

Adam Beck School Council Minutes
Thursday, October 27, 2023
6:30pm
In-Person & Virtual

SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES	MEMBERS	NON-MEMBERS
Caitlin Newnham Rory Sullivan Ruth Annis	Shannon Magennis Teresa Miller Samantha North Julie Middleton Jeny Nussey Patrick Stewart Alison MacPherson Christa Jay Jessie Lamontagne Laura Newell Paula Sherman	Megan Noah Kate Mills Robert Mills Justin Bunn Eszther Czibok Japhanie Sham Nathan Chow Prash Rasaiah Steve Walker Tamara Hobbs Keira Bethwaite Pooja Doshi Michelle Weeks Jeny Struyk

Welcome

Co-chair Shannon welcomed everyone along with Teresa.

Land Acknowledgement

Co-chair Teresa gave a land acknowledgement.

Minutes Review

MOTION: Shannon Magennis asked for approval of the September minutes. Jesse Lamontagne proposed the motion and Justin Bunn seconded the motion. As there were none that were opposed and no edits proposed, the minutes were passed.

Meeting Minutes - Change in Process Update

Previous process for meeting minutes: minutes are sent to chairs and principal for review and once okayed, then sent to the attendees prior to the next meeting. And after they are passed at the meeting, they are posted on the website.

NEW process for meeting minutes: minutes shared with chairs and principal for review a day or 2 after meeting and once okayed, then sent out in the next newsletter and posted on the website. Still sent to attendees of the meeting after okayed by chairs and principal.

Committee Updates

Movie Night (Sam North) - Great movie night; great attendance and vibe. Next one is on Friday, December 1. Prices will go up by a small amount as they have not increased in ~8 years or so. Movie Night still needs a sponsor (contribution of \$1000 and ability to put up signs to advertise). Reach out to the movie night committee if you would like to be a sponsor: movie.night@adambeckcouncil.ca

Pizza Lunch (Tamara Hobbs) - 2 Pizza lunches all ready with an abundance of volunteers which is so fantastic (31 volunteers last time). In the past and currently, some classes have many parent volunteers but some do not have any. If you are a parent/guardian who has a student in room 12 (Lipset) and/or 14 (MacDonald) and are able to volunteer for pizza lunch please reach out to the Pizza Lunch committee - pizza.lunch@adambeckcouncil.ca. This past pizza lunch had 414 students participate and \$2600 was raised - a net of \$1292 will be put towards school activities.

Monsterbash (Teresa Miller) - we need people to volunteer to serve pizza on Saturday. Otherwise they are really well organized and ready to go! Wristbands are prepared and ready to be given to students tomorrow (Friday, October 27). Email monsterbash@adambeckcouncil.ca if you have not received your wristbands. You can still come if you don't have a wristband.

STEM (Alison MacPherson) - Ruth Annis helped to share a Google Form with teachers so that they could select from a list of resources/opportunities to support STEM learning in their classrooms. The form is to be submitted to the STEM committee by November 1 after which the STEM committee volunteers will help support as needed. Each teacher has the opportunity to spend ~\$600.

Equity (Laura Newell) - Guest speaker Rania El Mugammar is coming back Nov 6 at 6:30pm in partnership with Kimberly Public School - information to come soon re: registration (space for 50 participants).

NOTB (Laura Newell) - Date of April 12, 2024 date has been secured. Finalizing booking with Balmy Beach Club.

Holiday Party (Lisa Armstrong via Teresa Miller) - The Holiday Party will take place on November 25, 2023 from 10am-2pm. Winter scene and/or Santa pictures will be available (\$15 each) as well as a local vendors market, foodbank for C55, etc. Volunteer sign up sheet coming soon. After 8 years as the committee lead for the Holiday Party, Lisa is looking for someone to take over the committee. Please email to learn more - holiday.celebration@adambeckcouncil.ca

Transphobia and Safety in Schools

Jeny Nussey shared a School Council Toolkit. The idea was brought forward to share this letter at a council meeting and decide if the council wants to endorse the letter and share it with the school community as a way to put it on people's radar. Jeny read us [the letter](#) so that council members could make a decision.

MOTION: Jeny Nussey proposes a motion for council to endorse the letter (and shorter social media blurb to share).

Time provided for questions (in person and online). Comment made that you don't know if you have people you love who are impacted by this and when in doubt it is best to have a safe space. Another comment in support. Jeny added that reason for bringing this to council is that some provinces have already passed laws and she feels it is important to galvanize at our community level so that we are more ready. Comment around sharing values with children as they too are a part of our community. Jeny proposes we would share that council supports this statement in a newsletter with our community.

MOTION: Shannon proposed a motion to share this letter with the community. School Council Vote to share with the community - 4 online votes; 11 in person votes. Motion passed to share the letter with the community.

Treasurer Update

Pat Stewart shared numbers to date for 2023-2024. For community engagement \$300 was spent for some holiday party expenses. \$3500 has been spent for educational enhancement (ie. supplies and equipment for the new wellness room). \$390 was spent for babysitters and website expenses. Funds generated by fundraising to date will be reflected next time. Movie night has brought in \$1200 so far and \$1000 has been donated by a sponsor for Monsterbash; Pizza lunches have raised over \$5000 so far.

The Adam Beck [Website](#) includes up to date details around how much money has been spent/raised.

Cash flow: To date, the school council has spent over \$4000 and has close to \$49,000 in the bank now. Pat mentioned leftover/funds surplus of \$10,000 as of June 2024. Hoping that any current budget line owners will think about submitting new proposals for any initiatives currently underway. All other AB community members are also invited to please consider proposing/leading a new initiative. If there is a request for funds, it has to be voted on.

Treasurer Summary of Council Discussion: Pat summarized that he hears there should be a larger callout to see what types of proposals are submitted to the budget committee. He will put the Google Form together again and put it in an upcoming newsletter. Pat would like some time at a future meeting to share what proposals come in and as well as using some funds for the library (as per council member suggestion).

More budget info:

- info shared around reimbursement process
- for TDSB approved vendor please reach out to Barb in the office (school council saves the HST when approved vendors are used)
- committees encouraged to spend budget as soon as possible and submit expenses as quickly as possible.
- expenses need to be accounted for/submitted by EOD June 14, 2024

Principal's Report

See attached for detailed report.

- Thank yous and appreciations.
- You might have noticed that the stairs have been painted yellow - universal design. Thank you to the facilities team who will be finishing this tonight/tomorrow.
- New tables/chairs have been bought for the library. Library still needs a lot more (new tech, lighting, soft chairs, etc.) to be refreshed.
- Staffing - Mr. Verweel Congratulations on your new baby; Welcome to Dr. Simon Levy; Susan Honess, Special Education & Inclusion Consultant
- Grade 3 CCAT - every grade 3 student writes the screening (a snapshot of verbal, quantitative and non-verbal thinking skills); parents get a report; doesn't get stored in OSR; helps teachers support students
- Kindergarten teachers went to George Webster Public School to look at the Science of Reading in action in a Kindergarten class. The 2 hour class visit was inspiring. AB teachers took away that they CAN do the same here at AB and meet the needs of the learners at AB. Specific reading program that addresses the fact that kids need to learn about phonetics to become proficient readers. (Question - do we need new readers (books)? Answer - yes we do! Maybe this is something we could use the surplus budget for? Ms. Kudsia is using council funds this year to purchase books.)(for interest - Right to Read Report - https://www.ohrc.on.ca/sites/default/files/Right%20to%20Read%20Executive%20Summary_OHRC%20English_0.pdf)
 - French and English students will be supported with reading.
- Progress reports are being written and will go home in a few weeks.
- Cross Country - Congrats to those who made it to semi finals!
- Soccer and Football teams - doing well! Thank you to the teachers and parent involvement.
- Upcoming sports - Girls Basketball, Boys Volleyball, and ice hockey
- Red Cross Babysitting course finished & ExtraEd after school programs have started
- Grade 6 Mono Cliffs trip occurring in November
- Photo retake Day November 7
- Remembrance Day Assembly November 10 around 10am
- Parent/Teacher Interviews - Nov 16/17

New Business

- Newly formed Grants committee - looking for more volunteers.
 - Please reach out if you have any Grants to share (ie. Indigo grant)- email: grantcommittee@adambeckcouncil.ca
- Caretaking costs are going to be shifted and event budgets will need to cover some of this moving forward (only for weekend events)
 - Holiday party \$280 required to support caretaking costs
 - there is money available through council that could be used (currently earmarked as meeting costs)
- Next Council meeting is on November 23 - just before the holiday party (November 25)
- Reading and Books - scholastic book fair as a fundraiser to buy books for library
 - in December there is one scheduled
 - in the Spring there will be an Ellaminnow book fair

~End~