

# Cairine Wilson S.S. Parent Council



**The Future Starts Now**  
*Cairine Wilson Secondary School*

975 Orleans Blvd.  
Orleans, Ontario K1C 2Z5  
613-824-4411  
[MAP]

**Thursday, March 18. 2021**

**Chair:** Heather Mawhinney

**Secretary:** Jennifer Pyne

<b>Attendance:</b>	Derek Black	Laurie Labelle	Jennifer Pyne
	Uzo Onochie-Roy	Heather Mawhinney	Pam Hawley
	Jen Coleman	Anne-Marie Robinson-Sisk	Jennifer Greene
	Ilham Atahi	Doreen Cummins	Barb Sweazey

**Regrets\*** Marcia O'Connor

## **1. Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order by Heather at 7:05 pm.

## **2. Approval of Agenda**

## **3. Approval of February Minutes – Heather/Uzo**

## Cairine Wilson SS Council

### 4. Chair's Report

- Heather reported that she attended a town hall session held by Keith Penny (School Trustee) and attended by Council Chairs. They heard about school budgets which will be tight for the coming year. Jen C confirmed that COVID funding will not be available next year, class sizes will be increasing and staffing will be decreased. Heather was also informed on a new OCDSB anonymous online tool for reporting bullying. It is called OCDSB CARES and it is a system that will allow students to report bullying anonymously. Jen C explained that all reports will be investigated. Hoping to have the system implemented by the end of April. Keith Penny hopes to hold similar meetings in the future.

### 5. Student Representative Report

- Ilham reported that a Battle of the Grades video was created by Council.
- Posters were also developed to assist students with the classroom codes required to access extra help after school

### 6. Teaching Staff Liaison Report

- Anne-Marie provided an update on behalf of staff.

FROM	Good news/requests/info to share:
Key Club	<p>The bottle drive fundraiser is happening this weekend. Flyers for pick-up on specific streets have already been distributed. Cash donations are also being accepted through School Cash Online. All proceeds will be donated to Ottawa Riverkeeper.</p> <p>Students are also organizing events for Earth Week in April.</p>
Food & Nutrition	<p>The kitchen is open and students are back to learning and improving their culinary skills! We are thrilled to be back in action!</p>
Student Services	<p>Course selections for next year are due by the end of the day on Mar. 19th</p>
Teachers	<p>Your nice words and your delicious cookies were very much appreciated by teachers...</p>
Link	<p>The deadline for applications for next year's Link Crew is tomorrow. Next year, all the Link Crew students will be in class in order to gain valuable leadership skills and work as a more cohesive unit.</p>

Race Relations	Feb. 25th students and staff got to hear from Rosanna Deerchild and her personal experiences and perceptions  Winners of the poetry contest: Spoken word 1st Lauren Bisson, 2nd Osha Anderson Written poem 1st Madi White, 2nd Magann Baptiste
	Award winners: Leading Women and Girls of Orleans: Adriana Suuronen, Amy Simcoe, Elise MacCaull, Aisley Lewis, Jenna Lemay and Sydney O'Donnell  Orleans Youth Rotary Award: Magann Baptiste: Resilience Maddison White: Perseverance
DDP/ASD	We are making dog and cat treats for sale. Our 'company' is called PAWsitivity. We are using the funds raised to donate to charity and have a class party. One of the charities we have chosen is the Canadian Down Syndrome Association. World Down Syndrome Day is this weekend March 21, 2021. We are also asking staff and students to wear mismatched socks on Monday March 22, 2021 to show their support for our students with Down Syndrome.  Terrena.bennett@ocdsb.ca
The Wilson	Second edition has been printed and distributed

## 7. Principal's Report

- Jen reported that based on the survey sent home, it looks like about 650 students will be returning to in-person learning in September and about 55 students are opting to stay in virtual school.
- A survey will be sent to staff on valuing equity and voice.
- Jen reported that there has recently been two positive COVID cases but with no school transmission.
- Jen confirmed that OCDSB will not be issuing the literacy test this year. It is unclear whether this will be a requirement for next year's graduates (it is not for this year's graduates). Currently there are still plans to proceed with the grade 9 EQAO.
- Jen P asked whether the yearbook team had considered selling the yearbook pictures to parents. Logistically it was felt that it would be too difficult to do this. Real grad photos are going to be too late for the yearbook so staff have volunteered to take grad photos for the yearbook.

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### **7. Vice-Principal Report**

- Laurie reminded parents that course selections are due as are Link applications
- Grade 12 students were sent a survey about commencement and what they would like to see happen. This closes on March 22.
- Grade 12 students were also reminded to submit their yearbook write-up and their nominations for the “most likely to....” Awards
- The Board is planning to start the new school year the way it ends with the quadmester model. Gradual changes will be implemented as restrictions allow. A discussion was had about the single course/day system vs two courses per day as well as about the fact that not all Boards in Ottawa are proposing the same model to return in September.
- Laurie reported that students seem to be losing their motivation in quadmester 3. It’s been a long year and they are missing their friends-some are struggling to “stay afloat”. Staff are trying to do lots of check-ins to make sure they are ok.
- Huge thank you from staff for the treats and note provided by Council. Staff were very appreciative. Jen P reported that some staff contacted her directly with their thanks. A small gesture can mean a lot.
- Students will be told to bring all their stuff home at spring break just in case there is a lockdown announced.

### **8. Financial Report**

- Derek and Heather have now got signing authority at the bank
- Derek informed Council that the current balance is \$4886.67.
- The \$500 parent involvement money has been deposited.
- Only money paid out was for reimbursement of money spent on staff treats.

**9. Other Business**

- Pam reported that although the craft fair is held in November, registration is usually done in May/June. She recommended that registration be delayed until August or September when we have a better idea of whether or not we will be able to host this craft sale. This would avoid doing the work only to have to cancel later. All agreed that this was a good idea. Pam will contact the crafters to let them know of this plan. Pam also asked that the email for the craft fair that is posted on the school website be updated to her email address.
- Barb and Jennifer G attended the meeting to bring up the issue of how CW will celebrate this year's graduating class. They wanted to ensure that the class receives the celebration they deserve. They have clearly demonstrated their resilience, and this should be noted. Jen C reminded us that school sanctioned activities must be in line with Board directives as they are striving for equity across all the schools. All agreed that students deserve to celebrate this important time in their lives. Jen and Laurie promised that staff are engaged and want to do something but the school is not in the position yet to do any actual planning. Heather confirmed that Council could possibly support financially or through volunteering time, depending on what the ask is. Barb and Jennifer G said they have a group of parents ready and willing to support whatever can be done. Jen P provided information on a Facebook initiative here in Orleans called "Adopt-A-Grad".

**10. Next Meeting**

- The next council meeting will be Thursday, May 20 @ 7pm.

**13. Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.