



# McKee School Council

## Meeting Minutes

September 27, 2017

Present:

**Barbara Gokianlin**

Shuwan Jin

Ella Movahedian

**Wen Teoh**

Tahmineh Keshavarzi

Sayeh Sadat

Shady H. Haghighi

Karen Tse

Farshao Akbarpour

Zhe Zhou

Hayley Buckler

May Chen

Fang Yang

Emma Huang

Jing Zhou

Mehrnoosh Ghanbary

**Andrew Rupf**

Kamran Beheshti

**Faezeh Safari**

**Minoo Jonmohamadi**

**Leila Baharian**

Yin Lu

Amy Yao

Shadi Salehpour

Mehrnosh Kashefinejad

Natalie Chu

Sara Shukry

Olga Cheuseva

Ahmad Ferouz

Ada Zhu

Daniel Gogek

**Wendy Teo**

Isabel Ruilova

Feng Xu

**Stacey Savitsky**

**Hannah Tудо**

Sabeen Thaver

Kiran Hashmi

Helena Lu

Jossie Yang

**Terho Tuononen**

Ying Wei

John Choi

Philip Kim

**Afsaneh Shaahsavar**

**Alireza Yousseh**

Bonnie Yu

Jeanette Lang (Principal)

Maleka Khaderbhai (VP)

Gary Gagnon (Teacher)

Nancy Charron (Teacher)

### **A) Opening Remarks/Chairs' Report**

Ali welcomed all present to meeting. Highlighted the need for parent volunteers to support multitude of activities that occur, and encouraged those with the time to contribute with things like Pizza Lunch, and Cookie sales.

Ali also described of last year's SAC to address issues of overcrowding in Willowdale schools. Efforts have lead to a plea for a revision in Education Act. Currently the TDSB is not permitted to levy developers for funds for the purchase of land to build new schools due to a under-enrollment at the board level. Request is to have the TDSB considered in terms of local needs and enrollment, especially in light of certain wards already having surpassed population targets for well into the future. Next step in the process is a meeting scheduled for Oct. 30 at Earl Haig, where it is expected that Minister of Education, along with other local politicians will attend. All parents are encouraged to attend as well, and voice their concerns.

Motion to approve minutes. (Phillip/Hannah) Passed

### **B) Treasurers' Report**

Phillip explained each page of the financial report package. Please see attached.

Motion to accept treasurers' report (Ada/Daniel) Passed.

### **C) Principal's Report**

Welcome the first meeting of this year's council. I look forward to working with many of you over the course of the year. The main purpose of this council is to act as an advisory group to the Principal. The Principal and Vice Principal are not voting members, but will participate fully in discussions and answer questions as best as we can. It is this strong partnership that has allowed our school to continue to thrive and excel. Thank you for the many returning members. A little about myself (years of service, family, etc.) It is my pleasure to introduce Ms. Khaderbhai, our Vice Principal who will also say a few words.

1. We want to thank SAC for providing breakfast to our staff on our June PA day in 2017. It was very special to move into summer holidays with this sign of gratitude. Six school T-Shirts were issued to new staff.
2. We want to thank SAC for their role in our most recent BBQ on September 13, 2017. Organization was exceptional and flow of traffic exceeded our expectation. A huge thank you to Nancy for her role with ensuring all details were attended to including tickets for classes, roles for staff, etc.

3. We are off to an extremely busy start to the year. Teachers are getting to know our students. Students are forging new friendships and feeling comfortable in their classrooms. Traffic continues to be a challenge; we continue to encourage families to walk or park at Mitchell Field.
4. AstroTurf project – kids are so thrilled to have this space to play and explore. We have planned for a ribbon cutting ceremony on **Monday, Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 9:30 a.m.** Email invitation went out to parents this afternoon. Trustee Brown and Superintendent Linda Curtis will be present along with former VP Katia Robles and Principal Domenic Georgi.
5. Child Care and McKee Public School continue our collaboration in sharing school space, equipment and resources. We share five rooms with McKee McKids before school and afterschool. McKee McKids continues to share their storage bunker and play material with our Kindergarten students. We have all agreed that communication is vital to this partnership.
6. Ms Kaderbhai will pursue a Halal option for lunch lady given our numbers ordered at BBQ and feedback from council
7. Enrolment/Staffing - Students are continuously being registered on a daily basis. As of today, we are at 775 students (we are below our total projected number of 787). We have not had to lose any staff and have made the decision to reorganize internally by making our Gr. ½ split a straight 1.
8. Staff Additions – we have added 6 new staff this year (3 teachers – Ms Dennis, Ms Thai, Ms In and 2 LTO's Mr Campbell (Ms Hwang), Gina Yu (Ms Sadcha), 1ECE (Zaneera Fawzan (Rosa Portillo)). Our total staff includes 46.6 teachers, and 7 ECE's, 3.5 support staff and 13 LRS
9. EQAO 2016 results for the school are in as follows:
 

|                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Reading – 84% (previous) | 90% (current)- up 6 % |
| Writing – 89 %           | 93% - up 4 %          |
| Math – 89%               | 89% - same            |

While this is a great result for our school, EQAO is one form of many various ways to assess student learning. Grade 4 students will receive their individual results likely next week.
10. A Fundraising Plan will be required by the Principal to submit to the Superintendent at the end of October. At McKee, the SAC carries out most of the fundraising activity. A draft copy of has been provided for your consideration and we will need to complete a current one by the end of October. Every year, SAC supports school events. This year, there is no wish list but we are continuing to ask for a Special Events budget to cover costs toward graduations, volunteer tea, cultural celebrations, Scientist in the Schools, Prologue, etc.

11. Curriculum Night – a half pager went home today inviting parents to next week’s curriculum night – Oct 4<sup>th</sup> – 2 presentations in each class beginning at 6:30 p.m.
12. Our school population has many cultures with many celebrations throughout the year. We will continue to do our best to recognize all the festivals and events throughout the year such as Nowruz, Diwali, Lunar New Year, Ramadan, etc. If there is a celebration that a family would like acknowledged, please inform the Principal. **We are looking for families to help us with celebrating Diwali coming up on Oct 19<sup>th</sup>.**
13. Cashless School – We are currently a part of a pilot project for cashless schools. This is an easy, safe and convenient way for parents/guardians to pay for their children’s school fees, including agendas, yearbooks and class trips. School Cash Online was available for parents to purchase Agendas – we had 147 students pay for their Agenda on line.

All school fees applicable to your child will be posted on School Cash Online. Once you register, you can choose to purchase the items or activities using a debit or credit card. You will be able to see when the school has a new item posted online for purchase and you will also have the option to be notified whenever your child has a new school event requiring payment.

To register for School Cash Online, parents complete the three registration steps. Once registered, you will receive an email notification when items become available online.

14. Reporting to families in 2017-18 – Part of a teacher’s responsibility is maintaining open communication with parents. Parents should not hesitate to ask how to maintain regular communication with teachers throughout the year. The following dates have been set with formal reporting to parents: Progress Report for November 14, 2017 – no grades and parent-teacher interview. Report 1 – February 13, 2018 – grades and parent-teacher interview upon request Report 2 – June 27, 2018 – grades and promotion statement
15. Communication – very important for parent-teacher relationship. Newsletter is available to parents who provided email address. No hard copies will be sent home. Our website will also be a valuable resource to families. The design of a school website is up and running with a link to our SAC.  
<http://schools.tdsb.on.ca/mckee/>

#### **D) Other Business**

Motion: Move that council support the dedication of the chess table to Arnold Chan. Arnold is past parent of McKee students and very active in the McKee community. Some examples of Arnold's contributions include advocating for the construction of sidewalks on Church Ave., and developing SAC's constitution. Arnold is very fondly remembered. (Daniel/Phillip) Passed

#### **E) SAC Elections**

The following individuals were acclaimed to their respective positions:

Co-Chairs: Alireza Yousseh, Stacey Savitsky Secretary: Barbara Gokianlin

Treasurers: Phillip Kim, Andrew Rupf, Leila Baharian

Members-at-Large: Hannah Tudo, Wen Teoh, Ada Zhu, Wendy Teo, Terho Tuononen, Minoo Janmohamadi, Faezeh Safari, Afsaneh Shahsavar

#### **F) Closing remarks**

Zara thanked the outgoing council for their contributions and commitment to the school community. Next Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 25, 2017 at 6:30.