**Dundas Parent Council Meeting**

**March 28, 2018 @ 6:30pm**

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| **Update** | **Topic** | **Details / Questions / Next Steps** |
| **Welcome***Audrey Gavin &* *Anne Smith* | * High-level review of minutes from last meeting; agenda items tonight are from action items.
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| **Principal’s Update***Georgia Chatzis* | **Playground Update*** Climber has arrived and is in TDSB storage!
* Planning is continuing for the ironworkers to build the structure.
* Other plans are for the fencing to be put up (will take approx. 5 weeks to fence perimeter of grounds).
* Looking at options for resurfacing and drainage of Kindie area.

**Basketball Courts*** School has received funding from MLSE for new nets and court surface; continuing to work with the Board facilities staff to resurface former tennis courts.

**STEM Lab*** Mr. Waldman continuing to work with University of Toronto to arrange for room to be opened for lessons this spring and day camp program this Summer; planning for STEM lab learnings as part of staffing allocations for next year.
 | * Parent Council member James Dyson continues to contribute to this process.
* Look out for notice for public opening event in May (TBC); U of T is organizing and will include several high-profile political attendees.
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| **Vice Principal’s Update***Kristin McDonald* | Continuing to work on the Caring & Safe Schools Committee action items: First one was to draft a **Code of Conduct** for Dundas* Would be something that all staff, teachers, parents and students would be governed by when on school grounds
* Has worked with teachers/parents and students to develop new wording for Code: using positive terms (who we are/who we strive to be), vs negative (ie. don’t do x or y)
* Reviewed content of new proposed (DRAFT) Code of Conduct with parent council

Also working to make lunch time more safe and educational for students: * Have developed a Girl Power group to build self-esteem, look at healthy relationships; have developed mentors from Queen A who come over and meet with boys at lunch; developing Chess Club, have Relaxation Club (2x/week)
* Working with students/ teachers to start recess with mantra to evaluate choices: “Is it Safe? Is it Fair? Is it Fun?”

Special opportunities/student trips also related to empathy/kindness:* Grade 1 -3 got chance to visit Queen/Saulter library to learn about therapy dogs
* Selected students will do workshop with Right To Play representatives to learn about inclusive games; be able to lead games with peers.
 | * What are the plans for rolling out the Code of Conduct and having it available to staff/parents/students – Exact rollout and distribution is still TBC; will consult with Parent Council
* Suggestion to include Code wording or phrases as part of overall art for school
* ***ACTION ITEM – VP McDonald will forward final version of Code of Conduct to PC to review and provide feedback.***
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| **Staffing Model Update***Principal Chatzis* | * Georgia is in touch with the TDSB officials who forecast how many children she is likely to get coming into the school in JK and overall.
* The Board allocates the number of staff and teachers she will have as a result of that.
* Class sizes are also set by the Board (and Province) – an average of 29 for JK-SK, hard cap of 20 students for Grade 1 -3 and then an average of 26 for Grade4-5.
* For next year – keeping in mind the English, the French Immersion and the Extended French programs the school has been allocated 27.5 resources:
* 11 English
* 6 French class teachers
* 13.5 resource teachers and/or prep resources
* Then Principal meets with staff within Dundas and develops different potential combinations of classes.
* Structure of classes reviewed in meeting (on flip chart paper).
* Pretty much all the classes next year will be split classes.
* Moving toward STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) focus in programs, with traditional and innovative art/music/dance techniques
 | * Several questions/concerns about how students educational needs can be met when they are in a split class.
* Both Principal Chatzis and Mr. Waldman were able to speak to some of the techniques that can be used to manage and ensure all student needs are met.
* Lots of concern that there will still be more changes in September because TDSB forecasts have been incorrect in past years.

***Please see attached table that outlines the model.*** |
| ***SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES*** |
| **By-laws Committee***Hugo & Tracy Michalak* | * Today will be first of two consecutive votes required to approve proposed changes to Parent Council By-laws
* These changes will bring us into compliance with regulations and legislation.
* Major change is that next year, Parent Council will consist of the Executive Members and then a set number of Voting Members.
* Parents who want to be voting members need to commit to coming to meetings and/or being able to vote on items in a timely fashion.
* New council will be:
	+ 5 Council Executive members
	+ 10 Voting Members,
	+ 1 Teaching Staff,
	+ 1 Non-Teaching Staff,
	+ 1 Community Member.
	+ Note: Principal is non-voting.
* Quorum = 10 (ie. 18/2 + 1)
* Voting members who miss 3 consecutive meetings without reason will be deemed to have forfeited their position.
 | * ***MOTION MOVED by Hugo; MOTION SECONDED by Audrey. Voted unanimously in favour. Second vote on April 24.***
* ***Sincere thanks to Hugo and Tarcy for their careful consideration and time dedicated to resolve this.***
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| **Fundraising Committee Update***Sarah Johnson* | **Fun Fair Organizing Update*** Getting corporate sponsorships and funding in place.
* Getting a lot of activities for younger kids, such as pony rides, petting farm, bouncers, games.
* Planning for Food and eating area; food will be “Taste of Dundas” with diverse foods to reflect diversity of school community.
* Planning for Entertainment stage.
* Will offer a Marketplace area where local vendors can have a table and/or activity.
* Planning to have raffle (for big-ticket items) & auction (with themed baskets).
* UofT outreach is setting up a booth with an Engineering student with a demonstration, information about summer camp.
 | * Have yet to determine what the focus of fundraising activities will be – what initiative will receive funding
* Draft proposal has been developed that will be presented at next meeting; generally speaking the theme or overall upgrades and beautification of the Dundas school building
* ***ACTION ITEM – Add Laura’s presentation to next agenda***
* ***CALL OUT – Parents who are willing to contribute a large quantity of food for Taste of Dundas; please e-mail to Dundas Parent Council e-mail***
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| **Garden Committee Update***Christine Schloen* | * Christine coming on board with being Chair of this Committee; investigating all the requirements in terms of fundraising to expand the garden, pay for the garden educator and also co-ordinating parent volunteers for watering duties throughout the summer break
* Has been looking into unique fundraising options – considering have seed and bulb sales in lobby or perhaps Flowers for sale for Mother’s Day to raise money for Garden program
 | * ***ACTION ITEM – Christine to send follow up email with ideas (due to lack of time)***
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| **Parent Engagement Committee Update***Audrey Gavin(Rebecca Tromsness)* | **New Parent Outreach/Orientation Handbook** * Parent Council exec members and other members volunteered at the JK Registration Day – gave tours of first floor, handed out FAQ sheet with information about JK at Dundas and on Parent Council
* Communications committee reports that there was a spike in enrolment on the Dundas FB page following that event.

**Speaker Series for Parents*** Hosted Equity and Inclusion Info session on March 22; informative session with Learning Coach from TDSB;
 | * Committee asking for existing JK-SK parents to answer a quick survey in terms of information they would have wanted to know – survey launched on FB page and e-mailed out to all Parent Council members; also promoted through Principal’s Update which goes to every Dundas family.
* Parent Handbook to be available for all Dundas parents in Sept 2018 – still in development. (TBC)
* Equity session will be compulsory for all Parent Council exec members in subsequent years
* Hosting “How to Talk to Your Kids About Money” on April 4 – bringing in speaker from CPA
* Hosting “How to Talk so Your Kids will Listen” on May 28 – bringing in Parenting Expert Valerie Tih
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| **Budget Review***(Juliana Duray-Kikuchi)* | * Review of recent spending decisions (Garden Educator, Scientists in the School, X-Movement Parent Engagement Event, Teacher Appreciation Breakfast, Kindergarten Art Enrichment Project, 2 more Parent Engagement events, DPC Council meeting expenses)
 | * Forecasting to make more money at the Spring Bake sale as well as at Fun Fair; anticipating to finish the year at about $10K.
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| **Other Items** | * Ask people planning events to forward details to update Dundas calendar
 | * Lots of activities being scheduled; want to ensure they don’t clash
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