



BEDFORD PARK

BEDFORD PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL - SCHOOL COUNCIL

~ Minutes ~

Thursday, February 19, 2026

7:30 p.m. - School Council Meeting (Virtual)

Email: sc.bedfordparkjuniorpublicschool@tdsb.on.ca

Instagram: [@bedfordparkps.tor](https://www.instagram.com/bedfordparkps.tor)

Attendees

<u>Executive</u>	<u>School Council Members</u>	<u>Other Attendees</u>
James Bae (Co-Chair)	Jeannette Holder	Darcy McLean
Kathryn Rochette (Co-Chair)	Renee Kates	Chris Coady
Heidi Valkenburg (Treasurer)	Michelle Peng Greenberg	Naimat Moiz
Bryony Livingston (Secretary)		Olha Ihnatova
	<u>Regrets</u>	Josie Fung
<u>Administration</u>	Andrea Reid	Zuban Chagpar
Adam Somer, Principal	Asal Kazemi	Karen Yu
Jacqui Goldberg, Vice-Principal	Jason Bourgeois	Mien Hein Le
	Renee Perri	Cynthia Quejada
	Tricia Madill	Linda Flower
		Nicole Nguyen
		Simon Rochette
		Bilana
		Carmen Luk
		Hulya S
		Melissa Wilchesky
		Chen Stapells

1. Opening Matters

- Ms. Rochette welcomed attendees to the fourth School Council meeting of the year and then reviewed the evening's agenda.
- Miss Naimat proceeded to read the traditional land acknowledgement.
- Ms. Peng Greenberg moved to approve the minutes of January 20, 2026, seconded by Ms. Valkenburg.

2. Administrative Updates

- Music Program
 - Mr. Coady presented a proposal for funding assistance to start a lunchtime orchestral music club for Grade 1 and 2 students. This program will fill a gap in the current music program offerings. The funds will be used to repair and maintain the instruments and purchase a set of Suzuki method books.



BEDFORD PARK

- Ms. Rochette moved to use \$1000 to \$2000 from the Purdy's STEAM fundraiser for the proposed lunchtime orchestral music club, seconded by Ms. Livingston.
- School Settlement Worker
 - Mr. Somer introduced Olha Ihnatova, the school settlement worker who has been working at the school every Monday since January. Ms. Ihnatova gave a short presentation outlining the free services available through The Neighbourhood Organizations' (TNO) Settlement Worker Program. For more information, see [Appendix A](#).
- I-Think Program
 - Ms. Rochette introduced Josie Fung from I-Think, a registered charity focused on transforming classrooms by building problem-solving skills so that students can manage in a complex world. Ms. Fung outlined some of the organization's available programs, such as the [I-Think Different Board Games](#) and [Challenge Kits](#). Parent attendees indicated interest in implementing the programs. Mr. Somer will look into the next steps with the staff.
- Facilities Update
 - Mr. Somer provided an update on the amazing snow-clearing efforts of the caretaking team. A reminder was provided about street parking restrictions around the school to prioritize student safety and keep the school bus zone clear.
 - The pool is out of service again and will be closed for scheduled maintenance until April.
 - The remainder of the facilities wish list is still being processed, including the requests for some tiling and painting. The concern regarding temperature in the building has also been raised.
- Academics Update
 - Ms. Goldberg informed the group that report cards and IEPs had recently been sent home.
 - Classrooms have been doing a variety of activities regarding Black History Month and Asian Heritage Month, and the next character education assembly will be taking place soon.
 - Teachers will also be engaged in professional learning communities around either language and math, and a number of classes have been going on class trips.

3. Treasury Report

- Ms. Valkenburg reviewed recent expenditures related to the 2025/2026 Budget, outlined the remaining allocations, and noted that the Council has not received many teacher submissions regarding the academic enrichment fund.



BEDFORD PARK

- A concern was raised regarding declining Pizza Lunch sales, which is a significant source of fundraising for the Council.
- A motion was made, on the advice of the school administration, by Ms. Valkenburg to allocate the remainder of the Purdy's STEAM fundraiser as follows: \$500 for Kindergarten STEM kits, \$500 for French Immersion STEM kits, and \$1000 for robotics/coding kits, seconded by Ms. Peng Greenberg.

4. Event Committee Update

- Community Night is scheduled for Thursday, June 4. More communication and volunteer sign-up will be forthcoming. To date, we have already raised \$3000 in sponsorships for the event.

5. Student Council Update

- Miss Moiz and Mr. McLean gave an update on Wellness Day, which was a success. The schedule included a board-approved yoga instructor and team-building and mindfulness activities.

On a motion duly held, the meeting was then closed at 8:40 p.m.



BEDFORD PARK

APPENDIX A



TNO – THE NEIGHBOURHOOD ORGANIZATION
Thorncliffe Park Community Hub (TPCH)
45 Overlea Blvd., Unit 200, Toronto, ON M4H 1C3
Tel: 416-421-3054 Fax: 416-421-4269
Web: www.tno-toronto.org Email: info@tno-toronto.org

Are you new to Canada?

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is **Olha Ihnatova**, and I represent TNO-The Neighbourhood Organization as the Settlement Worker assigned to your school.

My main job is to help students and their families who are new to Canada. I provide information and assist with different topics, such as:

- Immigration Issues (PR renewal, citizenship applications, and more)
 - Canada Child Benefit Applications
 - English/French language programs
 - Health Care information
 - Housing information
 - Employment programs
 - Legal matters guidance
 - Library programs
 - Recreation, after-school, and summer programs
 - And, of course, Education
- It's important to note that all our services are entirely FREE and strictly confidential.

If you need information or help settling in Canada, please don't hesitate to contact me. I can speak **Ukrainian and Russian** and connect you with other Settlement Workers who speak more than 40 languages. Together, we can make your transition to Canada easier.

Feel free to reach out anytime you have questions or need help with anything related to settling in Canada. I'm here to assist and look forward to being part of your school community.

Warm regards,

Olha Ihnatova
School Settlement Worker TNO - The Neighbourhood Organization
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