

**Western Technical Commercial School  
School Council Meeting Minutes**  
TDSB assigned email: [1414SC01@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:1414SC01@tdsb.on.ca)

**Location:**

Microsoft Teams <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/21345561630779?p=hiO85PiruBNn2NvYyu>

Meeting ID: 213 455 616 307 79

**Date:** September 24

**Time:** 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

**Attending:** (+34) J Zakrewski; Kelly D, R Major, A Turner-Sack, C Teolis, Kimko, M Holcomb, jk, S Latchana, D Ryder, Preethi, F Seto-Lau, Ben, P Estrada, R Rayat, N Deen, V Berry, A Kim, T Chase, J Eiuk, A Dawson, J Segalowitz, Jen, Andrea, D Rogowski, A Turner, KD, Char

**Regrets:** N/A

**Minutes:** S Hurley

| Agenda Item                       | Responsible         | Time | Notes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| Land Acknowledgement              | M Koczij / S Hurley | 5    | <p><i>We acknowledge we are hosted on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Wendat. We also recognize the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples and well as the One Dish One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• M Koczij opens with LA and welcome.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Comments on LA and development at school level of LA reflective of personal experience, informed by indigenous experts at school</li></ul></li><li>• M Koczij Chairs</li></ul> |
| Principal's Report / Admin Report | M Koczij            | 30   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• M Koczij delivers Principal's Report<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Head start to high school event and a grade 9 camp again this year. Expanded with 3 nights 4 days – COLTS counsellors leaders. (part of leadership SHSM) Great experience</li></ul></li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

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|  |  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Goal of integrating grade 9 class and community and providing meeting opportunities</li> <li>● Construction inside and outside the building – almost through AODA time period for accessibility at the school. Will be several more weeks before done. Next year will be elevators added on the heritage side of the building</li> <li>● Continues to work on auditorium and classroom furniture on an annual basis</li> <li>● NOTE: Significant construction occurring soon – sewer upgrades on the south side (from Bloor) will be challenging – especially for drivers</li> <li>● Changes from the Ministry this year – significant changes include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Expectations and instructions – assessment and evaluation. This includes new attendance policy. Being present will be part of the evaluation process.</li> <li>○ Curriculum Fidelity – stronger requirement to ensure all curriculum outlined is covered and matches new updates</li> <li>○ Instructional practices – short cycle assessment – more check ins on smaller portions of learning and providing more assessment. Will allow staff to better monitor if learning is occurring along the way. Does not have to be counted towards grades (formative evaluation)</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Artificial Intelligence ‘Policy’ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ TDSB does not have an official policy, in development</li> <li>○ Staff training and PD days have included training, including on academic honesty</li> <li>○ Privacy concerns with AI are paramount at the Board</li> <li>○ New programs are heavily screened through Board IT</li> <li>○ Staff are being given additional training and learning</li> <li>○ Arrival of board policy will drive further action</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
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o Public facing page -

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Elementary-School/The-Classroom/Technology/Digital-Learning-Tools>

**Questions:**

Question – What constitutes participation? Is there a rubric?

- Can look different class to class – students must understand what is required from the teacher in terms of participation
- Oral participation is listed in the provincial rubric, as an example, but not prescriptive at WTCS
- Students are encouraged to engage with teachers if unclear on how participation will be understood

Question – can you define the recommendations re: participation and attendance?) – How is the TDSB attendance system, often glitchy, reflected in the grading? Ex. sick versus at family event versus school event etc

- Attendance verification is done with teachers daily at WTCS
- If a parent receives a call that is incorrect they are encouraged to correct errors by contacting the school office and teacher – contact the assigned VP for your child
- Policy change coming over the summer made messaging challenging
- At WTCS - the only absences that may count against students grade are unexcused absences
- Increased onus on families to manage the attendance system

Question - Are absences due to sports, etc strikes against the mark? And what about when parents approve the absence? Does that also count as a "strike"? Or is this all only unexplained absences?

- As above, these are considered excused absences

Question - Are 5 lates constitute an unexcused absence? My child sometimes has a hard time getting to the washroom between classes.

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|                         |                    |    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Late does not count towards attendance; but in many cases it may affect a students participation mark</li> <li>• If late arrival is due to washroom – students are generally required to wait 15 min before going to washroom; this is managed with the teacher</li> </ul> <p>Question - Issue with bussing, mark late for class. Receiving call around 6pm regarding this matter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VP Love manages bussing programs for attention</li> <li>• General notes on bussing / challenging lates/absences – continue contact with administration to sort out the issue</li> </ul> |
| Student Council Report  | Abigail and Robert | 10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Council – Abigail and Robert (co-president) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Main Job is to organize student events throughout the year. Primary events at the end of the year – fun fair and semi formal</li> <li>○ Monthly events include: National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, Spirit Week, Terry Fox Run</li> <li>○ SAC – Grade 9/10 class reps coming up soon and encourage participation</li> </ul> </li> <li>• New Student Council inbound; Teacher Mackinnon - Liaison</li> </ul>                                                                                                         |
| VP Report and Elections | M Lordan           | 1  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• M Lordan introduces herself and School Council format, Vice Principal format</li> <li>• New ministry requirements for Grade 10 – Financial Literacy and Civics</li> <li>• Friday Night Lights – Oct 2 at Rob Ford Stadium</li> <li>• Trip to Paris over march breaks</li> <li>• <b>Minutes are posted:</b> Link to School Council page with last months minutes posted in chat: <a href="https://sites.google.com/tdsb.on.ca/wtcs/about/school-council">https://sites.google.com/tdsb.on.ca/wtcs/about/school-council</a></li> </ul>                                                                                   |

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|  |  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By provincial law elections are required at first meeting. No interest has yet been received</li> <li>• Format can be: Chair (or 2 Co-Chairs), Treasurer, Secretary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Admin supports the executive and can be responsive to Council/parent input for agenda</li> <li>○ Small amount of funds for distribution to school clubs etc</li> <li>○ Fundraising can also be done</li> <li>○ All meetings are Virtual</li> <li>○ Exec can communicate outside meetings to coordinate agenda, presentations etc</li> <li>○ Benefits include building community, learning about school and wider community</li> <li>○ Other volunteer roles available for support</li> <li>○ There are voting members who are not part of parent council – typically only once the executive roles are filled</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Goes to the floor for nominations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Past executive offers support</li> <li>○ Volunteers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ S Hurley</li> <li>▪ Jennifer Heimpel</li> <li>▪ V Barry, F Seto-Lau (voting members)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Suggestion – rotating talks from staff – ex. 25-26 Guidance, other departments to come in and present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2026-27, new staff leadership team, they will be asked to engage and introduce themselves</li> <li>• Co-op program has a new head</li> </ul> <p>Question: How does Western Tech provide info to students for university/college etc? fair?</p> |
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|                                                 |          |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primarily via fair format – Each class has an opportunity to go to post-secondary fair, others may have separate days where they visit</li> <li>• Occurs later in the year</li> <li>• Younger students are not brought to the fair, but Guidance posts info on their website for students and encouraged to meet with guidance counsellor for early planning</li> <li>• University fairs outside of TDSB – Ex. Convention centre this weekend</li> </ul> |
| Call for Agenda Items/New Business<br><br>Close | M Lordan | 1 | <b>Next Meeting: October 2026</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

Community may e-mail issues to [meredith.lordan@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:meredith.lordan@tdsb.on.ca)