

# Birch Cliff Public School

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## *Council Meeting Minutes: May 8, 2019*

Committee Attendees: Principal Vine, Ms. Secher (kindergarten teacher), Kerry Cotton (Chair), Stacey McDonald (Co-Chair), Chris Borycheski (Treasurer), Meghan Price (Secretary) Kim Martin (Communications), Heather Blencowe-Robertson (Academic Enrichment), Amy Corcoran (community Rep), Michelle Whetter (Parent Classroom Rep), Natalie Silva (Parent Classroom Rep), Glenn Kremp (Safety and Security)

Meeting started at 6:30 pm

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- Introductions

Student Council

CONNOR and LEO, Gr 8 council reps

Not as many events scheduled due to special days and upcoming EQAO testing

BC Spirit May 13

EQAO May 21

Summer Solstice May 21 - wear bright colours or floral

Jump Rope for Heart May 23

Bee City Canada

Doug Whiteside and Shelley Candel

2016 origin from Elementary Science Teachers; looking for an inquiry model and questions (inquiry based learning). Starts with open ended question, students gather info and research to answer the question asked "Why are bees dying off?"

It is happening in Canada, largely due to lack of natural pollinator gardens and widespread pesticide use.

TRCA partnership, built a garden together. Local civic engagement. 25 schools across Canada have partnered to date.

**PLEASE VISIT [beecitycanada.org](http://beecitycanada.org) 'Resources' to learn how you can start at home with your family, to operate in parallel with our school garden!**

Ms Secher Update. (Dates will be posted on Beacon)

5/6 Ultimate Frisbee - JG Workman tournament AND Rugby May 17

7/8 Ultimate

7/8 Baseball

Track and Field May 14 Eastern Conference

Tues June 4 Finals

City Final top 4 - Tuesday June 11

Me to Wee and Boys Club ongoing

Kindie Open House May 29

Jump Rope for Heart - May 23

Friday for month Ramadan Prayers 1:30-1:45pm

Kindie Grad June 21 2-2:30

Grade 8 Grad Wednesday June 26

Clap Out Tuesday June 25

Play Date June 25

#### Principal's Report:

- Just spent \$5,000 on French Immersion guided reading texts which compliments that already spent for the English speaking primary students. Teachers are overjoyed. We also just received our math order and that too was \$5,000 on manipulatives and materials to support all students in the school.
- Reading coach working with French Immersion and Kindergarten teachers.
- **Kindergarten Orientation & Spring Concert May 29** - Intermediate bands and other musical groups/soloists (maybe) to perform (ie dance troupe)
  - Kindergarten Orientation & French Immersion SK Orientation from 6pm-7pm
  - Spring Concert 7-8pm
- Staffing
  - We are losing the intermediate Autism classroom. No surplus and we are in the position to post a ½ with French, a French Immersion for Gr ½, and a 0.5 Resource teacher (also asking for French in order to better assist with those in French Immersion)
- Fun Fair - please let me know what you need from myself and staff! Conflict - My previous school is having their Fun Fair on the same day and I promised 'hundreds' I would be there. I will come to BC for the morning on June 1st and then leave to go to West Rouge JPS.

Finally I want to thank all of you who are so committed to attending the SAC meetings and taking part in supporting your children at Birch Cliff. I have been very impressed with the level of commitment from all of you and I truly appreciate your efforts. I would also like to thank our SAC chair - Kerry Cotton; and the SAC Vice Chair - Stacey MacDonald for their tireless efforts on your behalf in the school. We are very lucky to have such dependable and talented people assisting us each and every day and the brunch was very much appreciated by all BC staff!

Chair Update;

Attached is a letter/email the Chair sent on behalf of the School Council regarding the Education Fund Cuts. If you would like to voice your concerns regarding the Fund Cuts please feel free to use our letter as a template to send out a personal email to the appropriate people.

Fun Fair

Lots of amazing sponsors and donations this year but we need **VOLUNTEERS** to help on the day of with setup, tear down AND during the day at various events. 1 or 2 hour shifts are all we ask as this scale of event truly does take a village to pull together

### **Baked goods needed for Tea Room at Fun Fair**

Fresh from the Farm as a potential fund-raiser for the Fall of 2019; school keeps 40% of profit

Doly Begum, NDP MPP

Shared insight into the climate and working discussions around proposed cuts and related impact, as a response to the letter SAC sent. Letter is attached for parents interested in sending directly to government officials.

Doly's contact info as she's offered to send updates to those interested. Open invitation to attend Question Period at Queens Park.

- Treasurer Budget Update

See attached pdf

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Meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm

Next meeting scheduled for September 2019! Have a great SUMMER!

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