



**Waterloo Region  
District School Board**

**APPENDIX A**

**WATERLOO REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

**SCHOOL COUNCIL INPUT**

**FOR PRINCIPAL PLACEMENT**

**NAME OF SCHOOL Margaret Avenue Public School**

(Please print)

**NAME OF CHAIR Ellen Menage**

(Please print)

**SCHOOL PRINCIPAL Silvana Hoxha**

(Please print)

**DATE REPORT COMPLETED Wednesday May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019**

(Please print)

**Complete and return to Lila Read, Education Centre,  
or email to [lori\\_willsteed@wrdsb.ca](mailto:lori_willsteed@wrdsb.ca)  
by Friday, May 24, 2019**

## PRINCIPAL PROFILE

### 1. Identify the school council priorities/expectations.

As a small but dedicated group of parents, we prioritize the following:

- Consistent and meaningful dialogue with school administration
- Transparency with our community (all of our minutes are posted online)
- An opportunity to assist the school with any initiatives they have underway, where appropriate

We value school administration linking their updates to the school's vision, mission and goals as stated:

#### **Our Vision**

Believe, Achieve and Celebrate Personal Excellence

#### **Our Mission**

At Margaret Avenue Public School, we strive to provide a safe, secure and accepting learning environment that focuses on developing our personal academic potential, positive and caring relationships and social responsibility.

#### **Our Goal**

Our goal is to develop excellence in the following areas:

- Academic learning
- Personal character
- Positive Relationships
- Awareness of and contribution to community

In addition, we expect school administration to be true role models of the school's beliefs and values:

#### **Our Beliefs**

In fulfilling the mission at Margaret Avenue Public School we believe:

- In a safe, respectful, positive learning environment based on acceptance, trust and dignity of all
- That all students can achieve personal excellence through active participation in all programming, a wide variety of quality opportunities and appropriate supports for all students
- In the development of self-awareness and effective relationships as a primary key for achieving personal excellence

#### **Our Values**

We are committed to the Waterloo Region District School Board's core values of learning, caring and connecting. We are also committed to the ongoing process of developing character through modeling, teaching and inspiring our entire community. The character attributes that will lead us to achieving excellence are:

1. Empathy
2. Initiative
3. Cooperation
4. Integrity
5. Respect
6. Kindness
7. Hope
8. Social Responsibility

Silvana exemplifies strong leadership at Margaret Ave. Her updates to council, both in person and electronically, demonstrate a real drive to engage the parent community and to take careful time to explain the ethos of the school, and how her leadership and the pedagogy of staff contribute to the school living its' beliefs and values while striving to reach its' goals.

Middle school is complicated – it is short-lived, with students focusing on future at a turbulent time in their personal and collective development. Silvana has found a way to capture the attention of a diverse student population, pouring additional time and devotion into those students who may identify as marginalized or from traditionally marginalized communities.

- 2. School Focus – Identify the special programs/innovations which your school provides to support student learning.**

In addition to appropriate pedagogy and progressive instruction inside the classroom, Margaret learners are offered an expansive list of co-curricular opportunities to develop their person. These include, but are not limited to:

- SLAM (Student Leaders at Margaret) which offers selected students an opportunity to demonstrate leadership through the creation and execution of initiatives school-wide that focus on positive character attributes such as empathy and resilience
- SLC (Student Leadership Council) which offers a more traditional approach to student leadership with a focus on school events and celebrations, fundraising and student leadership development
- AC (Athletic Council) which offers students with an athletic edge an opportunity to also develop leadership skills through the administration of intramurals and other athletically based initiatives
- EcoTeam which offers students with a drive to positively tackle Climate Change an opportunity to create and execute school-wide sustainable initiatives and programs
- Coffee Cart Program which allows the students in the ACE class to access their curriculum in a real and authentic way and be included as part of the school culture.

Students at Margaret are also encouraged to create new co-curricular opportunities and staff are often willing to supervise student-led initiatives.

Staff at Margaret, under Silvana's leadership, have demonstrated a strong commitment to co-curricular learning. Educators with this strong commitment would thrive at Margaret and Silvana is encouraged, where possible, during the hiring process to identify new staff that would have the same commitment that the current staff members have.

**3. Identify any issue or concern for your school community which you would like taken into consideration when looking at leader transfers or changes for school.**

It is critical to the success of a diverse middle school to have leadership that understands the culture of our grade 7 and 8 learners, and is confident that they have the skills desired for success.

Silvana is that leader for Margaret Ave. Her commitment for a holistic-approach to student development and learning is strongly desired by school council.

Any future transfers and changes for the school should focus on Silvana's identified areas of strength and look to build on the foundation she has set:

- Holistic approach to student development
- Care for students who identify as marginalized, or belong to traditionally marginalized communities
- A strong commitment to co-curricular learning and opportunity for student leadership development