

Western Technical Commercial School

School Council Meeting Minutes

Location: Virtual

Microsoft Teams -

Meeting ID: 226 577 857 884 91

Passcode: d43Wo988

Date: November 27, 2025

Time: 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Attending: M Koczij, M Lordan, S Hurley, F Seto-Lau, D Perez, J Zakrewski, S McKay, G Chen, A Cagney, F Hagi, A + M Dawson, O Dela Cruz, R Lockhart, M Anstett, S Nallamotheu, C Heath, T Fillon-Meilke, J Van Altenberg, M Shani, J Mcdonald, L Byrne, Jean, S Dharsi, H.M., Farhiya, A Malik, Andrew, J Bosche, T Giguere, J Faria, C Stephens

Regrets: J Grant,

Minutes: S Hurley

Agenda Item	Responsible	Time	Notes
Welcome	M Lordan / F Seto-Lau	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcomes all and identifies student reps present (C Stephens)• Link to School Council page with last months minutes posted in chat: https://sites.google.com/tdsb.on.ca/wtcs/about/school-council• Time given for everyone to review the link to the website and minutes of previous meeting• M Lordan notes additional opportunities if you wish to serve on Council executive – promotions is one area• Floor over to Chair (FSL); notes that Co-Chair is available and any support is appreciated Seto Lau, thanks members. FSL is 3rd time as a chair, and has been part of a PIAC• Agenda is noted on the screen, additions to the agenda welcome in chat or via comment

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Agenda Approved via consensus o Minutes approves via consensus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any changes or revisions can be sent to exec for revisions to future minutes
Land Acknowledgement	M Koczij	5	<p><i>We acknowledge we are hosted on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Wendat. We also recognize the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M Koczij notes addition of LA as a standing item. • WTCS has a substantial Indigenous / First Nations student population and importance of LA for opening meetings for community is noted
Principal's Report AND Admin Report	M Koczij / M Lordan	45	<p>Principal's update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November is often a challenging month for the school • Issues can emerge after the Holidays break as students get a bit more fatigued – emphasizes that the culminating exams are 30% of the final grades, and students should never feel that too late to work towards achieving the marks needed for credits • Reports on attending snack and study program. Features 5 teachers who support, tutor students from every department. Social aspects and food also beneficial. Program helps students get ahead or catch up. Hosted 330-430 daily in the library. • Reminds attendees that Guidance department is available to support students especially at this time of year, as they are not dealing with year end issues or placement issues. CYW, Social worker available to support students. Mental health resources are available for all students. • Encourages family to take advantage of the supports available

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pool updated – swim team has gotten off the ground and issues have been resolved • Athletics – Volleyball – boys volleyball were west region champions. • Football program went to OFSAA bowl game. Junior Team finished at the Semifinal for the Metro Bowl. Great showing for WTCS. • Notes C Stephens was player of the game when they won the Toronto bowl. Excellent student, in design studio program, leader and football player. • Athletics pulls from all of student population. Indoor soccer starting now. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exam structure change for this year – period 1 is exam day 1, period 2 is exam day 2, etc. • By Ministry order we have 5 days for exams, but only have 4 days scheduled. 5th day is medical makeup day. 5th day can be writing exams that are missed. • Ski Trip has been offered on the 5th day of exams – has been approved by Board. Permission forms have gone out for those who signed up. ~ \$100 dollars for the day. Second bus has not been filled, there are some spots left and others may open as students drop out. If students are interested encouraged to fill out form: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fGA-fT9JNM_8v0-oNgvZI1ulj-Jb-Ws43V_CnOer-Q4/edit?usp=sharing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coming in newsletter this week – WTCS has been chosen as part of a pilot to move away from student names in email addresses for students . Existing format can create security issues, public can easily work out email from notices like yearbook. Tech savvy student population/staff population was ideal environment. Pilot offers additional support from the TDSB; beneficial to be in the starting group. Student email addresses will change to: <u>student number@tdsb.ca</u> (NOT tdsb.on.ca) – info will be coming to general parent population. • Pilot will allow to staff to work through details of how it affects google classroom, Brightspace, etc.
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			<p>secure to the TDSB, so information sharing using Gemini is safe for students. Academic honesty has always been an issue, not new.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there resources for staff to get training on AI? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Yes – two pa days on that so far, and board has info and supports available. Big technological change and lots of support for teachers. Educational specialist was brought in to discuss with staff. o Will be an issue in post-secondary. AI can be both a tutor and a resource. Complicated issue. <p>Admin Report – M Lordan</p> <p>3 items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midterm reports went out Nov 10 – over 4300 individual marks that get produced. Big achievement for staff making this helping • Last week and into this week the OSS literacy test was written by grade tens, and the second test will be written in spring as makeup. Jan 8/9 is the grade 9 EQAO math test. • Exams happen January 21-26, with the 27 a medical makeup date <p>FSL – thanks Admin for update</p>
Student Council Report	C Stephens	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Council C Stephens is Grade 12, co-president along with C Lam • This month the Council has not been hosting many events. • Remembrance Day was the big event. Had members of student council and volunteers in the leadership program to give info sessions about Remembrance Day and give veterans perspective on war and how it affected their lives. Focus on a Cree code-talker which was interesting for students

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working on Holiday plans to come • Spirit week in October, Halloween themed and went very well. Table set up at lunch so students could demonstrate they were wearing the themed item and were entered into draw. Similar theme week coming for holidays. • Holiday assembly is planned by Student Council. Live music, athletic council, cheer team, school band will be featured - to be inclusive of all holidays and religious backgrounds • Club funding applications being received, currently over 20 clubs at WTCS. Applications for funding must provide reason for funding. Newer clubs may need additional support, as example, but older clubs have historical value and must be continued. Negotiation/evaluation process designed to be fair • Holiday season – staff appreciation day sometime close to end of school year – hot chocolate etc for teachers. • Student Council has been running well and big plans for the new year. • Koczij adds – student club money comes directly from the student activity fee and student council take presentations from students and distribute the money and disperse funds. Reminder to pay fee as it allows student clubs and activities are supported financially. Public money from the TDSB cannot be used to support clubs. Roughly 75% have paid. • FSL comments that it has been a struggle since covid to sometimes get the fee from families, and the numbers paying are lower.
Proposal from the DECA Club	T Fillon-Meilke and S Dharsi	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S Dharsi - math and coop teacher. Approached by students to continue the DECA club after previous advisor has switched schools. Students are running program on their own with support from teacher. • DECA is an internationally recognized American organization that prepares students at high school and post-secondary level in marketing, finance, hospitality and management. Series of events to demonstrate general knowledge in these industries and students demonstrate competencies.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large team has been signed up to form a school chapter. Participated in regionals in Scarborough. Have made the provincials. 5 students. Because deca is private, required to pay participation fees which are disproportionately expensive. Prepared marketing events. Ask to School Council is for an initial fundraising cost to support activities – students want to raise the money thru business ventures • DECA also reinforces the SHMS programs at WTCS - leadership and hospitality. Cost for provincials is \$200 for student, \$1000 total for those who qualified. Funding will help pay fees and grow the club • TFM – Grade 12 student and co-president of chapter has been involved since grade 9 ... DECA provides real world experience and competitions to be able to work through and develop skills. Lots of interest in DECA from the student body as opportunities to compete are very sought after. Fees are pushing away the kids. Registration fee is now \$50 per kid plus competition fees and cost is holding back student participation funding is required to grow the club. • A dozen WTCS students were able to pay the fees this year. UFA has over 50 members and additional financial support for students • WTCS Club funds will be exhausted this year. Request to School Council is to consider allocating some funding to offset competition fees...thanks for the time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional context - MK – general donations to school become school generated funds – non public funds that come into school go into a general fund and are not dedicated to specific club or a use. Fund currently approximately \$2600. • School Council can allocate these funds...Council must vote on allocation – not an urgent request and can be voted on at the next meeting. Numeric ask as yet is not exact or specific, Dharsi and TFM can specify the amount and Council can vote. Can be an agenda item for next meeting. • FSL notes that no general School Council members have been voted in as of the last meeting – currently only the voting members are Executive. FSL will review the bylaws and determine best voting procedure for this spend. Generally
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			<p>members must attend regularly. Members can also vote between meetings with quorum and report out at public meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For next meeting – add to agenda to vote in general members. Call out should go in newsletter in advance. • Discussion on approval levels for funding in the bylaws. FSL has contacted the previous council chairs for bylaws. • Motion for a vote at the next meeting – Approved via consensus
Call for Agenda Items/Discussion items	F Seto-Lau	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FSL notes that School Council has a new TDSB assigned email: 1414sco1@tdsb.on.ca • FSL has access to that email, so members can email to reach out to council • Will reach out and try to get agenda together. Attendees can email to request additional agenda items as needed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update from Executive of School Council for Runnymede JR/SR – update on the parent safety committee. Safety issues noted on Runnymede property after hours and on weekends. Parents very involved in monitoring the schoolyard after hours. Notes some assaults after school hours. Wanted to let the community know that lighting will be increased in the school yard and cameras will be installed. Parents can share info out that this is occurring at Runnymede to make community feel safer. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o MK – notes that WTCS has been blamed for some of the behaviour at Runnymede historically but does not feel that this is accurate. Discussion follows on various security options for schools and benefits of cameras
Close	F Seto-Lau	1	Next Meeting: Thursday, January 29, 2026

Community may e-mail issues to meredith.lordan@tdsb.on.ca

