

The Waterfront School School Council Meeting #5

Date: Thursday June 4, 2026

Time: 5:30pm - 7:00pm

Location: Via Teams

Attendees: Principal: Charles

Teacher: (Regrets)

Guest speaker and City representative: Deputy Mayor Ausma Malik, Marouan,

Community Representative (s): (Regrets)

Student Council Representative: Isabelle (Regrets)

Elected Parents/Caregivers: Shahina (Co-Chair), Anett (Co-Chair), Hugo (Treasurer), Del (Secretary), Shaza (Ward Rep), Samantha, Mary, Sarah, Rosa,

Community Members: Cheryl, King Mak, Azza, Linda, Naomi, Ayesha, M, Magdalena, Sanah, Kirthi, Laura, Rose, Y, Heather, Kathleen, Megumi, Takahashi, Nero, Seema, Bryce, Clare, Lisa, Jennifer, Megha, Alanna, Teresa, Priscila,

1. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

Presented by Shahina:

Shahina welcomed attendees and thanked members of the school community for joining the meeting. A Land Acknowledgement was shared.

2. Guest Speaker – Deputy Mayor Ausma Malik

Deputy Mayor Ausma Malik joined the meeting to provide updates on several issues affecting The Waterfront School community.

Airport Expansion

Deputy Mayor Malik shared concerns regarding the proposed expansion of the Island Airport and the introduction of jets. She outlined ongoing advocacy efforts related to environmental impacts, public health, traffic congestion, and neighbourhood safety. Community members were encouraged to continue engaging with elected officials and participating in consultations.

Deputy Mayor Malik noted that a health impact assessment regarding the potential effects of jet traffic on community well-being is expected to be discussed at an upcoming Board of Health meeting. She also shared updates regarding a transportation and road safety study for the Bathurst Quay neighbourhood, which is scheduled to be presented to the Planning and Housing Committee.

Playground Revitalization

Deputy Mayor Malik reviewed the history of the playground revitalization project, noting that funding support was secured in 2024 and that required City approvals and agreements were completed in 2025.

School Council members expressed frustration regarding the lack of communication and uncertainty surrounding project timelines. Parents noted that despite site investigations taking place, no start date has been provided for construction.

Deputy Mayor Malik committed to working with City and TDSB staff to obtain clearer timelines and to follow up on the project's status before the end of the school year.

Discussion also focused on whether additional safety features, including fencing and improved separation between school and community spaces during school hours, could be incorporated into the project. Deputy Mayor Malik indicated that she would review the finalized plans and explore options that would not further delay the project.

Action Item:

- Deputy Mayor Malik's office will work with School Council and TDSB staff to obtain updated timelines and circulate the most recent playground plans.
- A site walk-through involving School Council representatives, City staff, and Deputy Mayor Malik's office will be explored to review playground plans, safety considerations, and potential improvements.

Education Funding

Deputy Mayor Malik also shared concerns regarding provincial education funding reductions affecting programs such as outdoor education, family engagement supports, behavioural supports, library services, and equity initiatives. She noted that City Council has formally opposed these cuts and is reviewing opportunities to support affected services.

3. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes

Deferred to a future School Council meeting due to time constraints.

4. Principal's Report

Deferred to a future School Council meeting due to time constraints.

5. Treasurer's Report

Deferred to a future School Council meeting due to time constraints.

6. Carnival Year-end Celebration - June 16, 2026

Presented by Shahina:

School Council provided updates regarding the upcoming Year-End Carnival scheduled for June 16, 2026.

The event will take place from 3:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and will include:

- Inflatable attractions and obstacle courses
- Carnival-style games
- Face painting
- Popcorn and popsicles
- Community information tables
- Additional family activities

Council confirmed that all activities will be free of charge for families.

In response to a parent question regarding inflatable safety, Council advised that all vendors meet TDSB requirements and that trained staff from the vendor will supervise the inflatables. Additional volunteers will also be present to support safe operation.

Council thanked families for their support of fundraising initiatives throughout the school year, noting that fundraising efforts made many of the event enhancements possible.

Council also requested additional volunteers to assist with event setup and operation.

7. Graduation Updates

Principal Charles shared an update regarding Grade 8 graduation.

- Graduation Ceremony: June 22, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.
- Graduation Celebration/After-Party: Planned for later that day at the school.

School administration is seeking parent volunteers to assist with the graduation celebration and will provide additional details in the coming weeks.

Council confirmed that graduation activities will continue to receive financial support through School Council fundraising allocations.

8. By-law Amendments

Deferred to a future School Council meeting due to time constraints.

9. Caring and Safe Schools Committee Updates

Deferred to a future School Council meeting due to time constraints.

10. School Council Annual Report 2025/2026

Deferred to a future School Council meeting due to time constraints.

11. School Safety - Falling Bricks, Incident on June 3, 2026

School Council facilitated a discussion regarding the security incident that occurred on June 3, 2026.

Parents expressed concerns regarding:

- The level of detail included in the communication sent to families.
- Understanding school safety protocols and procedures.
- The status of the police investigation.
- Additional security measures being considered.
- Supports available for students affected by the incident.

Principal Charles explained that all communications regarding serious incidents are developed in consultation with TDSB senior administration, Caring and Safe Schools staff, and Communications staff. He noted that communications must also consider the requirements of any ongoing police investigation.

Mr. Charles provided additional details regarding the incident. An individual entered school property and refused requests to leave. School staff observed that the individual appeared to be in distress. When the individual made threatening statements, staff immediately implemented school safety procedures. Students were brought safely into the building while staff contacted emergency services. Toronto Police attended the scene and an investigation remains ongoing.

Mr. Charles reported that:

- Staff and students responded appropriately to established safety protocols.
- Police responded quickly.
- Photographs of the individual were provided to police.
- The individual was not apprehended at the scene.
- School and community officers did not recognize the individual.
- The investigation remains active.

Several parents expressed concern about the emotional impact of the incident on students. Parents shared that some children reported hearing threatening comments and remained fearful following the event.

Mr. Charles advised that:

- Additional student support was provided through school support staff and the School Social Worker.
- Further support would be available the following week for any students continuing to experience anxiety or distress.
- Families are encouraged to contact the school if their child requires additional support.

Deputy Mayor Ausma Malik shared that her office had followed up immediately after learning of the incident. Her office contacted the City's Violence Intervention and Support Unit and Toronto Shelter and Support Services to determine what additional supports could be made available to

the school community. She also confirmed that CCTV footage had been reviewed and that available information did not indicate the individual was known to local shelter services.

Discussion also included broader concerns regarding individuals in crisis within the neighbourhood and ongoing community safety initiatives.

Additional Safety Measures

Parents requested information regarding steps being taken to improve security on school property.

Mr. Charels reported that he is working with the Superintendent and Caring and Safe Schools staff to:

- Review existing fencing and boundary measures around the school.
- Explore additional fencing options.
- Request a yard monitor for the remainder of June.
- Investigate the possibility of installing real-time security cameras.
- Continue evaluating opportunities to improve site security.

Parents also suggested improving communication with the daycare program to ensure staff are informed of any safety concerns affecting shared outdoor spaces.

Community Safety Walkthrough

School Council proposed organizing a joint safety walkthrough involving:

- School administration
- Interested parents and caregivers
- School Council representatives
- City representatives, where appropriate

The purpose of the walkthrough would be to:

- Identify safety concerns throughout the school property.
- Develop a consolidated list of issues.
- Prioritize repairs and improvements.
- Support advocacy efforts with the TDSB and City of Toronto.

Several parents expressed interest in participating.

Appreciation

Parents thanked Principal Charles and school staff for their actions during the incident and acknowledged their efforts to ensure student safety.

12. Open Discussion

Community members were invited to share questions, comments, and reflections related to topics discussed throughout the meeting. Discussion included school safety, communication with families, ongoing facility and playground concerns, and opportunities for parent and caregiver involvement in supporting the school community.

Due to time constraints, several agenda items were deferred and will be brought forward at a future School Council meeting.

Appendix A – Resources Shared During the Meeting

The following resources were shared with meeting participants through the Teams chat during the June 4, 2026 School Council Meeting:

Waterfront Advocacy and Airport Expansion

- Our Waterfront, Our City: <https://www.ausmamalik.ca/ourwaterfront>
- Toronto City Council Motion regarding Billy Bishop Airport Expansion: <https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2024.MM20.17>

Deputy Mayor Malik's Office Contact

- Marouan Malaeb-Proulx
- Email: Marouan.Malaeb-Proulx3@toronto.ca

Community Programs

- Free Soccer Program: <https://www.ausmamalik.ca/freesoccer>

FIFA World Cup Information

- City of Toronto FIFA Updates: <https://mailchi.mp/toronto/gettingreadyforfifa>