

Windsor Youth Commission

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

6:30 p.m.

330 Windsor Avenue Community Center

Draft-Minutes

Attendance: Sarah Maffiolini, Bruce McCormick, Bob Gange, Russell Sills, Rich Henderson, Andy Geary, Melissa Richards, Amy Fiano and Taisha Serram

1. Call to order.
2. Chairperson's remarks – Bruce (2 minutes) - Bruce welcomed everyone. Thank you for taking the time out and coming to the meeting.
3. Meeting minutes – Bruce (2 minutes) - Russell Sills motioned to approve minutes, Bob Gange 2nd. Motion passed 4-0
4. Updates on commission members, vacancies, and recruitment – Bruce (1 minute) – We currently have 4 vacancies.
5. LPC report – Sarah (1 minute) – LPC stands for Local Prevention Council. The grant is for \$5,600 and used for various programs such as: drug drop box, public forums and project graduation. If anyone has any other ideas to use the funds or public forum please contact Sarah Maffiolini.
6. Public comment – N/A
7. New business – N/A
 - a) Resilience documentary screening and panel – Sarah – The event is sponsored by the Youth Commission. The documentary will be held on Dec. 3 from 6pm-8pm at WHS. Includes the ACE's score presentation.
 - b) WHS cell phone policy – Bruce – Please see attached from BOE and WHS Principal.
 - c) WHS summer employment program – Melissa – They will conduct workshops and reach out to local businesses.
 - d) 2020 Youth Summit – Andy & Sarah – The Youth Commission sponsors the event. Both Sarah and Andy will be meeting more about the event. Currently looking for themes and if anyone has ideas or suggestions for the Summit please contact Sarah or Andy.
8. Old business –
 - a) Youth Commission recruiting – update from commissioners – If anyone knows of anyone who may be interested please invite them to the meetings

9. Standing Committee Reports –

- a) Police Department – The Youth Police Grant was cut from the state budget. They are currently looking for other grants.
- b) Recreation Services – See attached.
- c) Windsor Public Schools – N/A
- d) Board of Education – N/A
- e) Library Services - They are have behavioral issues. There teen numbers are up in programs.
- f) Youth Services – Red Ribbon promotions. Participated in the Night of 1001 Pumpkin event, where everything was Red. Included was pledge pumpkin patch. On Nov. 12 from 6pm-7:30pm there will be a free program to create Christmas cards for troops. All ages are welcomed.
- g) Youth Liaison – N/A

10. Adjournment - 7:35pm- Bob Gange motioned to adjourn, Russell Sills 2nd. Motion passed 4-0



Town of Windsor
YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING ACTIONS
October 22, 2019



Agenda Item	Action	Vote
Minutes acceptance for both April made by Russell Sill, Second by Bob Gange	Approved	4-0-0
Motion to Adjourn made by Bob Gange, Second by Russell Sills	Approved	4-0-0
Youth Commission Members Present:		

WHS Cell Phone Protocol and Policy

Students will be permitted to use their Cell Phones on two occasions during the school day: passing time and their assigned lunch waves. Students are not permitted to film/video, FaceTime or make phone calls during this time. (this privileges can be revoked)

All classrooms will utilize the Cell Phone Caddy Protocol as outlined:

1. When students enter the room for class, they shutdown/silence their cell phones and place them in their slot in the cell phone caddy. Each classroom will have a caddy and the teacher will assign a slot to each student in their class, each block, using an index card. (Approximately the first 5 minutes of class)
 - A. If a student chooses not to place their phone in their assigned slot
 1. The teacher assumes that the student does not have one.
 2. If said student takes a phone out during class-student automatically must provide their phone to the teacher and a Safety Monitor will deliver it to the main office (first infraction is used up)
2. Class progresses as normal.
3. After the teacher closes the lesson/activity, students will claim their phones from the caddy. (Approximately 1-2 minutes at end of block).
4. Process starts over for the next block... during block 3 "B" and "C" lunches (this process will occur twice).
 - Students are not permitted to take their phones with them out of the classroom unless they are being dismissed for the remainder of the block (This will happen in study halls, as well).
 - This will allow faculty, staff, administrators and safety monitors to confiscate phones in the hallways during class time.
 - This policy will prohibit (wearables) the use of earbuds, AirPods, Beats, headphones as well and smartwatches.

Policy

When a cell phone/device is confiscated from a student, the following will be the outcome:

- **First Infraction:** The phone will be given to a Safety Monitor to be delivered to the main office and held until the end of the day, where the student can retrieve their phone with a proper receipt
 - Teacher notifies parent/guardian if confiscated in class

OR

 - Administrator notifies parent/guardian if confiscated by safety monitor or administrator
- **Second Infraction:** The phone will be given to a Safety Monitor to be delivered to the main office, where a parent/guardian must come and pick up the phone.
 - Teacher notifies parent/guardian if confiscated in class

AND

- Administrator must notify parent/guardian that this is the second offense and someone must come to retrieve it.

***In the case of an urgent message delivery, parents and guardians should call WHS at 860-687-2020 and main office staff will ensure the message is delivered to the student.*

Policy objective:

- Maintain the integrity of teaching and learning time
- Aims to improve student engagement during class time. Faculty report electronics are a frequent distraction or disturbance during class time.
- Reduction in discipline referrals resulting from electronics; electronics referrals represent a substantive percentage of student conduct infractions
- Enhance the skill of students to be "present"

Our process:

In January, WHS convened a Cell Phone Policy committee consisting of certified faculty, non-certified staff and student representatives. The committee met to discuss challenges with electronics. Part of this work included reviewing the policies of other schools in the region and across the State. At the end of March, a faculty member submitted a proposal for consideration. 2 committee meetings were held in total. With a few modifications, the plan was presented to the committee and ultimately adopted by administration. Our next step was to solicit feedback from WHS families. On July 17th, 13 outstanding parents took time out of their work and summer schedule to meet at the WHS Media Center for almost 2 hours. The Focus Group discussed the topic diligently highlighting ideas, blindspots and 'what ifs' which each participant supported with rational, evidence or data.

What the data says:

- 1 in 4 teens is a heavy social media user, using at least two different types of social media each day.
- A study from Pew Research found that more than 50% of 13- to 17 year-olds go online several times a day. This quickly increases during the teenage years to more than 70 minutes per day. Teenage girls have the highest usage at just over 140 minutes per day.
- One study shows that Americans check their phones every 12 minutes, while one in ten checks them every 4 minutes. When unable to do so they begin to feel anxiety.
- 40% of young adults and 21% of adults admit to using social media even while in the bathroom.
- Not only are teens' developing brains vulnerable to so much time online, but because they often have difficulty self-regulating their screen time, their risks can increase. Additionally, they are more susceptible to peer pressure, cyberbullying and sexting—all activities involving digital communication.
- Teens often feel emotionally invested in their social media accounts. Not only do they feel pressure to respond quickly online, but they also feel pressure to have perfect photos and well-written posts, all of which can cause a great deal of anxiety.
- Sometimes teens spend so many hours on social media that they begin to lose valuable sleep. Consequently, this sleep loss can lead to moodiness, a drop in grades, and overeating, as well as exacerbate existing problems like depression, anxiety, and ADD.

Given the need to address this challenge and a commitment to maintain the integrity of teaching and learning time, I have endorsed and adopted the cell phone policy (see next page).

We will begin to implement the policy September 3rd (first day of school). However, the plan will be in full effect September 16th, allowing us the opportunity to provide an orientation to our students through assemblies and other delivery methods. The WHS professional community has committed to modeling the expectations of the policy. We look forward to your continued partnership and support.

Sincerely,

Mr. Osunde
Principal, WHS

Maffiolini, Sarah

From: Uyi Osunde <uosunde@windsorct.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 7:51 PM
To: DeRosie, Shatanna
Cc: Maffiolini, Sarah; Taisha Serrano
Subject: Re: Youth commission

Hi-the policy is currently on the district website under the high school page. The policy was changed this year because teachers have for a long time now voiced their frustration with student use of devices during instruction time. Also, faculty have cited that electronic use has served as a conduit that propagates some of the social drama that exist amongst students.

Over the last few years there have been multiple iterations of the cell phone policy. Teachers ultimately wanted a total ban. However, through committee conversations and a well phased out plan to get collective input, we have put together a policy that seems to give us the best outcomes specific to protecting the integrity of the teaching and learning dynamic.

At this time, the school community is adapting well to the new policy.

Thank you.

On Oct 10, 2019, at 5:36 PM, DeRosie, Shatanna <sderosie@windsorct.org> wrote:

Hi Sarah,
I actually would defer to Mr. Osunde to make that statement. I have included him on this email so he can respond directly to you and Taisha.
Shatanna

On Thu, Oct 10, 2019 at 9:58 AM Maffiolini, Sarah <maffiolini@townofwindsorct.com> wrote:

Good Morning Shatanna,
The Youth Commission has a few questions about the new cell phone policy at WHS. They asked if the school would provide the new policy and an explanation why it was changed this year.
They want to understand the change and asked if I would reach out. It was brought up in conversation and then they wanted more info.
I cc'd Taisha in this because she is the school representative for the YC. Myself or Taisha will bring the info to our next meeting is October 22.
Call me if you have any questions.
Thank you in advance!
Sarah

Sarah YSB
Send from my iPhone

Recreation and Leisure Services Youth Commission Monthly Report

October 2019

Staff / Programs:

- Pee Wee Theatre currently have 52 out of 50 kids registered.
 - Pee Wee Theatre will show Aladdin and Youth Theatre will show Beauty and the Beast.
- Fall Swim Lessons are at set to begin on October 5th and we currently have 68 out of 72 swim lesson spots filled. That is 94.4% of all spots filled. We also have 22 people on the waitlist.
 - We added 2 new classes opening up 8 new spots this fall to accommodate the waitlist.
- Night of 1001 Pumpkins & Food Truck event was very successful with 700 participants. New this year was 3 Food trucks and a pumpkin patch outside.
- Fall sessions for Baking for Kids have started with both sessions full with 12 kids and 5 kids on the waitlist. We opened up a new session starting in the middle of October.
- Summer Fun Camp Survey was completed, 42 parents participated in the survey. The full Survey Monkey Report was submitted to Rich.
 - Summer Fun Camp Parents were asked to participate in a short survey regarding Summer Fun Camp 2019. 42 parents in total participated in the survey. When asked if parents were satisfied with the performance of the Summer Fun Camp Staff 85.71% were either very satisfied or satisfied. When asked if parents were satisfied with activities / program content / field trips 95.24% were either very satisfied or satisfied. When asked if parents were satisfied with the entire Summer Camp experience 88.09% were either very satisfied or satisfied. When asked parents would recommend Summer Fun Camps to a friend or family member the response was 95.24% said they would.
 - Did you make a new friend at Summer Fun Camp? 94% answered yes
- Summer Aquatic survey was completed. There was 42 parents participated in the survey. When asked if you would recommend swim lessons to a friend or family member the response was 100%. When asked how satisfied you were with the performance of the swim instructor the response was 95% was very satisfied.
- RISE after school partnered with the YSB and the Wilson Library to promote Mental Health Awareness. RISE students were read Gizmo's Guide to Mental Health by Gabby from the Wilson Library. After the reading students had a meet and greet with Gizmo the dog from the book! Gizmo is a therapy dog who promotes mental health awareness for kids.
- Floors at 330 Windsor Avenue have been completed. This includes, gymnasium, main hallway, Windsorland & arts & crafts room.

Division Performance Goals & Objectives	Next Step

Performance Measures & Indicators: N/A

Upcoming Youth Commission Action Request: To continue to supporting all Windsor recreation programs