

# Millen Woods School Council

## April 8th, 2026 Meeting Minutes

### Welcome and Introductions (Dan and Emily C)

- Meeting called to order at 6:36 PM
- Attendance taken (see attached)
- Land Acknowledgement - Dan
- Motion to approve agenda - Hannah
- Motion to approve March 2026 minutes - Sandeep

### News and Reports

- Administration Report - Serena
  - Kindergarten registration is now open!
  - Intramurals - Basketball - Now Handball 2x per week
  - 3-6 Drama workshop - kids enjoyed, social and roleplay
  - Finished the forest of reading last week, well received
  - Student census Gr1-3 parents - Time given in class for Gr 4-6
  - Kodaly choir set up, bus' land tomorrow (April 9th)
  - French music competition, very popular - with spirit days
- Finance report
  - Revenue total for February and March: \$7,247.35
    - ESNS Sept to Jan \$3,357.35
    - Popcorn Sales \$1,440.05
    - Winter Wonderland \$75
    - Dance-a-thon Photo Booth \$831.75
    - Dance-a-thon WEFI donations \$1,9783.20
  - Expense total for February and March: \$1,908.44
    - School day fees \$107.90
    - Enrichment - Transportation \$254.78
    - Dance-a-thon \$58.71
    - Popcorn purchase \$833.63
    - Winter wonderland \$653.42
  - Ending balance \$29,713.60 for the School Council Account and WEFI
- Report attached.
- Dance-a-thon
  - raised \$4,500 last year
  - \$2,800 this year (\$5,500 goal) <- due to the economy?
- Keep events despite lower profits than expected, prioritize the events and the community
- Having a set goal with an incentive to improve participation

### Old Business

## **Snack & Lunch Program**

- Apples - Ann does an auto blast
- ESNS - Running fine
- Pizza test next year - pizza bracket? - kids vote
- Popcorn / Ice Cream Sandwiches
  - Given that we have a surplus in the account, do we need to do the ice cream sandwich fundraiser this year?
    - Ice cream sandwiches are very popular
    - Kids love
    - Dairy-free and GF option for all to participate. Storage not available at the school. In previous years, GF from Farm Boy and dairy-free from Zehrs.
    - April, May, and June 2nd Monday of the Month
    - Volunteers to store at home and show up
  - Ice Cream committee - Emily, Sandeep, and Hannah (Rachel can help with storage)

**Action item:** Subcommittee to plan for ice cream sandwich days in May and June.

## **Athletic Equipment and Gaga Ball Purchase - Serena**

- Gaga Ball - new spot located, proposal submitted - waiting on approval from the Board
- Outside toys need a self-contained (on wheels) cart to put the equipment in (\$600 before tax)
- Tennis balls, rubber balls, volley balls, scoop balls - \$2,220 before tax and delivery
- Kindie playground and toys separate - \$2,500 for this year's upgrades
- Gym equipment replenishment
- Budget includes:
  - \$750 for playground bin refresh
  - \$2,500 for Kindie Playground updates
  - \$500 for Athletics Requests
  - \$1,500 for Playground Improvements
  - Also have \$2,500 allocated for Enrichment - School Events, Tech Replacement, Resources that could cover any requests not covered by the above line items

**Action item:** Serena to proceed with purchases as required.

## **PROGrant - Garden Night Update - May 5th at 6 PM**

- Vendor coming tonight to scope out the classrooms or other spaces for the event
- Families come, plant a plant, make a beaded garden hanger, paint a pot, and exhibit 8 senses
- 6:00 to 7:30 run time
- Through "Childhood Connect"
- The vendor will have 2 people in attendance to guide the night
- Parent volunteers - call out now - greeter, 4 and stations
- Indoor event

- VSC is not needed for after-hours events, as children are supervised by their guardian
- 2 volunteers per room - 30 min blocks
- Following the event, confirmed that the gym will be used, with the divider pulled across to separate the gym to deter running
- The vendor will send a flyer to advertise the event

**Action item:** School Day post to be sent requesting volunteers, with regular reminders.

#### **Year - End Social - Sub- Committee - June 18th - Emily L and Emily C**

- Lolipalooza
- Gym as a rain option, outside ideal
- Chalk, hula hoops and bubbles
- Outdoor speakers
  - Music and dancing
- Bubble stations with big bubbles
  - Kiddy pools and big bubble wands

**Action item:** School Day post to be sent requesting volunteers, with regular reminders.

#### **Families in Need - Serena**

- Difficult logistically currently
- may need a subcommittee, which would include Council and Staff representation
- Call out for sub-committee
- Packaging and storage
- Emily C is interested in it after the ice cream is complete

**Action item:** Email to council requesting interest for a subcommittee.

#### **Spirit Wear - Update**

- No update?
- Erin and Ashley had previously expressed interest in the subcommittee
- Preview this spring, full rollout next school year
- Currently, at the investigation stage
- Simple "MW" logo for this year
- Logo? - Compass?
  - Proposal: James, Emily's husband, is a creative director and graphic designer, to design a logo or mascot
- Art contest, kids submit drawings at the Meet the Community Night and the Scholastic Book Fair
- Rachel to help with gear
- MW Themes - mariners, sea-focused, woods, trees. Make characters (3 max) and have the kids select
- Whoever submits the winning design wins their mariner gear as an incentive

**Action item:** Serena to provide the vendor's contact info.

**Action item:** Rachel to reach out to the vendor and start the process.

## New Business

### 2026 - 2027 School Council Budget: Planning

- Fundraising
  - ESNS lunches - \$6,500 ( \$3,300 so far this year)
  - Friday popcorn sales -\$5,500 (\$3,800 so far this year)
  - Mables labels - \$100
  - Factory shoes - \$500(\$705 so far this year)
    - \$5 of every \$25 spent
  - Meet the Community night - \$650
    - Propose the photo booth at this event instead of at the Dance-a-thon
  - Fall fundraiser TBD - given the surplus may not need one
    - Could be a fun event to raise interest in reading
  - Winter Wonderland - \$200 (pizza)
  - Dance-a-thon - \$2,500 (\$2,800 this year)
  - Movie night - \$250 (popcorn)
  - Ice Cream Sandwiches - \$800
  - **Total estimated revenue = \$17,000**
- Expenses
  - Admin - \$600
  - Decodable texts - \$1,000
  - Gr 6 celebration - \$200
  - Playground bins - \$850
  - Musical instruments and piano tuning - \$500
  - Enrichment - transportation - \$2,500
  - Enrichment - events, technology, resources - \$2,500
  - Dance-a-thon - \$650 (DJ)
  - Meet the Community Night - \$650 (Photo Booth)
  - Area track and field transportation - \$600
  - Popcorn Purchase - \$2,000
  - Student subsidies - \$200
  - Athletics Requests - \$500 (\$1,000 currently in reserves)
  - Grounds Maintenance - \$750 (\$1,500 in reserves for ground maintenance)
  - Winter Wonderland - \$3,000
  - Student prices - \$300
  - Teacher appreciation - \$200
  - Playground Improvements - \$1,500 (\$3,000 currently in reserves)
  - **Total estimated expenses \$18,500**
- Estimating a \$1,500 deficit in the budget, however, given the surplus, there is no concern with this

- No concerns were vocalized for the above proposed budget
- Serena teacher wishlist
  - Large speaker
  - Hockey nets
  - Voice recording button
  - Kindie music (20-30 kids)
  - Projector
  - Math tools
  - Primary toys
  - Sharpies and whiteboard markers
  - Sentence strips, magnetic
  - Etc.

**Action item:** Serena to solidify the wishlist with values associated with the items.

**Action item:** The budget will be updated to reflect the wish list and values, and the budget can be voted on at May's meeting.

#### **Meet the Community - Sub- Committee- 2nd Wed of September (or 4th)**

- Subcommittee needed
- Food trucks need to be booked
- Photo booth
- Call out for help - release a schedule with volunteers needed
- Depends on staff meeting TBD
- Are we accommodating the LBPs community night?
- Earlier in the year preferred by teachers

**Action item:** Serena to determine when staff meetings will occur.

**Action item:** Serena to advise when Meet the Community night will occur.

**Action item:** Email to council soliciting subcommittee volunteers.

**Action item:** Scholastic Book Fair date will need to be booked asap, once date is set.

#### **Miscellaneous Items**

- Joleen subcommittee for ground maintenance
  - \$750 allocated for materials, etc. per year
  - \$1,500 in reserve from unused previous years
- Joleen - Does guest speaking with local history, works with the historical society if there is interest from the adult community

#### **Deferred Items**

- Book Swap

Adjournment at 8:13 pm

Next meeting: May 13, 2026 at 6:30 pm online and in-person

**MILLEN WOODS SCHOOL COUNCIL  
ATTENDANCE SHEET FOR April 8, 2026**

#	Name	Position	Email	Initial for Attendance
1.	Serena Maharaj	Principal	serena_maharaj@wrdsb.ca	SM
2.	Ashley Feeney	Co-Chair	ashleyfeeney@gmail.com	AF
3.	Dan Collens	Co-Chair	dan.collens@gmail.com	DC
4.	Emily Bell	Co-Chair / Communications Officer	ercorner@gmail.com	EB
5.	Emily Lutz	Co-Secretary	emilywyss@gmail.com	Regrets
6.	Hannah Weir	Co-Secretary	hannah.weir11@gmail.com	HW
7.	Erin Evans	Treasurer	erinnfranklin@gmail.com	Regrets
8.	Colleen Araya	Volunteer Coordinator	colleenmw@hotmail.com	
9.	Jake Billo	IT Officer	jake@billo.ca	JB
10.	Steph Honour	Voting Member	stephaniemhonour@gmail.com	
11.	Kristen Smith	Voting Member	kj_martin@hotmail.com	Regrets
12.	Sarah Nickel	Voting Member	nickelsarahm@gmail.com	Regrets
13.	Rachel Sarchielli	Voting Member	sarchrachel@gmail.com	RS
14.	Daniella Cross-Henderson	Voting Member	daniellacross@gmail.com	Regrets
15.	Sandeep Shroff	Voting Member	sandeep.k.shroff@gmail.com	SS
16.	Sam Powell	Voting Member	samantha_powell_4@hotmail.co m	
17.	Sandra Ribes	Voting Member	mrs.s.ribes@gmail.com	Regrets
18.	Meaghan McGloin	Voting Member	meaghan.mcgloin@gmail.com	
19.	Pradeep Chandran	Voting Member	pradeep24s@gmail.com	PC
20.	Julia Klein		julia.kleinhb@gmail.com	
21.	Maryam Elsabagh		maryam_rashad@hotmail.com	
22.	Nicolas Mellet		nicolas.mellet@net.com	
23.	Sarah Boss		Slouboss@gmail.com	
24.	Hamed Hashemi		s.h.hashemi65@gmail.com	
25.	Michael Da Silva		michaeljdasilva@gmail.com	
26.	Raj Pancha		Rajathepan@hotmail.com	
27.	Courtney McArthur	Teacher	courtney_mcarthur@wrdsb.ca	
28.	Diana Kostakos-Murphy	Teacher	diana_kostakos-murphy@wrdsb.c a	online
29.	Elysse Wing	Teacher	elysse_wing@wrdsb.ca	online
30.	Joleen Taylor		joleendt@hotmail.com	JT



**2026/2027 Budget**

School Council Starting Balance	26,013.42
WEFI Starting Balance	3,700.18
Further revenues:	
Further expenses:	
<b>Estimated Fall 2026 Balance</b>	<b>29,713.60</b>

A. should be at least \$5,500 for playground improvements & athletic request carry forward

<b>Fundraising activities (estimate)</b>	
ESNS Lunches	ongoing 6,500.00
Friday Popcorn Sales	ongoing 5,500.00
Mabel's Labels	ongoing 100.00
Factory Shoe	ongoing 500.00
Meet the Community	Sept. 16 650.00
<b>Fall Fundraiser</b>	<b>0.00</b>
Winter Wonderland	Jan. 12 200.00
Dance-a-thon	Mar. 5 2,500.00
Movie Night	Nov. 12 250.00
Ice Cream Sandwiches	Apr. 12, May 10, June 14 800.00
Year-End Social	May 5 0.00
<b>Estimated Fundraising total</b>	<b>17,000.00</b>

B.

<b>Expenses (estimate)</b>	
General Administration	600.00
Decodable Texts	1,000.00
Grade 6 Celebration	200.00
Playground bins	850.00
Kindle Playground Upgrades (bikes, equipment, etc.)	0.00
Musical Instruments or Piano Tuning	500.00
Extracurricular Clubs	0.00
Playground maintenance	0.00
Donation to another school	0.00
Enrichment - School Trips/Transportation	2,500.00
Enrichment - School events, technology replace, resources	2,500.00
Dance-a-thon	650.00
Meet the Community - Photo Booth	650.00
Area Track Meet Bussing	600.00
Friday Popcorn Purchase	2,000.00
Student subsidies	200.00
Athletics requests	500.00
Grounds Maintenance (mud hill mulch & garden clean up)	750.00
Winter Wonderland	3,000.00
Student Prizes	300.00
Teacher Appreciation	200.00
Playground Improvement	1,500.00
<b>Estimated Expenses Total</b>	<b>18,500.00</b>

C.

<b>School Council Projected Surplus</b>	<b>28,213.60</b>
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Draft budget presented to Serena on March 23, 2026  
 Draft budget presented to Council on April 8, 2026  
 Budget approved unanimously on XXX, 2026

carry forward budget year over year \$1,000.00 carry over since 2024/2025 school year  
 carry forward budget year over year \$1,500.00 carry over from 2024/2025 school year  
 carry forward budget year over year \$3,000.00 carry over from 2024/2025 school year

Food Trucks & Photo Booth  
 I don't think we require one based on surplus in account  
 Pizza Sales (Pre-Order)  
 2025/26 raised \$2800 including photobooth  
 Popcorn & Pizza Sales (Pre-Order)

refill in spring 2027

allocated ~\$200/class (12 classes)

DJ only