

SAC Meeting Minutes
Monday October 3, 2022 at 7:00pm
John Wanless Public School in the Library

Attendees

Peter Boross-Harmer, Jamie Parkes, Carly Suppa-Clark, Meg Berkovitz, Andrew Hillier, Elisha Jamieson Davies, Eric Risen, Heather Halnan, Talya Postan-Feldberg, Kirsten Uhre, Sara Kussner, Lisa Higginbottom, Janice Passmore, Lana Sheinbaum, Caryn Levin, Joel Podbere, Jeff Roberts, Jenn Moad, and other community members.

Welcome & SAC Overview (Eric Risen)

- Welcome to administration, staff, council members and community members and thanked for ongoing support
- Outlined role of Student Advisory Council
- Invited parent and community participation

SAC Introductions & Elections (Eric Risen)

- All council members for election for the '22-23 school year were announced and voted in unanimously
- Andrew Hillier is taking on a new role – future planning
- Thanked council members that are retiring from SAC – Andrew Hillier, Val Trifler, Jackie Chan, Chris Davenport, Erin Smith, Kelly Dell’Apa, Sehrish Haider & Farah Meghjif
- There are open council roles – requested volunteers for Co-Chair, Secretary, and Extra-Curricular & T-Ball
- Thanked Jeff & Lana for their ongoing support

Treasurer Report & Annual Budget Process Overview (Andrew Hillier)

- Build on strong fundraising from the Spring and continue this school year
- Healthy balance in the account to start the year
- Request for budget submissions ongoing; budget reviewed and approved on Oct 24th

Fundraising Report (Carly Suppa-Clark)

- Focused on FUN-raising and community in the Spring
- This year started with Welcome Back DJ & pizza night; we raised ~\$700
- Upcoming fundraising campaigns include spirit wear, art cards, holiday poinsettias, holiday market, valentine’s Purdy’s chocolates, spring fair, Woodward Meats and Mabel’s Labels

School Support Report (Caryn Podbere)

- Upcoming donation drive for Breakfast Club of Canada (collect at houses)
- Planning November coat drive, restarting Breakfast Club breakfasts with Grade 6 students
- Re-connect with sister school to understand needs (Flemington)

Admin Update for SAC Mtg to be held Oct 3rd, 2022

Staffing & Enrolment Update:

During TDSB's reorganization period we were allocated one additional junior teacher. This allocation came more from the fact that we were over the Ministry-mandated cap of 20 in several of our primary classes rather than from being higher in our enrollment than projected. Projected enrollment was 629; actual enrollment is 631 students.

As indicated in our communication to parents, our plan was to have the least bit of disruption when carrying out the moves. Two of our split classes were eliminated with three remaining in place. We were delighted to enable Ms. Chau to assume teaching responsibilities for the new Grade 4 class and we are pleased that Ms. Yousefi has started her new role today as a FT French teacher.

Support staff: We have had a bit of a musical chair effect system-wide with DECE's as they are being constantly moved around based on seniority and the right to be recalled. At the end of this week, we will be losing Ms. Bleiman from Room 101 who has been recalled to Armour Heights.. It is entirely possible that our personnel may change yet again in the next few weeks. Our support staff allocation for our kindergartens remains at 5 (no DECE for Room 112) and our EA allocation for the whole school remains 1.0 Although we received an addition 0.5 caretaking allocation at the end of last year, in fact our caretaking has been one short as staff are being pulled out to cover other schools. As far as lunch supervisors are concerned, we have interviewed and submitted documentation for two new hires three weeks ago yet they still have not been approved centrally. This means that we are very short at lunchtime.

Facilities Update:

Unfortunately the roof work is still not finished and as a result of the work we have had ongoing flooding issues in both our library and Room 109. The problem lies in the fact that there is only one drain for such a large area and the water pools every time it drains. Eventually the water finds its way down through the cracks. Although the roofing company has indicated that they are done, TDSB will have to install additional drains to allow the water to escape. Decking Installment TBD.

Our temporary fence will be replaced in the very near future with yet another temporary fence- this one with a cement base and a metal extension. The location of the new temporary fence will allow us to regain the jogging track at the south end of our yard as well as ensure that soil erosion is slowed down/eliminated. The permanent fence will likely be installed in the spring. A crew was on site today to take measurements.

TDSB's trade staff in general is decimated due to retirement/lack of retention. There are no supply caretakers available and therefore staff are constantly pulled from one school to another to cover shortages.

System/School Update:

- We are very excited to let you know that we have been selected as one of two schools across TDSB to be involved with OISE and Khan Academy as part of a pilot project for this year. This project involves our three Grade 6 classes and has seen the assignment of a Khan Academy math coach to each of these classes. The coaches are working with the classroom teachers and the students throughout the whole year on Math Mastery.

- As indicated at our Curriculum Night Our School Improvement Plan this year will be about BELONGING and how we collectively create a school environment that is welcoming for all. We will focus on reconnecting with our students in a number of different ways and focus on establishing strong bonds between them and our faculty as well as aid all of our students in developing strong bonds with their peers. A number of our staff members have signed up for this year's caring & safe school committee. We are looking for PARENT REPS to join the committee which will meet a few times during the year.

- Strings/Band/itinerant music have started. Our Band instruction takes place on M-W-F from 2:45-3:15. Unfortunately our strings instructor has been away for all of September and therefore her sessions have yet to start. Strings also takes place M-W-F from 2:45-3:15. As far as our Winter

Concerts are concerned, our tentative dates are Dec 13th at 6pm for primary and dec 14th at 7pm for junior students.

- Athletics- XC is going well with our first meet scheduled for tomorrow. Soccer has started for both girls and boys. Winter sports have not been scheduled yet.

- As far as Halloween is concerned, there will some discussion at our next staff meeting to look at a proposal to have class parties/costumes on Friday Oct 28th instead of Monday the 31st.

- Our digitized daily announcements are going rather well with student leaders very much enjoying the new role. The video links we have been sharing with our classes daily (on topics ranging from how to develop friendships to overcoming one's fears) have been viewed by classes daily.

- Our IT Committee has been meeting and we do have some changes in mind. Mr. Parkes will elaborate on this plan. As far as the Grade 5 Chromebook rollout is concerned, most of our students have received their devices. We were unfortunately no shipped enough devices by the Ministry and are still waiting for 15 more. On the technology front we have also experienced some challenges system-wide.

- Fieldtrips, outdoor education center trips are starting to be planned with all of the kindergarten classes going to Forest Valley on Nov 2nd, 3rd and 4th (2 classes/day). The electronic excursion platforms (NEW) used by TDSB have posed some challenges and the issue is being addressed by TDSB's IT team.

- Our Grade 5's will be receiving their Ministry-issued Chromebooks; unfortunately we were once again short and some students will have to wait a few days to get theirs. The one critical

fact that we do need to share with all parents is the need to exercise the utmost care for these laptops because if any of them are damaged, repair fees come out of school budget. The typical cost for a screen/case repair is \$160. We have already had two repairs from last year's Grade 5 cohort and will need to set aside part of the budget for this purpose.

- Parents of Grade 3 students will be receiving information about the CCAT or Universal screening which will take place starting after October 18th. The format will be the same as last year- all of it done electronically.
- Our Special education team has been meeting regularly to determine the best way to maximize support for all those students who may need it in one form or another.
- Our Equity Committee has been very active organizing daily announcements as well as events (most recently Friday for the Day of Truth & Reconciliation.

Additional Questions?

- Fairlawn Door situation: We have just spoken with TDSB Security today and they are unlikely to issue access cards to the Childcare to distribute to parents. Having called other schools, childcare parents are allowed into buildings by childcare staff at a designated door. We have received a response from the JW Childcare operators indicating that they are still actively seeking a solution.
- Please note that there were no additional HEPA air purifiers distributed by the Ministry to our school for this year. All of our classrooms have one.
- As of today, TPH has not issued any updates regarding covid protocols for schools. In fact they have rescheduled information sessions scheduled for schools on Oct 6th.