

# Adam Beck School Council minutes

26 November 2020

6:30 to 8:30pm

Video Call

SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES	EXECUTIVE	NON-EXECUTIVE
Ms Scenna	Julie Middleton	Alexandra Ashton
Mr Volpato	Jeny Nussey	Basil Brown
Mme Bettas-Protopapas	Jeff Jay	Emily Chan
Ms Mavrou	Matt Gowing	Heidi Visser
	Samantha North	Henna Patel
	Christa Jay	Jaye Fitzpatrick
	Jennifer Starr	Jessica Hillgrove-Stuart
	Lisa D'innocenzo	Julie Weston
	Marina Cattai	Kathryn Tremills
	Alisen Richmond-Peck	Kristin Ociepa
	Melanie Zettler	Laura Newell
	Paula Sherman	Lisa Flood
	Shannon Magennis	Liyan Ting
		Martha Miller
		Melissa Lanuza
		Michelle Lavoie
		Michelle Weeks
		Natalie Emery
		Pam Warrington Scott
		Rebecca Naves
		Tamara Hobbs
		Winnie Falkenstein

## Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

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- Jeny welcomed the group and gave a land acknowledgement. Jeny noted to learn more about issues and help our children understand through books eg. The Water Walker, When We Were Alone

## Minutes Review

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**MOTION:** Jeny asked for approval of the October minutes. Jennifer Starr proposed the motion and Lisa D'innocenzo seconded the motion. As there were none that were opposed and no edits proposed, the minutes were passed.

## Treasurers' Report

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Matt Gowing and Jeff Jay presented budget to date and summary of cash flow

- Highlights of spending to date:
  1. \$565 for Outdoor Dance Party Fri, Nov. 13 - 1 cohort at a time enjoyed the DJ – joint initiative with Spirit committee & Visiting artists
  2. Pumpkin decorating for Halloween
- Adam Beck face masks raised \$300 – allocated to pay for DJ
- Nov. 12 Executive voted to raise Spirit budget by \$315
- Expecting \$7,500 in bank at end of school year a bit higher based on surplus Kindie fund etc.

## **Guest Speaker: TDSB Equity, Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Coach, Rukiya Mohamed**

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Ms Scenna introduced and explained a bit about how our relationship came to be

- Presented a number of books suitable for children eg. This Place (comes with teacher guide), Go Show the World, Social Justice books website
- Adam Beck Equity Partnership Process  
Looking at the journey of Adam Beck starting in Oct:
  1. Referral was made to the Equity, Anti-Racism, Anti-Oppression Team
  2. Conversation with Admin about preliminary equity plan: to create a school culture of safety, acceptance and belonging. Addressing situation-specific issues and ensure that fosters further learning.
  3. Development of Adam Beck School-Based Equity Team
  4. Development of Adam Beck School Community Equity Learning Journey – this is where we are now. Parent survey and exploring resources

Q: What is the school trying to do? What is the school equity goal?

A: The Adam Beck school community will deepen our understanding of identity-based oppression and social justice to advance a school culture of acceptance & belonging

- What is the learning we're going to explore and how will we know if we're successful?

Further book resources for children: Anti-Racist Baby by X Kendi, The Day you Begin by Jacqueline Woodson

## **November is Indigenous Heritage Month in the TDSB – Marc Volpato**

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Mr. Volpato provided info on reflection on treaties so that students understand what they hear on the announcements every day regarding land acknowledgement.

- Teachers have ongoing discussions with students about The Treaties
- Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples = address and fix, not just saying sorry.
- Two Row Wampum Belt: 3 white rows symbolize peace, friendship and respect, 2 purple rows symbolize parallel but separate paths of the British and First Nations
- Teachers making connections to Treaties and promises
- Young People's theatre, Following the Moon series shared with students

## **Principal's Report**

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Ms. Scenna reminded everyone to check-out the end of month email for more info.

- Provided review of Adam Beck School budget – uploaded to TDSB site too.  
449 students enrolled 20-21 (225 French, 210 English)

- Holiday concert alternative this year – similar to virtual Remembrance Day ceremony
- Transform hallways into an art display with individual family stories celebrating heritage, history and ancestry eg. class collage, individual paintings, quilt
- Dec. 14, 15, 16
- Classes signing up for a time to visit the art gallery, have discussions and walk through the school at their specific time.
- Artwork by students on hoarding along Kingston Road and Main corner.
- Ms Margie note from main office: thanking parents for patience & understanding during new rules around Covid
- Gentle reminders: please pack all belongings for children ahead of day rather than dropping-off later which requires time sanitizing, include layers and additional clothes in case of accidents, please speak-up when at the front door intercom.
- Recent re-distribution of recess zones, but cohorts remain the same. Another rotation planned in Feb.
- TDSB email about keeping windows open. Outdoor learning a priority, but policy that if -28 degrees frost bite concerns and red zone of -20 to -28 means judgment calls on remaining outdoors. Comfort & Safety = #1.

## Survey for Virtual Families

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Jeny noted that we are the School Council for virtual families too

- Survey reaching out to virtual families to ensure we're satisfying their needs too and their voices are included.
- Survey going out next week in School Council email.

## Bylaw Update/: E-Voting and Virtual Meetings

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Julie gave overview of bylaws and ensuring we're in compliance in regards in particular to email voting and virtual meetings.

- Language to be included provided to Executive ahead of time to review and approve addition to bylaws.
- Julie launched a poll for Executive to vote on inclusion – 13 votes all for motion to include = motion passed.

## Pizza Lunch Refunds

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Julie noted Tamara and Committee working on next steps in handling refund of money paid toward last year's pizza lunch days that we couldn't hold due to pandemic school closure:

- \$7,038.75, but with leftover cards from last year amounts to \$5,095.00 and we only need to reimburse \$1,943.27
- Solution to email Pizza Pizza gift cards by end of Dec. to each family owed.

## Committee Updates

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- Holiday Party – not happening in traditional format, but emails to be sent each week with festive ideas.
- Winter Spirit Box by Penny Paper Co. with some proceeds going to School Council.
- Outdoor Learning: committee has met to pursue outdoor classroom with chalkboard by company called Outclass + received donation of tree stumps.

- Ms Scenna had walk-through today – considering options for TDSB approved outdoor learning, presented all of our ideas. Small property of the school limits are outdoor learning possibilities as well as 3 different recess times and 2 lunch times + large population of students.
- Garden Committee: Reese Fallon Memorial bench ordered.
- Visiting Artists – booking virtual spoken word artists/authors for all grades & 2 music performances for all grades through Prologue; the 1<sup>st</sup> artist booked for Dec. 9.
  - Buying supplies for each class to paint a canvas that can be auctioned off like previous Night on the Beach.
- Adopt a Family – deadline to get gift cards in Dec. 2, about halfway to our goal.
- Read-a-thon by Michelle Lavoie – last year’s awards packaged up for months and ready to be distributed once logistics sorted-out. Budget cut to \$500 this year. And Michelle stepping-down.
  - Jennifer Starr and Samantha North offered to take it on.

## **New Business**

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Michelle Monroe from the board’s parent engagement office will be a guest speaker at the joint ward 15 and 16 forum about school council and parent engagement co-hosted by trustee Michelle Aarts scheduled for December.

~End~