

**Wakefield Elementary School  
Governing Board Meeting Minutes**

March 18, 2015

5:30pm

**Present:**

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Julie Fram-Greig - School Principal	Colleen Gifford – Daycare Rep	Lisa Semenoff – Parent Committee Rep
Sylvie Pouloitte – Teacher Rep	Erin Connell – Chair	Lise Gagne – Teacher Rep
Miriam Serré- Teacher Rep	Elizabeth Logue – PPO Rep	Martin Fournel - Parent
Dayna Vadneau – Secretary	Sharon Morrison – Staff Rep	
Carrie Hogan- Community Rep		

**Guests:**

Pierre Dionne, School Commissionner  
Alasdair Gillis, parent

**\*\*\* Wakefield Elementary School: Reaching for the Stars \*\*\***

#	Item	Discussion	Action
<b>Proceedings</b>			
1	Adoption of Agenda	<b><i>Motion to approve agenda as circulated: Lisa. Seconded: Sharron. All in favour. Carried.</i></b>	
	Approval of Minutes	<b><i>Motion to approve minutes: Colleen. Seconded: Sharron. All in favour. Carried.</i></b>	
<b>Voice of the public</b>			
2	Voice of the public	Alasdair Gillis presented his thoughts and concerns on the upcoming decision to turn on the WIFI in the school. He had a few questions as to why the school actually needs WIFI, with hardwire already in use. What are the risks and benefits when there are still some unknown factors? What is the difference between the efficiency of WIFI compared to landlines?	
<b>New Business</b>			
3	New Business Arising	<p><b><i>Follow up: WIFI</i></b></p> <p>Martin noted that out of the 17 schools in the WQSB, there are only two schools that do not have WIFI: Wakefield elementary and Chelsea elementary. Chelsea school would like WIFI; they are pending on budget approval for the installation.</p> <p>Julie presented the results of the survey on WIFI: 127 parents responded to the survey. Strong support for the rule to not bring personal devices to school and for the importance of technology in the classroom. In response to turning on WIFI in the entire school, the results were 60% agree; 33% disagree; 4% no firm opinion.</p> <p>There was a round table discussion with each GB member presenting his or her views. Some members supported WIFI to support students’ education,</p>	Julie will send a communiqué to parents to inform them of survey results and GB decision.

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		<p>especially for students with special needs, and others were concerned about potential health effects. Based on the discussion, Colleen asked for a motion of approval.</p> <p><b>Motion to approve the activation of WIFI in the entire school: Colleen. Seconded: Miriam. 7 in favour; 2 opposed. Motion carried.</b></p> <p><b>For approval: Violin Lesson Proposal</b> To have private violin lessons for the students at a cost to the parent during lunch hour.</p> <p><b>Motion to approve: Sylvie. Seconded: Sharron. 8 in favour; 1 opposed. Motion carried.</b></p> <p><b>For discussion:</b></p> <p><b>1) Playground committee update</b> The committee went for a snowshoe around the grounds allocated for the rest of the playground. Looks very promising with potential for a wooded area with walking paths for the children. Approx double the space the children have now with minimal clearing of trees. The next step will be to tape off sections that need to be cleared of dead debris.</p> <p><b>2) Mission/Vision update</b> Julie sent out a survey to parents. 36 responded. She will prepare a small presentation for the next GB meeting. Julie is also looking for parent volunteers to help create this statement.</p> <p><b>3) Revised Policy-Discipline Committee Process</b> If anyone has any comments on the revised document Erin sent out to the GB, please email to Erin by the next week.</p> <p><b>3) Hot Lunch and Pizza Procurement 2015-16</b> Deferred to April GB meeting due to lack of time. To be discussed then.</p>	<p>GB members will endeavor to stay abreast of current scientific research on health impacts of WIFI exposure.</p> <p>An update will be sent to parents on the advancements of the playground.</p>
<b>Standing Reports</b>			
4.1	Principal	<p>Municipality and WQSB are still negotiating a school gym agreement which has not yet been signed. Until this agreement has been signed by the proper authorities, gym rentals are done by the school itself- for gym type purposes only.</p> <p>3 renewals: Soccer, Volleyball and Basketball. 1 new contract: Sparks (Brownies)</p> <p><b>Approval for gym rentals: Dayna. Seconded: Sharron. All in favour. Carried.</b></p> <p>The library is being set up and new books will be purchased</p> <p>A potential “work to rule” discussion has come about for this summer/fall, but this is still up in the air.</p> <p>Budget is right on target for this time of year.</p>	

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4.2	Teachers	<p>The school skating outing was successful-all had fun.</p> <p>Bus safety: Wakefield school won 1<sup>st</sup> place.</p> <p>The French book fair was held Feb 11. Raised enough funds to purchase some new books for the library.</p> <p>April's theme week will be music.</p> <p>Grades 5/6 and some grade 3 classes will begin a 5 week project creating a sculpture for the front yard of the school (related to the artist in residents grant).</p> <p>April 1<sup>st</sup> 22 students will be going to the Canadian Tire centre for WE DAY.</p>	
4.3	Daycare	<p>Ski club is ending this week. Parents were glad for the extended time.</p> <p>Colleen was at a conference at St Sauveur on how to deal with different personalities, using DISC method.</p>	
4.4	Support Staff	<p>The late sign in sheets are working well. Parents now have to sign in their child at the front office when the child is being dropped off late in the morning.</p> <p>The children are becoming excited about the next school play which will be held in June.</p>	
4.5	Parent Committee	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Parent Committee is organizing another parent Open House in early April. It will feature the Work Orientation Training Program and the Adult Vocational Program.</li> <li>2) Parent Committee will be organizing a press conference in April to advertise the launch of its promotional postcards.</li> <li>3) The WQSB Communications AD HOC Committee is working hard at making the WQSB website more user-friendly.</li> <li>4) MELS is in the process of developing a new sexual education program. The old one was out dated and is no longer being taught. Some schools at the elementary level are delivering some basic information as part of their science program.</li> <li>5) Bill 15 - A provincial hiring freeze across the public sector of Quebec is affecting the WQSB. Bill 15 means that no new positions can be created.</li> <li>6) Teaching staff are sometimes hard to hire and retain. Most in demand are French immersion, math, science and resource teachers.</li> <li>7) Parent Committee approved the draft WQSB calendar for 2015-16. The first day of school next year will be August 31/15.</li> <li>8) What's happening at other schools?</li> </ol>	

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		<p>PETES:  The principal of PETES went to a Neufeld conference in Vancouver.  'Petes Keepers' - students grades 5 + 6 who receive training in mediation + communication skills  McDowell -acts of kindness  Greater Gatineau -put popsicle sticks in a jar for every act of kindness + celebrate when the jar is full  Lord Alymer -build snow sculptures and igloos in their yard  Noranda -local hockey team reads books to students</p>	
4.6	PPO	<p>PPO will be meeting next week. The Chilli Dance cook-off was a great success. It raised approx \$1000 for the playground. The Grade 6 bake sale at the dance raised \$300 for their school graduation.</p> <p>PPO will present a proposal for a formal family dinner at the end of May.</p> <p>The cookbook idea has been pushed to the following school year.</p> <p>PPO is currently trying to organize a run-a-thon. More to follow.</p> <p>PPO is asking for the approval of the Berry fundraiser for next fall. Needs approval at this time to be ready for the upcoming school year.  <b>Motion to approve the Berry Fundraiser for Fall 2015: Elizabeth.</b>  <b>Seconded: Lisa. All in favour. Carried.</b></p>	
4.7	Community	<p>Carrie is looking for guidance on the newsletter. GB suggested staying within our school boundaries for people wanting to advertise and promote their programs and services.</p>	
<b>Adjournment</b>			
5.0	Adjournment	<p>Motion to adjourn at 7:34.  <b>Moved: Colleen. Seconded: Dayna. All in favour. Carried</b></p>	