



SAB School Council Meeting Minutes- January 11th, 2021

Attendance:

Paul Younger*, Corinne Frey*, Tracy Saunders*, Shannon Masters, Amira, Bev Myhal, Lindsay Apollinaro*, Teresa Silveira, Purvi, Melissa Bangma, Beverley Essue*, Christine Sheehan, Suman, Sara D, Bishop, Michael Kinsey, Melissa Churchill-Smith*, Amira, Lauren Rovas, Meagan Lau, Melissa Macks, Sarah Vandervoort, Japmeen Johal, Eva Barnes, Alex Grant

*2020-2021 Voting Members

Approval of Agenda-Cori, Sarah, Melissa

Approval of minutes-Corinne, Michael, Melissa

Parent Engagement workshops and Newsletter (Purvi and Beverly)

-introduce all council members in the next newsletter, photos/intro so the parent community would know everyone, who's representing them

-also to include with the monthly newsletter-minutes from the last meeting. It's the only place that we can pass along at the moment due to our lack of webpage at the moment.

-over the holiday break Michael got word that our website is going to be activated. It has not been updated. Options: creating a tab on the front page of the webpage for school council. Our goal is to have one landing place for people that would include our TDSB website/board.

-Survey results: how to receive communication from parent council-most people prefer to receive from email, no one indicated website. We will consider if webspace is something we actually need.

-Do we have to post the meeting minutes? We have to have the minutes accessible to the parents. There is a binder at the school with bylaws and minutes for parents. In this year we are in, we should have them online.

-If it's too complicated for a tab, we could provide a link to the Wordpress site, it's another option. If there are restrictions from the board. Either works for Michael.

-Topics for webinar-30 ppl did survey. Most popular answer was raising anti-racist kids and raising resilient kids. Top 2. Least chosen was mental math strategies. One response on additional anxiety that we find ourselves in during COVID.

-Dr. Michael Unger- \$1000, resiliency talk. Could put this together quickly. When to do this? February. Then do a spring learning as well. Feb is black history month-should do in Feb. We will see if anyone is available and go from there.

-Are we open to opening up these webinars to other families?? Lanor for example. Depends on numbers allowed for online. Depends on platform. To be looked into.

Vote Anti-racism talk for Feb (if anyone available): Sarah V, Cori, Tracy, Paul, Bev, Lindsay, Japmeen, Mel

-If anyone knows of a good speaker/recommendation, let Purvi know

Chromebook Update (Tracy)

-this process has been crazy. Good news: 36 chromebooks have arrived at the school.

We have 2 that have not been able to power up but remaining are good.

Concern: 2 not working. Corinne going to speak to Lenovo about getting them replaced.

Looking to warranty on these.

Looking for some compensation from the company due to the mistakes.

Fundraising (Tracy)

-No update on TruEarth-report for next meeting

-Recipe jars: sold \$1200, about \$400 for us. 25 families have ordered. These families have reordered.

-Super easy for families, Tracy to offer a group order for shipping. Quality of product has been good from families.

-If you haven't ordered, highly recommended.

-this fundraiser can be open to May, continue to share. We will ask to be paid regularly.

-chocolate almonds push for the spring possibly

-idea still for digital craft fair in the spring. Anyone interested in helping?? Email Tracy.

-can an email be sent for current fundraising to teachers? Tracy to make one for just the staff.

-Current on-going fundraising initiatives-make a one-page sheet for parents and staff. Purvi and Bev to do.

Michael Admin Report

-Thank you's to everyone. And for the chromebooks.

Staffing- Camilia was our temp office admin, she is joining for the morning or afternoon with Catherine.

Safe and caring schools:

-2 weeks more of virtual. Number of daycares were approved to take on kids of essential workers. Our daycare was one of the approved. Only preschoolers in attendance at daycares, except these sites. Our numbers are going through the roof, we are supporting kids from everywhere in our daycare, numbers are climbing.

Communications:

-will send out messaging on TDSB site going live when I find time to update. Will work with Bev and Purvi to get tab up as well.

-glad parents like email communication. Careful not to overuse it. Frequency is key and people will review the info.

-virtual early literacy email to come via ZOOM. A link will come out to all families to register. January 27th at 6:30pm. More info to come.

-Reminder coming: Gr 3 reg English program, middle French immersion program (2-5 of our kids enter then), online closes Jan 29th.

-switch between in person and virtual-data: 84 ppl responded to survey, only 1 family looking to switch. Good news from a staffing standpoint. Won't have to reorganize. Have to wait for official requests.

Teaching/learning:

-a lot of teaching/learning is happening. Everyone is tired!

-lots of learning through all the platforms.

-CCAT: Academic screening tool used by TDSB for all grade 3 students. In person did this in November. Virtual school was supposed to do this on the January PD day, but that will not be happening. Grade 3 families getting info from board. They will be writing this assessment virtually (at home). Two envelopes per child will be sent to Michael for him to organize curb side pickup. Virtual schoolteacher will moderate through camera, open envelope, completed assessment in envelope B and then brought back to Michael.

Michael-tech person at school. Deployed and supported 63 families without reliable tech. None of the council purchased devices will leave, all TDSB devices. Expectation is these will return to school when we are back.

Dates:

Jan 15-PD day (Grade 3 virtual students are to participate in CCAT)

Jan 27-virtual literacy evening

Jan 29-Switch from virtual to in person, French immersion

Feb 8-reports sent home

Feb 12-PD day report virtually

Feb 15-Family Day

Questions for Michael:

-childcare: one parent has to qualify. The centres are supporting virtual school as well.

Daycare (Shannon)

-currently operating two rooms for childcare. The gov't expanded eligibility, as more people added

-11-JK 14- school age, go up by 10 starting tomorrow. Even spilt between SAB families and outside. They will spilt rooms if too many kids to watch numbers

-Anti racism meeting this week.

-max numbers for rooms? 24-FDK and 30-school age. Anywhere near these they would spilt into another room.

Lindsay-Budget

-\$15000 in the budget now. We can do increase spend for teachers, parent engagement session, wish list (scientist, centennial fund, moving on for Grade 5's-\$500).

-Could money be used for a virtual scientist? Yes. Price-\$200 case of 24 packages.

-Indigo/ Flipgive: look into money for this. Lindsay to follow up.

Open Forum

-Thank you to the teachers!

-can the days be aligned for students (ie.recess times)? Driven by the current time table, ie.phys-ed, music. This is the only way to make it work for these teachers. Not a quick fix.

-can teachers dismiss early to lengthen breaks? Teachers guard their teaching minutes. With report cards they need the time and content covered and best prepared for next year. Mental health for everyone-has to be some concessions. Make the decision for your family. No one to question.

-some teachers have extended their breaks to 25 min for recess.

-Any discussions on how to incorporate social interaction between kids? Missing friends.

-learning classroom-within is a chat room. Need a break from screens! Private meets available. Free time before school starts and after lunch (Myhal). They get 10 min to chat with each other.

-no formal expectation to create this space. Balance of screen time. Staff meeting coming up: we will discuss there.

-exchange of info for families to connect outside? A parent can organize a ZOOM outside of class.

Next Meeting: Feb 8th