

IPS School Council Meeting 2023 12 04

Today's follow up owned by

- Abi Wren
- Samira Zarghami
- Jen Yeung
- Jason Applebaum

Previous follow up owned by

- Lindsay Stephens
- Karen Rothfels
- Abi Wren
- Jason Applebaum
- Jeff Kearns
- Samira Zarghami
- Jen Yeung

Meeting started 4:20 in person @ Waterpark Place

Attendees	Regrets
1. Abi Wren	10. Bidisha De Sarkar
2. Jason Applebaum	11. Johnny Tkach
3. Jeff Kearns	12. Karen Rothfels
4. Jen Yeung	13. Kate Valiquette
5. Jennie Lai	14. Krissy Burns
6. Lindsay Stephens	15. Maria Khan
7. Samira Zarghami	16. Natasha Benham
8. Gary Pieters (Principal)	17. Pras Chatterjee
9. Meaghan Salisbury (Teacher)	18. Tracey Baker
• 10 parents (Kayoko, Judy, Jason D, Anshul, ...)	

Agenda

1. Approve previous meeting minutes – Chair
2. Business arising from the minutes – Everyone
3. Access past funds/bank account and Foundation access – Abi
4. Outdoor Classroom/Playground - Group Discussion
5. Principal's Report - Gary Pieters
6. School Spirit Wear - Jen

Quorum

9 parent council members + 10 parents = 50% of council
Achieved: >50% members, >50% parents

Welcome - Abi

Motion to approve previous minutes

- Proposed: Abi, Samira seconded
- Vote: majority in favour, motion carried

Business arising from minutes

- **Jen, Abi, Samira** to create budget & list of activities - underway
- **Jeff & Samira** discuss with Gary how to best support Dec 14 holiday hoopla talent show e.g. with snacks; Jeff & Samira will connect after
 - popcorn machine? (is slow, though)
- Plan who'll work on (1) School Improvement Plan, (2) School Statement of Needs
 - SIP: (is aspirational goals for student achievement & well-being); **Samira**
 - SSON: (aspirational goals for school leadership); **Abi**
 - link these two together when gathering parent input
- To-do checklist: no new items this month
- By-laws work underway: **Jason, Abi, Lindsay**
- Communicate to parents re: police checks: **Samira & Abi**
- Grade 6 grad support: **Samira & Abi**

Access past funds/bank account and Foundation access – Abi

- CRA wants TDSB letterhead stating that President = Chair/Co-Chair, "Toronto Island Public School" = School Council
- E.g. "ex officio the President of the Toronto Island Public School" = "Abi Wren", Co-Chair of IPS School Council
- E-mail Gary what's required & he'll do it
- **Jason** send **Abi** draft of CRA-preferred wording to send to Gary

Outdoor Classroom/Playground - Group Discussion

- Spider web replaced, frame was structurally sound, is \$18,000 cost, under warranty / TDSB covering
- There is a store room near the front of the school that Gary wants to put balls & etc. in for kids to have access to
- Outdoor classroom & stumps removed: safety audit by AON (?) global risk management, came Nov 6 to do risk audit of school
- Every time a kid trips or falls we send in a report, was 8 incidents within a matter of days-weeks, were not minor injuries, were concussions & broken fingers
- Due to multiple frequent serious incidents a health and safety inspection occurred
- Inspection saw wood was in bad condition, some holes in them that small kids' feet could fit in, they ordered the TDSB to remove it
- Outdoor classroom planks had degraded and kids were getting splinters
- Removal company showed up on day Gary was on a leave of absence. An acting principal was onsite that day
- Wood was removed since it was a health & safety issue
- TDSB has to comply with health and safety findings
- Outdoor classroom is only outdoor play area for kindergarten, is now empty
- Gary trying to get age-appropriate play equipment ASAP
- Lots of kids & parents upset due to surprise removal, missed opportunity to communicate details in advance; original expectation was removal would be in January but it happened much quicker than expected
- Kids came to speak to Gary about the forts & wood being taken away, agreed kids could put up pictures & write about what the forts & wood meant to them, would be a permanent installation at the school
- Gary: outdoor classroom is part of the school's identity, so it must be put back
- IPS is a nature-based school -- we will bring it back, kids & parents will have a say, we will do something with loose parts
- Action items (1) got spider web restored quickly, (2) are working with city & TDSB services to restore facilities for play (3) work with students & parents to install recess & instructional time equipment

- **Would be helpful:** parents write Gary nice, concerned letters asking for instructional & play equipment to be replaced: we need proper play structures for the kids, cc: usual people
 - We can form a playground revitalization committee with parents & kids
 - FYI on City of Toronto playground enhancements: <https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/planning-development/construction-new-facilities/playground-enhancement-program/>
- **Abi & Samira** organize community to write helpful letters

Principal's Report – Gary Pieters

- Questions only, main item was playground changes as above
- Can things be done at principal's school without principal's knowledge? e.g. playground equipment removal on day Gary isn't there
 - Yes, since Gary doesn't manage e.g. playground, fields, boiler room -- those are managed by facilities services, caretaker staff don't report to Gary, report to facilities so are under their direction (same with kitchen, is managed by nutritional services)
- Unrestricted computer use - Gary needs to follow up with teachers to ensure computer usage is appropriate & teachers are supervising usage
 - Parents expressed concerns with lack of restrictions on TDSB device internet access
 - Is there a TDSB policy on internet usage? Yes there is:
 - TDSB on-line code of conduct (applies to staff, too)
 - TDSB acceptable use policy
 - If teachers aren't compliant, and is brought to Gary's attention he can follow-up with them
 - Gary will raise this in his staff meeting & week-at-a-glance to staff
 - *Subsequent addition:* Gary's Dec 11 weekly roundup contained:
 - **Responsible Use of Technology at School During Instructional and Non-Instructional Times:**
 - Acceptable Use of Information Technologies <https://ppf.tdsb.on.ca/uploads/files/live/97/1933.pdf>
 - Online Code of Conduct <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Policies-Procedures-Forms/Online-Code-of-Conduct> and/or <https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/elearning/Resources/Code-of-Online-Conduct>
 - Need to be mindful of where would we draw the line on restrictions? Could we agree as a group what is acceptable usage & which websites are permitted?

School Spirit Wear – Jen Yeung

- Lots of hard work by Jen Yeung!
- Throwback to original IPS sailboat logo (thank you Chantal!)
- New colour (grey) to stand out at community events since every school is blue
- Will pair ordering with Mabel's Labels @ deep discount
- **Jen** to keep working on this

Motion to adjourn: Jen Yeung, Samira seconded
 Majority voted to end the meeting
 Meeting ended ~5:30pm

To do

1. **Jen** confirm plans with community re: spirit wear & Mabel's Labels
2. **Abi & Samira** communicate with community re: writing letters re: playground revitalization
3. **Abi** work on SSON (see 2023 11 07 minutes for documents)
4. **Samira** work on SIP (see 2023 11 07 minutes for documents)
5. **Abi** send Gary specifics to resolve CRA concerns re: TLF access

To do from previous meetings

6. **Jen, Abi, Samira** create fundraising plan
7. **Karen & Samira** determine ward forum nights and schedule into their or delegate's calendars
8. **Jeff & Samira** work with Gary to determine how School Council will support the Holiday Hoopla
9. **Jason, Abi, Lindsay** work on by-laws
10. **Samira & Abi** coordinate communication to parents for how to do police checks & get reimbursement
11. **Samira & Abi** get someone to coordinate with Mr. B & Miss Carrie for how school council can support grade 6 graduation celebrations/activities, and grade 5/6 annual fundraising for graduation trip
12. **Jen** look into Mabel's Labels funding, get our link so we can publish it
 - Link to purchase: <https://campaigns.mabelslabels.com>, search for "Island Public School (Toronto)"
 - Suggest families wait until we run the promotion with Spirit Wear as we plan to do a bulk order and prices are significantly lower
 - Current balance \$17.18
13. **Jen** continue working on Spirit Wear, **Abi & Tracey** to help
14. **Jen** to follow up on funds spent on ice cream truck and determine 2021-2 donation items
 - Jen e-mail Dec 6, 2023, 7:08 AM Cori confirmed cheques made out from School Cash to The Lighthouse Foundation (TLF), then from TLF to ice cream truck provider so we don't have any information on who the funds went to without access to the bank account – ice cream truck service was never provided, was cost refunded/not paid?
15. **Jen** look into Fundscrip <https://www.fundscrip.com/>
 - Invitation Code: 3G98XT
16. **Samira** find out from Gary # of students (and %) that use hot lunch, find out nutritional aspects

Minutes written by: Jason Applebaum & Jennie Lai (edits: Lindsay Stephens, Jen Yeung, Abi Wren, Samira Zarghami)

Minutes approved by: Lindsay Stephens, Jen Yeung, Abi Wren, Samira Zarghami