

WILKINSON NEWSLETTER

June 2006

Published by the Wilkinson School & Community Council

COUNCIL NEWS



MEETING RECAP

The Wilkinson School Community Council met on May 9, 2006. The principal advised that a new storage shed will be installed in June to store bikes, trikes and other Kindergarten playground equipment.

Some Council members raised concerns regarding the proposal to shorten morning recess brought forward at last month's meeting. The principal agreed to postpone a decision and to first consult with parents and ask for their feedback on the issue.

The monthly Statement of Financial Position was distributed. There is currently about \$3,400 available for disbursement.

The following funding requests were approved:

- Up to \$900 for trophies and refreshments for graduation,
- \$175 to host a Teachers' appreciation lunch on June 19th,
- \$200 to provide refreshments for Play Day on June 23rd.

Committee updates were presented from:

- Greening and grounds (interested volunteers needed

to help with gardening duties both now and over the summer months)

- Communications (Web site policy document approved)
- Fundraising (Dominion Save-a-Tape program ending in October, Herb Sale underway, Fun Fair plans going well).

The final Council meeting will be held on Monday, June 12th at 6:30pm, followed by the Council's Annual General Meeting in Room 3 at 7:30pm. Everyone is invited to attend.

COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

Another busy and productive school year is coming to a close for our committees. Here is a summary of what the active committees accomplished this year with some thoughts for next year:

Communications

- Developed and launched new Web site for Wilkinson School (special thanks to Phil Kahn for his time and technical expertise!)
- Further enhancements to monthly newsletter e.g. Year-at-a-Glance, Volunteering opportunities

Next year:

- Make better use of Council's bulletin board (see "Wanted" ad)
- Rejuvenate email distribution news list

Performing Arts

- Arranged for four performances this year, including Canadian Opera Company

Next year:

- Student murals for self-expression
- Arrange more performances

Greening & Grounds

- Finished improvements in front garden (beside the gym)
- Commenced revitalization of primary play area, including storage shed for kindergarten toys
- Installed removable basketball hoops

Next year:

- Continue work on primary play area (murals, sand play area, painted pathways)

Fundraising

- Movie Nights continued to be popular
- Introduced monthly Pizza Lunches
- Fun Fair was a fantastic day for both the school and the Wilkinson community
- Successful Direct Donation campaign

Next year:

- Reviewing Chocolate Sales and Herb Sale as they are extremely labour intensive

Thanks to all the dedicated and creative members of these committees. Unfortunately neither the Health & Safety nor the Education committees were active this year. If you are interested, in either of these (or any other committee for that matter), please let us know.

Council Participation for 2006-2007 School Year

The Wilkinson School Community Council runs thanks to a core of individuals who meet monthly to learn about school initiatives and provide the parents' perspective on issues that affect our children. While many parents remain on the Council for several years, a few members move on, and we need to ensure that the Council remains vibrant and representative of our school population.

When Council Nomination Forms go home in September, please consider putting your name forward to be a member. If you're not sure what's involved or would like more information, contact us through our Web site at www.wilkinsonschooll.ca or leave a note in the Parent Council mailbox in the main office.

The Council extends their congratulations to Wilkinson's grads and wishes all parents, students and staff a relaxing and safe summer!

WANTED

1 or 2 volunteers to look after the Council's bulletin board once a month.

No experience necessary!

Call Carol at 416-465-4157
if you're interested.

DOMINION SAVE-A-TAPE PROGRAM

Thanks to all of the parents who submitted their grocery receipts to support this fundraising initiative. With your help, we collected over \$10,000 in receipts to submit. In return, Dominion is giving us \$23.44 to the Parent Council. Thanks for helping out! We will continue to collect receipts until the end of October 2006, so keep saving yours over the summer!

RECENT EVENTS



FUN FAIR 2006!

The weather was perfect, the food was delicious, and Vice Principal Watt was all wet! What more could you ask for from our annual Fun Fair? Yes, on Saturday May 27th Wilkinson held its biggest community event of the year, and a great time was had by all! Dave, a Wilky alumnus from many years ago, wrote to our Web site to say "I had a great time, seeing the school again was fantastic, and all of the events were very good. It brought back many memories."

Highlights this year included a massive LoonieLand, capably run by Gail and Jimmy Simpson, the incredible Dream Baskets, and of course, the DUNK TANK. Many brave souls, including VP Watt, Gary the Crossing Guard, and several students, lined up for a refreshing (freezing!) dip. As always, the International Food and baked goods were delicious, and the Silent Auction had many wonderful items to bid on (thank you to Susan Haney for securing so many donations). The beautiful weather meant that many of the activities could take place outside, leaving more space in the gym for all sorts of fun games! The X-treme Makeover tent was so popular, it had a lineup for almost an hour after the Fun Fair ended!

The entire school had a festive atmosphere, and even the volunteers had fun! Elizabeth wrote: "It was a fabulous event and my family and I were so happy to help. This being our first fun fair, we were all SO impressed, as were many of the parents I spoke to. You all deserve our heart felt appreciation." And, after an exhausting day working at the food tent, volunteer Laura said "Kudos to the Parent Council. This year's Fun Fair was the best yet. Even the weather was on our side! Congrats."

It takes an astounding amount of work to make the Fun Fair run smoothly, and we owe a debt of thanks to some pretty incredible people... A huge Wilky roar for April Moon, who bravely took on the immense job of coordinating this event while on maternity leave! She was supported by an extremely dedicated committee, who spent many months organizing the day and rocking her baby while Ruby Lederman took notes. Finally, we thank the parents, staff and students who volunteered their time to help at the Fun Fair. Many of you spent the entire day at your task, with only brief breaks. Without you, this event wouldn't be possible. Here's to keeping the "Fun" in "Fun Fair"!

Submitted by Jacqui Strachan



Above: The crowds enjoyed the incredible food we had to offer! **Right:** Gary the Crossing Guard gets dunked in the tank!



Above: One of our younger guests had fun 'driving' the fire truck
Photos by Mike Elmer.

CALENDAR 2006

JUNE

9 (F):	EQAO Testing Ends
12 (M):	Council Meeting
13 (T):	Volunteer Tea
18 (Su):	Father's Day
22 (Th):	Awards Assembly
23 (F):	Play Day
26 (M):	Report Cards
27 (T):	Graduation 4:00 pm
28 (W):	Last Day of School

SEPTEMBER

5 (T):	First Day of School
19 (T):	Welcome Night for parents 7:00 pm

CONTACT US



Have an article to contribute to the newsletter? Interested in helping out? Compliments? Contact us through our Web site at

www.wilkinsonschool.ca.

Thank you to this month's contributors:

Carol Bennett, Mike Elmer, John Hykel, Jacqui Strachan, Sharon Weller

Editor: Carol Bennett **Designer:** Kim Diamond

COUNCIL NEWS



TREASURER'S REPORT

The Statement of the Council's financial position as presented at the June 12, 2006 Annual General Meeting was as follows:

Balance as at Sept. 2005	\$ 7,759.36
Money earned through Fundraising	\$ 17,575.40
Expenditures	(14,834.44)
Balance as at June 12, 2006	\$ 10,500.32

The Council's major fundraisers this year were:

Chocolate Sales	\$ 4,267.61
Movie Nights	\$ 3,010.26
Pizza Lunches	\$ 1,748.70
Fun Fair	\$ 6,199.33
Direct Donation campaign	\$ 1,665.00

Major items that the Council provided funding for:

Field Trip Subsidy	\$ 1,120.00
Visiting Authors	\$ 1,190.06
School Performances	\$ 2,610.00
Schoolyard Greening	\$ 1,349.43
Storage Shed	\$ 2,000.00
Scientists in the Schools	\$ 2,500.00
Newsletters & other communications)	\$ 1,147.78
VHS/DVD Site License	\$ 747.50
Trophies for graduation	\$ 900.00

Submitted by John Hykel

*Treasurer, Wilkinson School Community Council
2005-2006*

A more detailed report of the Council's financial activities is available. For more information, contact us through the Wilkinson Web site and the Treasurer will get in touch with you directly.

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