

Adam Beck School Council

February 22, 2018

6:30 to 8:30pm

Studio

Attendees

Lisa D'Innocenzo*

Michelle Grahlman*

Kristine Holder*

Jeff Jay

Michelle Lavoie

Julie Middleton*

Samantha North

Karen McMullin*, Co-Chair

Jeny Nussey*, Co-Chair

Jenn Starr

Lisa Telio*

Cristina Toporas*

Francoise Charest, Teacher
representative

Lola Scenna, Vice-Principal

Kent Yee, Principal

*members of School Council Executive

Welcome and Passing of Minutes

Jeny Nussey welcomed the group and asked for approval of the November 23, 2017 meeting.

MOTION: It was moved by Karen McMullin and seconded by Samantha North that the minutes of the November 23, 2017 meeting of the Adam Beck School Council be approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Principal Update

Mr. Yee welcomed Francoise Charest, the teacher representative for the evening.

Mr. Yee noted that February was a busy month and highlighted some of the events: celebration of African (Character Education Assembly) & Chinese Heritage month (Kindergarten - Chinese Dragon Parade), the Winter Olympics, Kindergarten Registration, the Valentine's Dance-A-Thon. He noted that the Adam Beck competitive sports teams (Basketball, Volleyball and Ice Hockey) have been doing very well; the ice hockey team made it to the South Conference Division 2 Finals and was scheduled to play Clinton P.S. in a few weeks.

Mr. Yee recognized the work of the school council and its committees and the invaluable contributions of parents to enhancing the educational environment at Adam Beck.

Mr. Yee reported the Dance-A-Thon was very successful and raised almost \$6,000. Funds raised will be used to cover the costs of the January 16-18 X-movement program which explored diversity through a high-energy and culturally rich dance experience. Over 3 sessions, students experienced a variety of dance styles from around the world, such as Scandinavian, Mediterranean and Indian dances, as well as activities designed to broaden their understanding of diversity and how they can take action to make the world a more inclusive place.

Mr. Yee indicated that kindergarten registration is up for the next school year (73 new students will be joining in the fall, higher than 68 last year). The French immersion program is full again and there is a waiting list for the program.

School council was encouraged to engage parents of children in the English stream in the work of the council or its committees to ensure a broader representation of both French and English streams.

Mr. Yee reported of an incident where a student (or students) from Adam Beck have been knocking on someone's door on Lawlor Ave and fleeing before they answer the door. The neighbor has filed a complaint and the school was contacted by the police who is conducting an investigation.

Mr. Yee reminded that drop off and pick up parking is on Swanwick Ave and not on Scarborough Rd or Lawlor Ave. There are complaints from residents on these streets about cars parked illegally or blocking private driveways. He encouraged school council to explore raising awareness among parents and encouraging them to walk their kids to school.

At the next school meeting Mr. Yee and Ms. Scenna will be presenting the staffing model for the next school year.

Mr. Yee reported there are no major school repairs outstanding. Adam Beck gym is now a cooling centre for the community, an air conditioning was installed and will be tested for functionality. Heating remains the main concern. Parents of students in portable 2 expressed concerns there may be mold in the walls (based on smell in the room). The school has taken action and the process of looking into this has been launched (caretaker looked into it, notification, inspection, air quality check). The schools' Health and Safety committee will keep an eye on this during their next inspection.

One parent noted a broken piece of plywood needs to be replaced in the playground. Mr. Yee confirmed this has been added to the list of repairs.

Mr. Yee indicated that the Health and Safety committee needs a parent volunteer to participate in the walk around the school grounds and take notes of issues and concerns. Mr. Yee will ask Ms. Connie Harding, lead of the Garden Committee, if she may be able to take on this role.

Committee Review and Updates

Julie Middleton presented the **Treasurer's report** and provided an update on school council revenues and expenditures. Pizza Lunch, Monsterbash and Spirit Marlies game have exceeded the projected gross and net revenues. Expenditures to date include clarinets repairs and classroom supplies, benches for the school yard sourced by the Garden Committee, deposits for the upcoming Jungle Sports, ice time for hockey tryouts and much more. Kindergarten students received funding to go to a Fred Penner Concert. Six out of 8 scientists in school sessions have already happened. The school council provided \$500 toward Centre 55's Adopt a Family program. School council still has \$27,000 left to raise through the upcoming Night on the Beach, Mayfair, Movie Night and the Visiting Artists program.

Julie presented a finance document for committee leads that outlines a clear, transparent and consistent administration process of committee budgets. This document will be shared at the beginning of each school year with committee leads who will be asked to formally acknowledge having read the document.

Julie provided clarifications regarding two financial and budget related questions:

- Unspent funds from previous school year: Funds that were not spent last school year do not carry over to the subsequent school year. All unspent funds are pooled together and re-allocated through the annual budgeting process.
- Treatment and accounting of sponsorships / donations: Should committee leads secure un-planned sponsorships and donations and wish to increase their committee budget, they need to submit a written request for a budget increase. The request will be discussed and approved at the subsequent school council meeting. The money from the sponsorship / donation needs to have been received at the time the budget increase is discussed.

Michelle Grahlman and Lisa Telio provided an update on **Junefest**. Bouncy castles, taco bar, the dad band and pawsitively pets are among the events planned. They indicated they plan to submit a request for an increase in the Junefest budget on account of new sponsorship money secured. They will send a written note to the co-chairs confirming the exact amount requested and justification.

Jeny Nussey reported on behalf of the **Spirit Committee** that 436 tickets were sold for the Marlies' game, the same number as last year.

Michelle Lavoie provided an update on **Read-A-Thon**. The coloring contest was a huge success. There will be medals for winners in each grade. The name the bookworm contest is also very successful, with over 100 entries.

Jennifer Starr reported that preparations for the largest fundraiser, **Night on the Beach** are underway. The Committee is still looking for sponsorships, ideally 1 lead sponsor and 2 gold sponsors. Two new volunteers have been recruited and are working to prepare a fun, beach-themed event with games, photo booth, and other activities, in addition to the silent auction. The Committee is looking for donations for auction items. Event tickets will go on sale after March break.

Karen McMullin noted that next year will be year as an Adam Beck parent and is looking for someone to take over **Monsterbash**. She hopes to co-lead the event next year and then pass it over. Monsterbash celebrates its 30th anniversary in 2018.

New Business

Karen McMullin proposed and Mr. Yee agreed that school council should add a January meeting for next year.

Karen reminded members of the executive that they are required to attend 5 out of 6 meetings of the school council to be eligible to join the Budget Committee.

Michelle Lavoie asked if it is possible to post the minutes of the school council meeting sooner, and not after they are approved at the next meeting (November minutes will be posted in February). Cristina Toporas will look to see if by-laws allow posting minutes before their formal approval.

The meeting ended at 8:30 pm.