

6:30 Welcome, Heidi Van Schaik

The Keatsway School Council meets monthly during the school year. A major role of School Council is to create a level environment for all students in terms of opportunities, field trips and activities available. The meetings provide the opportunity to share information and provide parent input to school, School Board and Ministry of Education programs and plans. The mandate of the Council is to provide parents/guardians with the means to advise the principal and the board on ideas, which lead to improving learning opportunities for students. Keatsway School Council also provides support for the students through fundraising activities. All Keatsway parents are welcome and encouraged to attend the monthly meetings. Community members, including parents of children who will be attending Keatsway in the future, are also welcome at all meetings.

6:35-6:40 Approval of Minutes from November 8, 2016 meeting, Heidi Van Schaik

Motion to retain first paragraph only of *Classroom Highlights* from Principal's Report in future minutes.

1st: Cheryl De Koning **2nd:** Christine V **Approved:** Yes

Motion to approve Minutes of November 8, 2016 Meeting.

1st: Jennifer McKinnon **2nd:** Sheila Vardy **Approved:** Yes

6:40-6:50 Principal's Report, Lori Briscoe

Principal Lori Briscoe reported on the various activities in the classrooms, based on the students' contributions of highlights of their favourite activities.

Congratulations to Mr. Brian Weigel for his recent appointment as Principal at King Edward P.S., starting after March Break. His last day at Keatsway will be Friday, March 10th. We will miss Brian's leadership at Keatsway and wish him all the best at his new school.

Mr. Vinay Tiwari comes from Courtland P.S., and will be joining our Keatsway staff as our newly appointed VP, starting Monday, March 20, 2017. As Mr. Weigel did, Mr. Tiwari will continue in the twin role of Vice Principal at Centennial P.S.

Kindergarten registration continues through the month of February. Approximately 30 new registrations are expected.

French Immersion registration opened in January, 2017.

6:50-6:55 Teacher's Report, Carrie Bentz

Clubs, sports, and activities underway: Basketball, Gaggaball, Intramurals, Silver Birch Reading Club, Choir, Dodgeball, Free the Children, Minecraft Club. Glee Club for Juniors, led by Ms. Jackson to begin. Kodaly concert at Centre in the Square on May 2, 2017.

See Keatsway's website for Clubs and Athletics updates:
<https://kea.wrdsb.ca/clubs-and-athletics/>

Gymnastics equipment, to be used for Physical Education classes, will be set up in the gym from after March Break until mid-April. Track and Field begins in the spring. The Area Track and Field meet will take place during the day on June 15, the same date as Fun Fair, which runs in the evening, 5-8.

See Keatsway's website for Calendar updates: <https://kea.wrdsb.ca/calendar/>

6:55-7:10 Fundraising Report, Heidi Van Schaik

Keatsway's Fun Fair will be held on June 15th, 5-8 pm. The theme this year is Canada's 150th birthday. We are hoping to make this Fun Fair not only a fun community event, but also a large fundraiser for our playground fund. All proceeds will go towards our new playground. In order to make this happen, we will need a lot of help. Please consider volunteering. There will be a variety of areas to help organize, with variable time commitments, so if you are willing to help out, we will happily work together to find a fun job for you! Donations of items for the silent auction, to be held in the gym during the Fun Fair, will be greatly appreciated. Each classroom will also be assembling a themed class basket. Information will be sent home via teachers in the spring. Older siblings looking for volunteer hours, or parents, neighbours, etc., are encouraged to volunteer on June 15 at the various activities and stations at the Fair.

Contact us at keatswayschoolcouncil@gmail.com

7:10-7:25 WRAPSC Update, Jennifer McKinnon

A Keatsway representative is needed! WRAPSC meets the 1st Tuesday of the month.

For the sixth year in a row, the WRDSB Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) and the Waterloo Region Assembly of Public School Councils (WRAPSC) is hosting their free annual family event for parents, caregivers and the community.

The theme for this year's parent conference is ***Empowering Students with Parent Engagement***.

The conference will start with keynote speakers Royan Lee, a teacher, consultant and blogger and Yumi Lee, a student and entrepreneur. Bryan Larkin, chief of police for the Waterloo Regional Police Service will be the closing keynote speaker.

Date: Saturday, April 8, 2017

Time: 8:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Registration opens at 8:15 a.m.

Location: Bluevale Collegiate Institute (BCI)

Session topics include:

- Creative learning
- Food: how it affects learning and behaviour
- Diversity & Inclusion
- The power of optimism
- Nurturing children's interests
- Postsecondary career coaching

Free childcare for children ages 2 – 11 will be provided for the day.

Register for the event here:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/empowering-students-with-parent-engagement-free-parent-conference-april-8-tickets-31265251208>

March 23, 2017: KW Counselling Workshop

April 20, 2017: SafeTALK training program at Centennial P.S. SafeTALK is a three-hour alertness workshop that prepares participants, regardless of prior experience or training, to become a suicide alert helper. Preregistration is required. For more information, go to <https://kea.wrdsb.ca/2017/04/05/safetalk-training-for-wrdsb-parents-guardians/>

April 22, 2017: Parents Engaged in Education *Dream Big*. For more information, go to <http://www.parentsengagedineducation.ca/>

WRAPSC is trying to help the various groups better communicate with each other in terms of their goals for Safe, Caring and Inclusive Schools.

<https://www.wrdsb.ca/our-schools/safe-schools/#.WOz3APnyuCg>

Minutes from WRAPSC meetings are all posted here:

<https://www.wrdsb.ca/our-schools/get-involved/wrapsc/minutes/#.WOz3JPnyuCg>

7:25-7:35 Treasurer's Report, Jennifer McKinnon

An additional \$402 has been made from ESNS (Monday pizza orders, Boston Pizza lunch options, snacks), bringing the total to almost \$1000. The Boston Pizza Night in December brought in \$200. Mabel's Labels has exceeded its \$100 estimated budget.

We anticipate meeting our operating costs budget, and any funds raised this spring will all go to the new playground fund.

7:35-7:40 Science Fair, Sheila Vardy

Science Fair date is March 1, 2017. Registration is underway.

7:40-7:45 What's On Your Mind, Cheryl De Koning

Parent Workshop on Mindfulness and the Family to be held on Wednesday, February 22nd, 6:30-8:00 p.m. This workshop will help show us how to reduce stress and anxiety, manage emotions and improve well-being. Please RSVP to keatswayschoolcouncil@gmail.com. Childcare will be offered for those attending in the gym.

7:45 Adjournment, Cheryl De Koning

Motion to adjourn.

1st: Sheila Vardy **2nd:** Parissa Bohlouli **Approved:** Yes

Secretary: Christine Valente

Future meetings will be held on the following Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:00:
April 18, May 23

Babysitting is available at all Keatsway School Council meetings.

Please bring only sealable travel mugs into the library.