

Minutes - Woodman School Council Meeting

Tuesday, September 22, 2026, 7:00 pm

Online via *Microsoft Teams*

Attended*: Marlene K, Scott W, Tara W, Mark M, Christopher B, Mehmet B, Jeff Y, Jessie M, Kari C, Mathilde, Melanie R, Pooja S, Ratiba , Samantha F, Siobhan, Umasarawathy R, Heba Y, Jerry G

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

Call to Order: 7:00 pm

Introductions - All

- call for volunteer for minutes - Alice will do

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement - Tara

Chair Report

- Approval of April 2026 Parent Council Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes from the April meeting: Mark, seconded by Jad. All in favour; motion carried.
- This is the first meeting of the year. The AGM is the October meeting.
- we need council and society members - vice chair (backup, understudy); secretary; key comm (attends COSC, ASCA & report back); volunteer coordinator
- see agenda for more - if interested email Tara tara.wigington@gmail.com
- scaffolding/help available
- Future meetings - these are all online: Oct 27 is AGM (vote in exec); November 17
- January 19 / February 23 / March 30 / April 27 / May 25
- 1 or 2 in person gatherings are also planned

Principal's Report - Marlene

- Funding - 4 grants (OLEP - federal grants for french, triple track grant), a class size reduction grant - used for continuing Gr 7 Immersion; a CBE mental health grant (our data supported a 0.5 FTE teacher for social emotional, master of counseling)
- Staffing - were staffed for 560; looking for a 0.5 FTE for a teacher-share (grade 5-6 FSL) - note that a system-wide teacher shortage is our reality
- NEW: Mme Ringrose, working with French team; Mme Halliday gr 5-6; M Devries Engl, French, PE[Mme Howlett back from mat leave - for ESL (intensive classes) 0.2
- We have 29 teachers
- Enrolment Trends- 573 students, number of students on Sep 30 determines funding
- we have a large catchment, 70 languages, 50 countries of origin, trend of new students from other provinces
- bump in grade 9 English students this year; English 231
- French: Late French 123, Early French 219
- All teaching spaces are in use.

- Highlights and Priorities - Social Emotional learning, cultural responsiveness, identity acceptance and care, and societal context needs a response - re: AI, virtual learning, short form content (immediate, visual, passive) impacting how students want to engage
- provincial legislation - lots of changes (how to report aggression; book selection criteria; fairness in sport; bill 25) - not much discussion on this topic today
- Students are showing a notable inability to sustain focus - school needs to support agency with scaffolding - pass on ownership of learning to kids; agendas coming back as a tool for same - students encouraged to use these for communication and organization

Parent Q & A:

Q - how do we navigate hard questions, parent concerns and where is the safe space for those ideas (concerns about book bans, sports, personal identity, and flags)

A - perhaps we need a venue for this or other ideas about role of council (slide with role of school council shared)

Q - *how* are we using a paper planner? what are expectations for parents?

A - this change guided by teachers driven by very low use of D2L

Role of School Council

- Education Act / CBE Administrative Regulation 5001
- As partners in public education, parents make significant and meaningful contributions to the learning opportunities at Woodman
- Advise the principal respecting matters related to the school
- Address emerging questions about school planning and the wider educational context
- Strengthen parent networks between grades/programs

Education Act (Alberta government)

- sets parameters to what is council's role - collective not individual
- hold school accountable to what parents care about

Acknowledgments - Marlene

- thank you for coffee in June, it was great and much appreciated
- parents thoughts and opinions on all issues are important to Marlene

Meeting Adjourned: 7:56 pm

Next meeting: AGM on October 27, 2026, 7:00