

Adam Beck School Council Minutes

April 25, 2024

6:30 to 8:30pm

In-Person & Virtual

SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES	MEMBERS	NON-MEMBERS
In-Person Rory Sullivan Ruth Annis Virtual Caitlin Newnham	In-Person Dario Gonzalez Julie Middleton Paula Sherman Samantha North Patrick Stewart Jessie Lamontagne Virtual Jeny Nusy Christa Jay Jeff Jay	In-Person Steve Walker Virtual Alex Ashton Martha Miller Michelle Weeks

Welcome

Co-chair Shannon welcomed everyone.

Land Acknowledgement

Co-chair Teresa gave a land acknowledgement.

Minutes Review

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

Committees Overview

Night on the Beach - Huge success. Thank you to all parents who supported the event. \$11,570 raised!! Huge thanks to the committee and sponsors who made the event possible.

Equity - currently sourcing and purchasing resources for classrooms and library. Committee is looking for ideas for upcoming budget - send thoughts to equity@adambeckcouncil.ca . Looking for a new co-chair - if you are interested in learning more please reach out

STEM - 21 teachers have accessed and made use of the funding provided by the STEM Committee. 5 classes have had chess instruction, 9 classes have had visits from Scientist in Schools, 8 classes are engaging in learning with ExtraEd, and a few classes have purchased design supplies and equipment to support hands-on STEM learning.

Staff Appreciation - Staff appreciated it! Another day is coming soon! If you are interested in helping out, please contact staff.appreciation@adambeckcouncil.ca

Read-a-thon - assembly occurred last week and prizes were handed out. It was great to see students being appreciated this way. FYI - There is also a book club that meets regularly with Mr. Quance.

Movie Night - Final movie night (Kung Fu Panda) is tomorrow (April 26)!

Grade 6 Grad - June 21. If you have a grade 5 student, consider being the lead for next year. There are several sub-committees: grad wear, yearbook, video, legacy project, fun day, etc. Yearbook - photos and videos were submitted and teachers have until the end of the month to get photos in. Plan in place for legacy project (drawing and painting with an Adam Beck parent volunteer) on-site and virtually. Fun day occurring week of grad - at Centerville. Thank you to Mme Bettas who is the teacher lead for the grad committee. Grad wear this year was done differently than last year - some of the money collected will be used to purchase t-shirts for all graduating students.

Visiting Artists - in March - there were visiting authors - Sandra Bradley & Mireille Messier; Prolog Tribal Vision Dance will be doing a performance soon; Kiki ballroom; this week, every class is getting a workshop from Vibe Arts (Kindie - play; Primary - watercolour or cartoons; older classes - textile or cartoon. Students are loving the visiting artists.

BlueJays Game - Sunday, June 2! There is a picture frame with a QR code to order tickets in the main office. Tickets are \$26.50 each. Simply complete the form (enter the email address that you want the tickets sent to). Tickets will be transferred a week prior to the game. Email the spirit committee if you have questions - spirit@adambeckcouncil.ca

Mayfair - permit request is in. Planning is in progress.

Staff Appreciation - luncheon coming up May 29. Anyone interested in helping or soliciting donations, please reach out staff.appreciation@adambeckcouncil.ca. Stay tuned for more information on how to contribute. No plates/cups/utensils are required.

Protracted Committee Update

We need 3 new committee leads - Holiday party (a new direction has been discussed to create a more inclusive party), Monsterbash, Pizza Lunch and a co-lead for Equity. Email the committees if you or a friend are interested:

equity@adambeckcouncil.ca

holiday.celebration@adambeckcouncil.ca

monsterbash@adambeckcouncil.ca

Treasurer's Update

Summary numbers to date were shared. Most notably, we have raised close to \$42,000 (84% of our way to our yearly fundraising goals) with more to come in with upcoming fundraisers such as Mayfair. NOTB raised over \$11,000. Pizza lunch has raised \$18,000. Online shopping has also brought in some funds. For Grade 6 Grad, school council members voted on an overage of the grade 6 grad budget line (3 members online voted yes; all in person members voted yes). Three new tricycles have been purchased and they have been very well received. Yoga classes are occurring regularly. Pop up tent has been purchased for sports. For more detailed budget information, please visit the [Annual Budget site](#). Budget planning meetings occurring May 15 & 29 for the budget committee to review submissions and finalize the budget in advance of the final June council meetings. All school council members are invited to attend the May meetings. Budget submissions for 2024/2025 are due May 3 - anyone is welcome to submit to <https://adambeckcouncil.ca/2024/03/budget-2024-2025-now-accepting-proposals/>

Principal's Report

Please see the [Principal's Report](#) for more details.

Ms. Newnham shared about the student focus groups (grades 4,5,6):

- students selected by teachers or admin
- questions were asked about safety, student voice, well-being, equity and school improvement
- safety - when/where do you feel safest and what makes you feel safe?
 - the gym was the top answer because there are multiple exits
 - safety felt in the phys ed program because there wasn't as much academic focus
 - library also received a lot of voice because of how quiet it was
 - homeroom classrooms were discussed as well - boundaries, consequences for behaviour against code of conduct
 - afternoon always felt the safest (although the office disagrees)
- Student voice
 - when we get to speak up and have input wrt what happens in our day and seeing our voices makes change
 - students feel amazing doing worksheets (school to look into this)
- Inclusion/belonging
 - students felt most included when they are with their friends
 - when they get asked to do things by teachers
- Equity
 - variety of answers - many answers about financials
 - finance is at top of mind for families and students are listening, digesting and internalizing conversations about money at home
- School Improvement
 - students want more play days
 - more people at recess
 - some answers not attainable
 - more defined spaces for quiet activities are recess
 - students want outside play areas to be defined (knowing where you can go and understanding what you can do in those areas)
 - classroom pets (ie. Mr. DeJong has a gecko and students LOVE it)
 - pets lead to a calmer and quieter space
 - improve the washroom conditions
 - more activities at school outside of academic world - talent shows, dances, etc.
 - increased quality of kleenex
 - more field trips
 - re-doing spaces outside (ie. buddy bench, hop scotch, etc.)
 - more punishments for students misbehaving
 - kids eating in classrooms (smaller spaces, less spaces, frees up gym for intramurals)

Takeaways - continue to ask students to tell us about their pulse on the school during different times during the year.

Tying this into the school improvement plan.

New Business - None
