

Dallington School Parent Council Meeting #3

DALLINGTON PAC MINUTES MEETING #3

Thursday April 11, 2024
6:30 pm online on zoom

<https://yorku.zoom.us/j/91675114764>

In Attendance:

Jackie Chau (Chair)	Vanessa Sandy (Treasurer)	Jeremy Schwartz (Secretary)
Frank Costa (Principal)	Jared Baker (Vice Principal)	Patricia Raymond (Teacher rep)
David Hawker-Budlovsky	Julie Piedrahita	Sarah Nisbet
Alice Mansourian	Patricia Barros	Meisam Soltani
Lisania Braga	Daniela Tovar	Marek Przemieniecki
Akiko Kobayashi	Patricia Tsutsumida	Marilyn Ma
Naghmeh Abdollahi	+ 3 dail in participants	

1. Welcome and introductions

2. Current fundraising events and volunteering

Dallington's social calendar very active over the next few months will be pretty pack with events from now until the end of the school year. I'll mention a few upcoming Parent council hosted events. Parents can volunteer for any of these events.

-Tomorrow will our **movie night**. An eblast was reminder was sent out to parents recently. Hope you all received it.

* **Alice (Movie Night Chair) Update:**

As of Monday, 281 tickets, 148 for Super Mario, 133 Spiderman. Just over 2k. From that deduct pizza and snacks and prizes. Looking at roughly \$800 profit so far. Raffle tickets at front door as well. Also some pizza and snacks for sale at door. Once event closed I will tally and let you know what we earned. Bring cash. No card payments at event.

Some Save the Dates event coming up:

-We have finalized a date for our **Move-a-thon!** This year it will be held on **Friday May 24**. This maybe an outdoor event due to the construction at the school. For any new parents, this is a pledge based fundraiser that is held during the school day. Each grade group will have a chance to dance with their classmates for this social event, it's a fun afternoon for the students. All donations will be collected through Cash online. More info to come.

-Our **Staff Appreciation Lunch** will be held on **Friday June 14th** at the school. This is hosted by the parent council volunteers and lunch is provided to over 50 staff members at Dallington, which includes teachers, administrators, caretaking staff etc. We will be asking for cash online donations for this event. Please look out for more info.

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-Our **Teacher Wish List from has been updated**. This is something the council put together around the same time we started Phase 1 of our outdoor Master Plan about 8 years ago. (triple hoop, basketball hoops, line painting in the courtyard etc). This program was a way to make sure **current students could benefit immediately and directly as the Master Plan was a multiyear endeavour**. Each teacher would have access to \$150 to use how they wish towards their current students. Some things in the past included an extra session of Scientist in the classroom, teachers could pool together funds for a trip, or help cover the cost of a school bus, purchase of tech and other educational items the students could use. This would be approved by the principal and the teachers would then make the purchase and be reimbursed by council funds. Frank is taking a final pass of the form. So we are hoping to get this out very soon!

***Just a quick reminder from the last meeting - Call to parents for council:**

As mentioned in previous meetings, the bulk of this current parent council and several long standing parent members will be leaving after this school year as our youngest kids are graduating Dallington. We are hoping to have a chance to set up the next group of parents for success.

So – we are planning on having 1 or 2 (most likely) in person meeting at the school to go more in depth about what the current council has done, share the process, scheduling, administration, collaborating with the community and Dallington staff.

I would say if you are at all curious or curious adjacent, please think about coming. Many of these positions can be shared by several people and things can be done differently and new ideas can be incorporated. It's a gathering to share information and plan for the future. *The goal of all of this is community, made up of caring parent volunteers.

So now we have our first meeting date: **Tuesday April 30th at 6:30 pm**. Principal Costa will be booking a permit for us to hold this meeting in the Library. This will be an info session on what the role of the council, what we do, how to prep for events, planning and to answer any questions etc. We are also planning on providing childcare. This is typically in one of the kindergarten rooms with a one of our lunch supervisors at the school... and there will be snacks!

So keep an eye out for another eblast after Movie Night. But in the meantime, if you are interested, please feel free to email our PAC email: dallingtonpspac@gmail.com

3. Financial update: Treasurer – Vanessa

4. Dallington Pollinators: Mahnaz's email message read in meeting:

Dallington Pollinators Community Garden: Spring Season Kickoff!

Garden Preparation with the Pollinator Team The gardening season is in full swing! Our pollinator team, alongside the eco-club kids, is 'recruiting soil' to combat climate change. By nurturing the soil's micro-organisms, we're not only maintaining soil health but also enhancing its carbon storage capabilities.

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Volunteer Initiatives and Learning Opportunities Our community volunteers are currently exploring seed germination, gaining insights from successful projects. All seedlings cultivated will beautify our community garden, with surplus shared with local community members.

Eco-club Kids Nature Lab Thanks to Mme. Goumakos and the enthusiastic eco-club kids, we've planted various 'cover crops' that should hopefully germinate post-rain. These crops are essential for soil health, preventing erosion, and naturally managing weeds. Engaging young minds through these hands-on activities helps foster a deep connection with nature and instills a sense of responsibility and stewardship.

Join Us We invite you and your children to experience the joy of gardening, learn more about the role of soil in fighting climate change, and contribute to our community's greener future. Stay tuned for upcoming gardening days announced on our social media! For more information, visit our website: www.dallingtonpollinators.com

Let's grow together and inspire the next generation of change-makers!

6. Principal's/Vice Principal's updates and comments

- Vice Principal Jared Baker, intro, thanks everyone
- 17th year with TDSB, was teacher, Woodbine previously

- Principal's Update:

- EQAO May 8 – June 12 is the window, kids will write on 3-4 days in this period
- Welcome Kindergarten May 15
- Lots of construction coming, thanks to parent committee working on safety during construction.
- Recommendations in place, messenger will come out
- Kindergartens will move to door 2
- Main entrance will become Door 7 (N side beside driveway)
- Main staircase to be closed

Construction Update:

- Door 7 is prepared with buzzer and camera (Will remain & Door entry system)
- Roofing to start May 6th
- Still awaiting landscape Date

Committee's recommended actions during construction:

- Kindergarten entry and exit will be moved to door 2
- The school's front entrance will be moved to door 7 (North side of school, beside driveway entrance).
- The main staircase of the school (east side, meeting Dallington Drive via the sidewalk will be closed. Pedestrians are to use the secondary staircase (a few metres south of the main staircase) and make their way to the south of the school, where the staircase to the lower level is located (we already have families moving in this direction in the morning).

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- **The parking lot will be closed to ALL visitors. Parking will only be available to TDSB and daycare staff.** We encourage families to continue to use the Kiss 'n Ride. Families may also use the cul-de-sac at the rear of the school.
- Daycare families use the south stairs and cul-de-sac as areas for access to the building
- Added buzzer and camera at door 7, permanent so no cost if we need to move to that entrance. Now have another door monitor.
- Roof will start May 6, so upper gym closed then
- Awaiting landscaping, was to be May 15, may push a bit.
- Review of class breakdown for next year to propose to TDSB
- Increase in police presence. I have contacted parking authority re traffic. Also, we made a partnership with TPS, they come and meeting, speak with kids. 4 officers come Mondays at lunch, with a group of about 33 students, selected for a leadership club, develop positive relationships. Wanted all students to get the opp. Next week we will give every class a rotating schedule chance to form positive relationships to strengthen community.
- Haven't changed pathways from French. For now status quo. Some discussion of a virtual classroom.
- Peter Pan Musical: May 1st & 2nd

7. Other Business

- Possible clothing drive. School looking into ensuring cleanliness of items.
- **Mme Raymond:**
 - Wonderful track and field day
 - Peter Pan
 - Volleyball Monday
 - Trying to squish in cricket
 - School very busy, kids seem very happy
- TPS may help provide a parenting session re cybersecurity
- PIAC conference focus: screentime and screen safety, proposed end of October also a seminar

8. Next meeting date- Thursday June 6th 2024