

Adam Beck School Council Minutes

18 February 2021

6:30 to 8:30pm

Video Call

SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES	EXECUTIVE	NON-EXECUTIVE
Ms Scenna	Julie Middleton	Alex Ashton
Mr Volpato	Jeny Nussey	Andrea Kwok
Mme Bettas-Protopapas	Jeff Jay	Andrew MacPherson
Ms Mavrou	Matt Gowing	Beth Briceno
	Samantha North	Emily Chan
	Christa Jay	Erika MacNeill
	Jennifer Starr	Heidi Visser
	Alisen Richmond-Peck	Jennifer Hall
	Paula Sherman	Jessica Hillgrove-Stuart
	Michelle Grahlman	Julie Weston
	Tania Marinova	Kristin Ociepa
		Melissa Lanuza
		Michelle Lavoie
		Michelle Weeks/Prince
		Natalie Emery
		Pam Warrington Scott
		Rebecca Naves
		Sabrina Aziz
		Saira Premji
		Shawna Funston
		Valia Reinsalu

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

- Julie welcomed the group and Jeny shared the Land Acknowledgement and a webinar link on Indigenous Treaties and Peoples of Toronto: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h_BhluYIRzo&feature=youtu.be. - - -
 - Suggested school create our own land acknowledgement which could be more meaningful.

Minutes Review

MOTION: Julie asked for approval of the January minutes. Matt proposed the motion and Paula seconded the motion. As there were none that were opposed and no edits proposed, the minutes were passed.

Guest Speaker: TDSB School Social Worker Erika MacNeill

How to support children's mental health during Covid pandemic.
Supportive Strategies:

1. Structure and routine
2. Talking with kids about Covid – be truthful, age/developmentally-appropriate familiar language they can manage & meet them where they're at, provide a sense of control & limit exposure to news.
3. Physical activity & screen breaks eg. YMCA at home free programs
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnMijiYuiaJZT7JilnXPo7jQ>
4. Maintain connection – sometimes tough for kids to relate to each other on-screen
5. Evaluate and monitor expectations of ourselves
6. Check-in with your feelings
7. Mindfulness, gratitude, relaxation strategies eg. Anxiety Clinic at Michael Garron hospital
<https://www.tehn.ca/programs-services/mental-health-addiction/child-adolescent-mental-health/child-adolescent-mental-0>
8. Reach out for support as needed to family doctor or pediatrician, Mental Health TO 1-866-585-MHTO
<http://www.mentalhealthto.ca/>, What's Up Walk-in 1-866-585-6486, <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/In-Person-Learning/Resources-During-Covid-19> virtual drop-ins

Erika is at Adam Beck every Thursday.

Treasurers' Report

Jeff & Matt presented the budget numbers to date – no change from last month.

- Scientists in School/Stem spend of \$1,954 on Netmath program. Gov't providing a small refund for students taking program in French.
- Visiting Artists Kuné performance on Dec. 9th spend of \$551 and Jan. 26 poetry performance by Britta B spend of \$551
 - Expect to end year with \$2,100 in the bank

Committee Updates

Julie provided a Communications update:

- School messenger system accessed by School Council now
- Communications to be sent to Co-chairs by Mon night
- All communications go up on website first, then Facebook, then the newsletter
- One email per week.
- Fielding Estate Wine Fundraiser: Jenn provided update on the launch in mid-May with delivery for mid-June, 25% of all sales go to school council and delivery/drop-off to be confirmed.
- Read-a-thon: Jenn & Sam provided update – ends Feb. 28, classroom with most minutes read wins Dassios Cup, 1 winner/grade to receive Ella Minnow gift card
- Spirit update from Julie: pink shirts available for sale until March 3 www.schoolwear.ca/abj/
Spirit week is coming up, Beach Day Fri 26 with students dressing up in summer clothes for school

Principal's Report

Ms. Scenna: thanked parents for excellent return to in-class learning, health check forms being used, masks being worn even outside a lot (450 in-class students)

- Bench delivery received and ready to be installed
- Lots of PPE
- Water bottle filling station installed today on main floor outside main office (although a pipe broken in process so not yet functioning)
- Lunar New Year dragon parade not possible, but slide show sharing class activities being put together to share

- Black Heritage month activities
- Photo Day being considered and allowed by TDSB – current goal to have April 7 as Grade 6 as grad photo day with full Covid consideration. Last year’s Grade 6 grads being prioritized. Still no ceremonies allowed. Waiting to hear from photographers what is possible for general photo day – individual only and no classroom photos.
- Early Years workshops participation by Ms. Scenna and Ms. Mavrou focusing on well-being so they can achieve academic success; keep providing feedback on your child’s experience in-class and their needs.

Ward Meeting Recap

Jeny gave an update on the last meeting

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Advisory-Committees/Community-Advisory-Committees>

Tonight joint ward forum on building anti-racist school communities

New Business

Matt announced that he’s stepping down as co-treasurer and we’ll be needing a new one.

Julie reminded that co-chair role also open for next school year.

~End~