

Meeting Minutes

Woodman School Council

Tuesday April 22, 2025 at 7:00pm

Online via *Microsoft Teams*

Attendance*: Brian, Tara, Michelle, Dave, Alice, Michelle, Jasminka, Jad, Nina, Mark, Lisa R

Regrets:

*Note: Names taken from screen displays may not be accurate

Call to order: 7:00 pm

Welcome: Tara

Approval of previous minutes: Motion to approve the minutes from March 2024 - Alice, seconded by Mark; minutes approved.

Chair Report - Tara

- Attended the ASCA meeting.
 - Tara is pleased to report that the Woodman Council is doing an excellent job adhering to the spirit of what ASCA aspires for with such groups – community involvement & engagement.

Principal's Report – Brian

- Planning for 2025/26
 - Grant was received that will keep up funding, this should keep class sizes stable.
 - The future overflow status for Woodman to receive students from Elboya and Rideau Park will be communicated to families shortly
 - Expecting a drop in enrollment in 25/26 This will result in a drop in staffing (1-2).
- The Purpose / value of Provincial Achievements Tests
 - Tests begin at the end of May – results come in Oct.
 - Value of the PATs is recognized and the school works hard to prepare all students, and to make the event as low stress as possible.
- Upcoming events
 - List available on meeting agenda.

The following points were provided following the School Council meeting, pertaining to the Principal Report:

Planning for 2025-2026

-Schools received their budget in 2nd week of April and have been busy working out various staffing and class scenarios, together with their education directors

-Woodman has been the fortunate recipient of a generous Criteria Based Funding source; we were identified to receive it given the complexities of being a triple track program school

- This funding will allow us to maintain smaller class sizes, especially at the Gr. 8 level
- Fluctuating overflow status has resulted in lower year-over-year student enrollment projections; we expect we will drop in enrollment by approximately 30 students
- This will result in a reduction of staffing of 1-2 teachers
- We continue to actively recruit for Late French 7 and will be advertising in key neighbourhoods in early May. Keep the word out about Woodman as a great place to learn!

The Purpose / Value of Provincial Achievement Tests (Gr. 6/9)

- Provides important accountability to schools to ensure students are being properly taught and prepared for future success
- Allows teachers, families and students to understand how a student is doing in relation to the province, CBE and other like schools who offer French Immersion programming
- Provides students with an initial (June) and official (October) report which resides in their Official Student Record
- Allows students an opportunity to withstand healthy levels of stress and sustain focus over an extended period of time (this is why we also provide year-end assessments that follow a similar format for Gr. 7-8 students)
- Woodman students typically excel in PATs, and are consistently above the province and CBE on most academic areas. This is an opportunity to celebrate our achievements

Upcoming Events

- May 9 Breakfast With the Wolves
- Identifying how we celebrate our student successes throughout the school year is an ongoing priority for Woodman teachers. We do so in many ways (PA announcements, assemblies, bulletin boards, Breakfast With the Wolves and recognitions in the year end assembly). Students who achieve recognition by one teacher are also students who are noted to demonstrate the same excellence in other academic areas, too
- June 3 Grade 9 Farewell
- This is a Woodman tradition, and all staff is present. Families sometimes elect to have a celebratory event before or after. Dinner, dance and speeches occur during the event, many photos appear in the yearbook
- Letters, consent forms and fees will be sent out to families shortly
- Thank you for the financial support of the School Council/Parent Society for the generous \$500 donation which will off-set parent costs who are experiencing financial hardship
- June 25 Wellness Day
- The focus of this event is on community, activity and celebration of the end of the school year; it will be hosted on the school grounds and there will be no cost to parents
- June 26 Year End Assembly
- This event recognizes important achievement in Athletics, Citizenship, Services, Languages and the Principal Proficiency award. All students are invited, and families of awarded students

Next Council Meeting: May 27, 2025, 7:00 pm

Meeting dates for 2024/2025

September 24, October 29, November 26, 2024

January 14, February 11, March 4, April 22, May 27, 2025.

Meeting Adjournment: 7:27 pm