

Adam Beck School Council Minutes

28 September 2023

6:30 to 8:30pm

In-Person gym & Virtual

SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES	MEMBERS	NON-MEMBERS
Mr. Sullivan Mr. Mason Mme Annis	Shannon Magennis Teresa Miller Julie Middleton Patrick Stewart Christa Jay Jeff Jay Helen Katz Nathan Chow Pooja Doshi Dario Gonzalez Alison MacPherson Jessie Lamontagne Laura Newell Samantha North Jeny Nussey Paula Sherman Tariq	Lauren Clarey Jonathan Lowe Michelle Weeks Sarah Hennessey Lauren Hunter Nicole Burford Jinglan Yao Lori Abrahamovitch Sandra Irvine Jessica Vink Megan Noah Justin Bunn Eszter Czibok Prash Rasaiah Kelly Dyer Kate Mills Robert Mills Tamara Hobbs Jayme Last Natalie Muccioli Emery Japhanie Sham

Welcome

Co-chair Shannon Magennis welcomed everyone and gave an overview of School Council.

Land Acknowledgement

Co-chair Julie Middleton gave a land acknowledgement.

Minutes Review

MOTION: Shannon asked for approval of the June minutes. Jeff Jay proposed the motion and Allison MacPherson seconded the motion. As there were none that were opposed and no edits proposed, the minutes were passed.

Brief Overview of School Council Committee Overview

Julie gave an overview of the Council Mandate and purpose of School Council.

Council is made-up of School Council members who self-nominate - in order to vote you need to be a member and all parents/guardians are welcome to join meetings and have a say as well.

Teacher reps = Mme Annis and Mr Mason and Principal = non-voting member.

Chair/Co-chairs, Treasurer/Co-Treasurer, Secretary and Council Members.

Election Process and intro of new council members

New Council members:

Co-Chairs: Shannon and Theresa Miller

Treasurer: Pat Stewart

Secretary: Allison MacPherson volunteered to be new secretary and join School Council

Tariq and Laura Newell, Dario Gonzalez also volunteered to join School Council!

Committees Overview

- Monsterbash – 1 month away! Theresa Miller and Vicki chairing committee – looking for help building haunted house and volunteers to prepare, set-up and for the day-of.
- Holiday Party – Michelle presented for Lisa Rahm who chairs committee – Sat. Nov. 26, pancake breakfast, market, clothing and food bank donations, crafts etc. Usually 2 meetings ahead of date to plan and set-up and day-of commitment.
- Mayfair – Lisa – at end of May afternoon of bouncy castles and fun at the school. Kick-off meeting in Feb and more planning closer to event, sponsorship, donation requests, dream baskets
- STEM – Alison MacPherson committee lead presented. Chess, coding, Scientists in the School etc. Looking for ways to add to what school already has eg. Make-Do Kits. Social Media help with sharing workshop info that we put on at school. List started last year of parents in the community involved in STEM career willing to share their experiences with students – looking to continue and support moving it forward.
- Movie Night – Sam: 5 Friday nights planned for this year where students wear pyjamas, bring pillows and sleeping bags and we show a movie students vote for in class and sell pizza, popcorn, drinks and treats.
- Readathon – Sam: the month of February each school year students read lots of books and record their minutes and submit them at the end for chance to win prizes. Very little time commitment and always looking for new ideas and perspectives to encourage the joy of reading.
- Spirit – Christa Jay committee chair shared by Shannon – promoting school spirit with School Colours days etc. and community building eg. Family Skate night, DJ dance party at the school, Marlies and Blue Jays. Volunteers can help with particular events and enhance fun at school for students.

- Mental Health/Wellbeing – Christa Jay committee chair shared by Shannon. Work closely alongside school to address crucial topics eg. bullying. Adam Beck Student Wellness Room now set-up and used within the school. Organize meaningful experiences, proposal for future.
- Night on the Beach – Laura Newell co-chair. Parent only fundraising event in the evening with silent auction, food, drinks and dancing, children’s artwork. Committee members needed to help bring in donations and collect items and prepare for auction. Balmy Beach club on a Friday in April usually.
- Classroom Representatives – Julie presented: parent rep for each class to share info on School Council activities and be a conduit between parents and Council in the classroom.
- School Gardens – Natalie co-chair with Jessica Earle – number of ways for parents to get involved, flexible & low-key, time commitment is up to individual. Dress-up front of school planters for each season, activity with students in Fall and Spring depending on weather and teacher availability. During school and after-hours options to help with weeding and watering etc.
- Equity – Jonathan Lowe co-chair with Laura Newell. Committee is focused on organizing speakers eg. Dave Robertson last year, new books for school library and work closely with teachers to target needs and determine best initiatives. Meet every 2 months or so and on an as-needs basis.
- Grants – need a parent who will research grants and apply where available. Prash Rasaiah volunteered.
- Staff Appreciation – Jessie Lamontagne leading for the first time. Very little time commitment, just 2 lunches provided to school staff.
- Pizza Lunch – Tamara Hobbs chairs committee and looking for a new parent or 2 to take it on – 1st pizza lunch of the year yesterday was a huge success. One Wed of each month. Children get to eat lunch in their classroom together for this 1 day a month. Parents order ahead of time using School Cash on-line, pizza and a drink. Liase with office staff for order details, order pizza, respond to questions, organize day-of and manage volunteers and be in school for 3 hours day-of. 110 pizzas on Wed!
- Adopt-a-Family: families in the neighbourhood are “adopted” by the school and parents/students donate gift cards as requested by families to provide support. Looking for a Chair for this committee.
- Visiting Artists: Jeny Nussey chairs committee that brings artists into the school for amazing student experiences. Not a lot of time commitment, people with interests in the arts.
- Grade 6 School Council Rep – liaison between Treasurer and teacher lead and parent council. Looking for a parent to fill this role.
- Website – work with committees to post and update website. Looking for another parent to help. Time commitment of 15 mins or less a week. Tech skills or looking to learn.

Budget Process overview and review of 2022-2023 Finances

Jeff Jay and Pat Stewart co-chairs from last school year provided updates from last year and highlights of this year.

- School Council members meet in April/May to review budget submissions from parents and teachers for the following school year and Treasurer prepares workable budget. Budget is pre-approved in June in order to begin spending in Sept and then re-approved by new School Council.
- Pat proceeding as Chair for this school year.
- Last year = \$45,000 in the bank at beginning of school year and raised funds of \$74,974 and ended year with \$53,000 in the bank.
- Provided summary of 2022-2023 fundraisers and expenditures eg. new Chrome Books, Mental Health/Wellbeing room furnishings, Equality donation etc.
- 2023-2024 budget shared by Pat and to be re-approved at this meeting.
- Add agenda item for next meeting regarding ideas to spend surplus budget this year*

- Question about how best to give money to School Council events = come out and buy tickets and support the events!

MOTION: Julie asked for vote to pass the 2023-2024 budget – all School Council members on virtual call and in-person voted in favour. As there were none that were opposed the budget was passed.

Principal's Report

Mr. Sullivan introduced himself as the new school principal. See attached report.

Thank yous and appreciation.

Facilities update – boiler is done!

This week with Safe School's Advisor did a walk through the school to look at some possible improvements.

New Business

Shannon gave a thank you to Julie Middleton and Jeff Jay for their service on school council.

~End~