

Adam Beck School Council

Thursday April 21

6:30 to 8:30pm

Studio

Attendees

Kent Yee, Alison Hall, Mme Kneller

Julie Middleton, Jane Blondie, Kate Milligan, Lisa Telio, Lynne Downey, Dana Gaiu, Alisa Arbuckle, Lisa D’Innocenzo, Amanda Wood, Michelle Grahlman, Karen Harkins, Jenn Starr, Karen McMullin, Francesca Rea, Alex Bellamy, Michelle Lavoie, Elizabeth MacDonald, Marie Clarke

Lori Bernier, Michelle Ryan, Jill Ernst, Donna Bullard-Pease, Dianne Norman, Irene Roman, Emily Lim, Cristina Toporas, Sum Yi Chan (Emily), Victoria Kay, Russel Beron, Christine Robinson, Josh Lalor, Jerry Tang, Nelson Kwong, Ellen Pisani, David Lee, Sandra Poree, Shelley Kwong-Mulholland

Welcome

Alex welcomed the group and guest speaker Dr. Tayyab Rashid.

Presentation: Resilient Parenting – Dr. Tayyab Rashid

Jennifer Hamilton introduced Dr. Tayyab Rashid, who is a licensed clinical psychologist and researcher at U of T. Dr Rashid gave a presentation and workshop on Resilient Parenting. The presentation and handouts are attached to these minutes.



Resilient



Resilient

Parenting_Handout Parenting_Rashid.pdf

Principal Report

Michelle introduced Mr Yee to speak about upcoming changes at Adam Beck. In advance of Mr Yee’s presentation and in the spirit of the Resilient Parenting presentation, Michelle asked parents to consider showing more kindness, fairness, forgiveness, gratitude and integrity towards school council volunteers and to keep the conversation in the schoolyard more positive. Michelle spoke to the impact of negativity towards volunteers, and reminded attendees that it’s volunteers who run events that raise money to purchase important items like iPads, smart boards, laptops, etc.

Mr Yee presented the Principal Report:

- 2016-2017 Adam Beck staffing model
 - Mr Yee presented the 2016-2017 staffing model/classroom allocations.

- Mr Yee noted that in 2015-2016 there were 28 classrooms but will only be 27 in 2016-2017, and the school population is projected to increase by 10 students. This reduction in classrooms is due to classroom caps and the distribution of students.
 - Mr Yee explained that the TDSB takes student numbers in mid-March and projects the school population for the following year. Allocations are based on these TDSB projections, not on what the school foresees.
 - Parent concerns were raised regarding the English-French student ratios. As this topic has been covered in previous council meetings, Michelle asked that the conversation stay focused on the staffing model.
- School Hours
 - School hours for 2016-2017 will be changing.
 - Start times will remain at 8:42am for all students.
 - Lunch:
 - Kindies will be dismissed for lunch at 11:15am and return at 12:30pm.
 - Rest of school will be dismissed at 11:30 and return at 12:30pm
 - Reminder that there is a split lunch which allows for the Primary/Juniors to have full use of the yard.
 - There have been a couple of trial runs and the students have been fine eating in a shorter period. Greg Mills has been able to clean the gym and have it ready for 12:30pm.
 - The change is due to supervision issues with students getting into trouble on the yard with more time.
 - 91% of students stay for lunch, not many of them go home
 - Extra-curricular activities will still happen at lunch, spaces will be alternated when activities are run through lunch.
 - End of day:
 - Kindies will be dismissed at 3:00pm
 - Rest of school lunch will be dismissed at 3:15pm whole school.
 - Kindie students who take the bus will be supervised during the 15-minute difference.
 - CC55, Parks and Rec, Leroux Froebel and East Toronto Village were all contacted and are able to accommodate the new dismissal time.
 - Mr Yee noted that the change is as a result of the requirement to balance instruction time between in the morning and afternoon, and to ensure adequate staff coverage during the day. Mr Yee highlighted that all other schools in the area have changed their hours also.
 - Parents in attendance raised concerns over increased childcare costs and complications with older students at other schools no longer being able to pick up Adam Beck students after school.
- Intruder update: the intruder that Mr Yee spoke of at the last council meeting was recently apprehended.
 - There will be a new mural installed in the in gymnasium.
 - Adam Beck garden: new planters, benches, etc. for the Lawlor side of the school have arrived. The TDSB will prepare location and the gardening committee will add the plants.
 - Toronto Marlies Spirit event – thanks to Lisa Telio and Sarah Gomes for organizing the event

- 2015-2016 school calendar – committees should begin thinking about event dates so that the calendar may be created.
- Solar panels will be installed soon
- The next Movie Night is May 13.

Alex thanked Mr Yee for his presentation and clarified that there is a lot of good coming out of the 2016-2017 staffing allocation (i.e. we are keeping Phys Ed and Music teachers as well as our VP). Alex noted that in terms of the English/French split, it is important that we as parents embrace both programs in the school. The partnership between English/French is better than it was, but let's focus on what we can fix and not what we can't.

Mayfair Budget

Alex introduced a request from the Mayfair committee to increase their expense budget by \$2000. The request is related to increased attendance and the desire to entertain both older and younger children.

Lisa Telio explained that in the past the event has profited over \$8000, with expenses of \$4000. Over the last few years the activities have been the same, with limited activities for JK through Grade 1 children. The committee would like to expand on their experience by bringing in more jumpy castles and activities/games geared to their age. Lisa explained that there is \$1000 more than projected in sponsorships. With the increased expense budget, the net profit for the event is forecast to be \$5000.

Executive in attendance voted on increasing the Mayair budget by \$2000. The vote passed by quorum.

Budget Process

Alex introduced Francesca to give an overview on the Budget process.

Francesca explained that any parent may submit a proposal for school council funds. Voula has sent an email with the form to be completed for a budget proposal. Francesca asked that proposals be concise and specific on what is wanted and how much it will cost – each proposal needs details so that good decisions may be made. Francesca is available to respond to any questions about the process.

The Executive budget meeting will be held on Monday May 9 and a second meeting will be held on Thursday June 2. The budget will be presented to the entire council on June 16.

Francesca asked that committee leads send budget requests and details.

New Business

No new business.

~End~