Winthrop School Council Meeting Minutes
Date: November 18, 2025
Time: 6:30 - 7:54 PM

Attendees:

- Parent Representatives: Ms. Kimberly Mavroides, Ms. Ana Laguarda, and Mr. Michael Martinez
- Teacher Representatives: Ms. Meghan Ganley, Ms. Laurie Colitti, Ms.Tiandra Morris, Ms. Robbyn Wile
- Community Representative: Ms.Katie Henry
- Administrative Representative: Dr. Maureen Lueke

The School Council began at 6:30

Note Taker: Mr. Martinez

1. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.
- The council discussed posting minutes publicly online.

2. Review Parent Volunteer Opportunities

- Follow-up from prior discussion: although a faculty meeting has not yet been held, Ms. Fab has been reaching out directly to teachers to assess volunteer needs.

3. Principal's Update (Dr. Lueke)

- End of term approaching; parent-teacher conferences underway and report cards in progress.
- Data teams are reviewing student progress.
- The Kindness Day event was a success.
- Goal moving forward: host a monthly school-wide event to build community and a sense of belonging.
- Parent question: Were students who needed school-color shirts assisted?
    - Response: Yes, FRIES provided help to families as needed.
- Suggestion: Include a newsletter reminder about weather-appropriate clothing and note that clothing assistance is available through FRIES, "no questions asked."

4. Responsive Classroom Training

- Ms. Wile reported that many teachers have participated in Responsive Classroom training and are incorporating its principles into daily routines.
- Goal is to incorporate morning meetings and school-wide assemblies to align with practices at Doyon School.

5. Parent Workshop Survey Discussion

- The council discussed developing a Parent Survey to identify interest in potential family education workshops.
- Suggestions and Topics:
    - Academic enrichment sessions (e.g., math program overview, new reading curriculum background).
    - Sessions addressing mental health — distinguishing depression and anxiety, reframing screen time as “addiction to screens.”
    - Practical parenting topics: importance of reading to children, adequate sleep, and building healthy routines.
    - Overview of the new “Mind Up” Health Curriculum — parents expressed interest in understanding it to support discussions at home.
    - Deep dive into MCAS — not just results, but what they mean for students and parents.
        - Potentially present an “assessment workshop” to understand all tools school uses in coordination with the Director of Teaching and Learning.
- Logistics:
    - Discussed the number of workshops targeting for the year.
    - Consider including highlights or summaries in the weekly newsletter for families unable to attend.
    - Explore whether workshops should be in-person or webinars, and whether sessions could be recorded for later viewing (noting recording adds complexity).
    - Consider childcare options during sessions.
    - Possible collaboration with Doyon School to increase participation (goal of ~40 attendees).
    - Teachers expressed gratitude that Dr. Lueke is looking for outside speakers to host sessions.
- Additional Ideas:
    - Two FRIES members are organizing a book club on *The Anxious Generation*.
    - Opportunity to share survey with Doyon parents and have Dr. Blake share survey district wide

6. Open Forum and Questions

- School Improvement Plan:

    - Presentation received positive feedback and was well-received by the community.
    - Next planning cycle begins February or March; district goal-setting will occur around that time.
- Principal Search / Administrative Updates:
    - Discussion noted regarding the timeline for the principal plan and district-level committee involvement expected in March, with Dr. Blake as point person
- Special Education:
    - Parent asked about the upcoming transition following the Director of Special Education's departure; a timeline for parent communication was requested.
- Nurse Staffing:
    - Parent asked about nurse coverage — Dr. Lueke confirmed full staffing.
- School Climate:
    - Teachers noted a positive tone across staff and students.
    - "Kindness Meeting" and school-wide events have boosted morale.
    - Staff described the school as having a "happy, upbeat atmosphere."
    - Dr. Lueke emphasized responsibility and kindness as ongoing school values and more prominent presence around school, out in the hallways
- Parent asked how are kids doing and any change in how kids treating each other
    - The teacher noted that heading in the right direction. Dr. Lueke bringing back a sense of community. "Great to come to work and be happy every day."
- Responsive Classroom Training:
    - Teachers praised the Responsive Classroom model and expressed interest in expanding learning beyond individual classrooms, to school-wide
    - After a teacher noted most behavior issues occur during unstructured times, a parent asked since issues occur during unstructured times, is there a way to have compressed training for all supervising staff.
    - Ms. Morris highlighted the importance of trauma-informed teaching and how to integrate it school-wide.
    - Teachers appreciated that professional development topics are now teacher-driven.
- Student Needs and Resources:
    - Discussion around identifying gaps in student support (dental, food, clothing, etc.).
    - Ms. Morris noted current supports are working well.
    - Suggested including reminders in the newsletter about available community resources:
        - Three Sisters, Mobile Mart, and other local programs for new families.
        - Signage outside the Mobile Mart for greater visibility and understanding of its purpose and role for new families.

7. Next Meeting scheduled for December 2, 2025

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM