



SAB School Council Meeting Minutes- March 29th, 2021

Attendance:

Corinne Frey*, Bev Myhal, Lindsay Apollinaro*, Teresa Silveira, Purvi Acharya, Melissa Bangma, Beverly Essue*, Christine Sheehan, Sara Durbano*, Michael Kinsey, Melissa Churchill-Smith*, Sarah Vandervoort*, Japmeen Johal*, Paul Younger*, Renee Atkison, Christie Carson-Ginger, Eva Barnes*, Suman Lagali, Stacey Lortz, Lauren Rovas,

*2020-2021 Voting Members

Approval of Agenda- Cori, Melissa, Sara, Japmeen, Eva

Approval of minutes- Cori, Sara, Melissa, Japmeen, Eva

Updates from Corinne Frey

-PRO Grant-we were approved for the grant, got \$1000 towards our workshop on Anti-Racism. Many schools did not get the grant, with over 1500 schools applying. Money is in our account which will free up some money.

Financials-Lindsay

-Due to COVID there is some grace period given to the schools, so the pressure to spend all of our budget this year is no longer upon us. Green light to carry money over to the next school year. Keep in mind we typically carry some over for September as that is when the financial year ends. We also have the bicentennial event to contribute to.

-Balance: \$14300 remaining. Money put aside for: Grade 5, playday???, teacher spend. No fundraising money included in this.

-Vote on: \$1000 from Indigo-build on the books for the school including inclusion, racism, different family types, etc. Google doc sent out to teachers to pick 4-5 books for their classroom. We would be able to get all the books on the list with the gift card. This money came from Indigo, not sure how long it goes back. Vote: Paul, Melissa, Sarah, Michael, Sara, Eva, Japmenn, Lindsay. Mme Brown to distribute in the school once we get them.

-thoughts on thank you for our custodians for working extra hard this year-maybe before April break, something thoughtful to do for them. Vote to do this: Melissa, Lindsay, Bev, Sarah, Sara, Tracy, Michael, Paul

COMMUNICATIONS (Purvi and Beverley)

-Website: migrated key content to the new school website, council info there.

-Thanks to Michael for publishing that.

-Results from webinars: 1. Antiracism-went out to community, 50 people in attendance. Parent engagement great and evaluation was done at the end.

Findings:

*Met expectations, useful info on what they hoped they got.

*Missed the how to talk to kids about antiracism.

*Need to market appropriately on what the talk will be about. Present as you are implying it to be (title), shared with Jonathon.

*Parents are interested in these workshops.

- Jonathan is going to do a follow up workshop to talk of bias and privilege. This is the next step/workshop in his talks. Cover: strategies to help kids face issues and how to build allies, where to start. Looking at a date in May with Jonathon. 2nd workshop Vote: Melissa, Japmeen, Sara, Michael, Lindsay, Tracy, Paul

-will pass on the info to other schools as well once we get the date

-Ask Mme Rovas if when you register you can put in a question for what you want. He is open to feedback and what the seminar is.

2: Building Resiliency in Kids: 30 parents, other schools as well included. Shared resources post talk. Positive feedback from it. Interest in hearing more of this topic.

-These webinars have provided great opportunities for parents to engage with each other.

-6:30pm is a hard time for parents, looking at later. 7pm easier? An hour and a half workshop so don't want to push later than that.

-As a community we should make a statement about the current environment. Suggestion is to include in council corner on behalf of council. Here is the proposed statement:

Council statement on anti-racism

Our School Council is committed to being supportive of the diversity of cultures, systems and experiences in our community and to nurturing a more inclusive, equitable, and just world for our kids. We condemn all forms of racism, including the rise of targeted acts of violence against Asian Communities and ongoing anti-black violence.

The webinars that the Council is hosting on this topic, and the additional classroom resources (supported through Flipgive), are important initial steps. We look forward to working together to develop further initiatives and welcome feedback and suggestions to help us move this important work forward.

Vote on the Anti-racism statement: Sarah, Sara, Mel, Corinne, Michael, Bev, Tracy, Paul

Fundraising (Tracy)

-orders trickling in for the current fundraisers: nothing else offered right now. Thinking this time we would get chocolate, haven't heard anything. Emailed to touch base. \$600 raised at the moment. Just organized a bulk order-let Tracy know if you want to join.

-COVID-knowing what's appropriate. My thoughts on fundraising right now:
1. Ask families for a nominal contribution, some may not want to, but for those who want to contribute, it's a simple way to. 2. If we want to offer a local vendor thing.

Do we need to push another fundraiser?? Or wait until after break? More inclined to push number 1 at the beginning of the year. Do in September?

-Is there a targeted need? No.

-chocolate for October? Laura Secord for Easter? Hopefully we can do at this point in time

-website tells all fundraisers available. Let teachers know as well.

-Consensus is we will ask for contribution at the beginning of the year as we have done in the past in the starting package and we will hold off right now on anything else.

Michael (Admin Report)

-Thanks everyone! For securing webinars.

-Staffing: allocation to be released last week, but it is March 29th now. Quick timelines, once Michael gets these, he gets the staff class list model done and staff votes on what they would like. All our models have aligned for the past 9 years and been approved. We will present to the council. We will have a google meet to get feedback from the parent community.

-Vice principal-no update. We wait patiently. We have to be aware that the school board is now running virtual and in school.

-Supply teachers: lack of administrators and occasional teachers in the system.

We can't fill all the absences on a daily basis. System has approved support staff

(lunchroom) to help with this need. Daycare employees used as well. They have gone through screening process and Michael trusts them.

Safe and caring schools:

-feedback from families of frontline caregivers: concern in unintentional behavior after school. Not masking properly and mixing cohorts. There will be messaging in the April newsletter. Ask is please be patient, have to get through this together. Model the safe behavior for the kids.

Teaching/learning:

-CCAT admin to grade 3 took place for virtual. Submitted and board is tabulating.
-Staff: PD component is PR 728-racism and hate incidents, impacting students in our schools. Equity work from TDSB.

Communications

-Reminder for dismissal: two locations where staff are assigned for 15 mins. One on the FDK side and one on the big side: they are there to ensure all kids are picked up, but not a care giving position. Don't depend on this person to provide an extra 15 min of care. Point is: it is a traumatic position for a kid to be in when all your friends are gone and you're left there wondering why they are here. NOT extra care time.

-organizing classes for next year: work as teams to build classes. I do not entertain requests for specific teachers, not healthy data.

-Human development and Sexual health unit: heading into this topic in the spring. If you are looking for an exemption-there is a process to exempt.

Dates:

No FDK visits. New families-information night, virtual tour and meet and greet, open forum during education week.

- April 2/5 – Easter Holiday
- April 9 – International Pink Shirt Day (14)
- April 12- 16 Spring Break
- May 3-7 Education Week
- May 6 - NEW FDK Virtual Information Evening

Questions for Michael:

-Comment: Hard to not play after school with the 20 min dismissal difference. There is a stagger dismissal because the FDK program has a different collective agreement (ECE's, lunch staff). They don't participate in recess. This is the best

we can come up with. Stagger pick up-time to wander into the library and participate with the literacy program. Obviously, this is not happening right now.

-Health class: are the girls and boy's co-ed in the junior classes? Topics up to grade 5 are not a barrier to be together. Grade 7 and 8 are mature topics and are separated. Our staff is exclusively female-would the boys be comfortable asking? These discussions should be co-ed as research shows.

-more beneficial to have kids together: stops the mystery and the curiosity between the boys and girls, learning the same info, stops the silliness. Can ask separate gender teacher after. Change the mindset of gender. Keep in mind the more they question the more they are ready to know. Suggestion to use a box to be anonymous for questions, which some teachers do-it is best practice.

-water bottle: no other way to get water? Two options: paper cups from the office or deliver from parent if possible.

-15 min window at the end of the day: in the timetable. Clarify: some families are comparing the morning supervision(stagnate) to the afternoon (active supervision) and not in one spot. No one is there waiting at the exit door. May help to clarify the 15 min window in starting package as there is some confusion.

-council orientation package for the new families? Can we give something for May? Intro to council.

-Bev trying to post about things on social media. Other dates to promote on our Facebook group? There is a calendar on the website. Will promote as needed.

-How is the board accounting for virtual/in person numbers? Leading towards everyone being back. This will drive the staffing allocation numbers.

-Moving on for grade 5's: questions what to expect, where will this info come from? Traditionally the receiving school drives the transition to a new school. Usually do a tour-Michael will reach out to see if there is something for these kids. Will follow up.

Daycare (Shannon)

-No update

Open Forum

-Bev Myhal: Update on the death of a former student's parent: Jason's brother is hoping to adopt the two kids. There is a GO fund me account for the boy's education post-secondary. This family already has 4 boys and will now have 6. People have asked how to help. We are hoping to get a wish list of ways to help this family-our community is great. Will share list to our community. Just starting

to get this going. Anything would be appreciated. We need to set this family up with new. Tracy to help Bev set up a google doc that we could put out to the community. What can the council do? For next meeting with new info.

-Feedback: not using the word crazy for crazy hat/hair day

-has the fridge been cleaned out in the kitchen? No science experiments growing ☺

-volunteering: police checks- what happens? System is flawed and responsibility is on the volunteer to know the date. There are no reminders in place. Please send Michael an email and he will send the text of the question, so you do the online component online and then Michael clicks to clear you.

-Playground and soccer field upkeep? Who funds this? Playground is TDSB-all maintenance, repairs, etc. Crews coming out about drainage.

Ice-had TDSB out for options to improve for next winter.

Council has participated in the grounds and maintenance of some outdoor gear, i.e. sail shade area with funds, but they come from TDSB vendors and work is done by them. Soccer poles(rusty)-will they be painted? Could parent volunteers do this? Technically no.

The landscape school architect's view is taking soccer fields out. Reasons: Poor drainage-flooded in goalie areas and center field (high traffic areas). If you remove these nets and put in grass and use portable nets, you get staggered areas around the grass instead of these well used spots. Strong rationale to take these out and improve the grass in the area.

-Post Covid we will take a look at the things we've adopted due to COVID in terms of operations, as there are things that are working well.

-Will we have a playday?? Ambitious.

-Centennial-original plans for the veggie garden and the art piece for the school-hoping the council will help with these plans.

-deadline for teachers to hand in receipts for their classroom spend is May 1st purchased and then May 15th receipts in.

Next Meeting: May 3rd at 6:30pm