**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. |  |
| **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. |
| **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.*** |
| **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.*** |
| **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*** |
| **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)*** |
| **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 |
| **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. |
| **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 |