder of the school year based on what has been done in previous years, (Typically first Tues of each month at 6pm).

Council decided to choose October's date, and agreed setting future meeting dates and times will be determined at next meeting.

October Meeting Date:

October 22nd, 2024 at 6pm.

Scott Woodward asked if council members had any other pressing questions.

No questions asked.

Scott Woodward moved meeting to close.

Eric Schubert seconded this motion.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:05 pm