

Adam Beck School Council Minutes
February 20, 2025
6:30pm
In-Person & Virtual

SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES	MEMBERS	NON-MEMBERS
In-Person Kurte Uriarte Caitlin Newnham Online/Virtual	In-Person Shannon Magennis Teresa Miller Alex Goncalves Laura Timms Julie Middleton Melanie Zettler Samantha North Online/Virtual Helen Katz Jeny Nussy Japhanie Sham Bronwyn Nelson	In-Person Jessie Lamontagne Louise Griew Danielle Keter Jessica Earle Online/Virtual Dima Amine Michelle Weeks

Welcome

Co-chair, Shannon welcomed everyone and reviewed agenda for the meeting

Land Acknowledgement

Co-chair Teresa gave a land acknowledgement.

Minutes Review

MOTION: **Teresa** asked for approval of the January meeting minutes. **Alex** proposed the motion and **Louise** seconded the motion. As there were none that were opposed and no edits proposed, the minutes were passed.

Agenda Item

Committee Updates

Movie Night – 4th and 2nd to last Movie Night coming up tomorrow, Feb. 21. Movie Sequels night and the students chose Paddington 2.

Readathon – in our 3rd week and going well – students are reading, parents & teachers are encouraging, logs are going home.

Mayfair – committee meeting happening soon

Pizza Lunch – all going well

Night on the Beach – April 11th at Balmy Beach Club

Platinum sponsor Matt Vatcher tickets officially go on-sale at school cash on-line soon, but sneak peak chance to buy at Movie Night tomorrow night

Grants – Breakfast Club of Canada grant, TD grant, School equity fund grant,

Garden Committee – waiting on pollinating grant

Spirit – Marlies tickets on-sale for Sat, Apr 5th – choir will be singing the Anthem and after-game skate

Equity – anti-oppression workshop to be held 2nd week of April with Ranya, Ramadan Food Drive Mar 3-28th

STEM – visit from scientist about space?

Visiting Artists – confirming estimate for Vibe visiting artists for students not getting Sewing studio, booked Prologue performance by Indigenous arts group in May, hoping to book a few more things contingent on budget.

Staff Appreciation – Fall event ended up receiving more than they could spend, so doing another event or 2 for the teachers to come, maybe on a PA day eg. coffee and bagels.

Grade 6 grad – starting to gather photos for yearbook.

Treasurer Update

Alex provided current bank account balance of \$31,000, recent expenses and income.

Checking-in with budget line holders requesting expenses in order to get accurate numbers.

Julie shared Budget 2025-2026 process – committee starts working on the budget in the Spring. After March Break link will go out to school community to submit proposals. Two meetings to review budget requests and final budget shared at June school council meeting to be officially approved in the new school year

Principal's Report

Mr. Uriarte – Jan. 29 Lunar Day parade of kindergarten students was wonderful.

Feb. 7 kindergartens went to Hillside and 4/5 went to the Aquarium

Busy month for sports: girls volleyball, ice hockey tournament, basketball, lots of intramural opportunities

Snow day on the 13th attached to a PA day and a holiday – parent/teacher interviews were cancelled and to be rescheduled

Snow has caused a lot of problems: sidewalks are difficult to traverse because not shoveled – a lot of schools have the same situation; individual schools don't have the equipment to clear – request in with the city for Feb. 25.

Valentine's Day dance rescheduled to the 18th – lots of fun, DJ Volpato

Cyber incident communication from school board – Power Schools – further email offering cyber protection to those impacted.

Bear Bulletin – parents requesting info about clubs happening at the school so now listing them and there are a lot!

School Hours – researching process to potentially change. Suggesting school council vote to determine if there's enough interest in changing to move ahead to next step of polling larger school community. Principal recommending that we don't change the start time because too many unknowns: possible buses next year, before & after school care demand already high. March deadline for any school hour changes.

Williamson Road kindergarten students possibly coming to Adam Beck for French – we'll know more in April.

Julie motioned to put the vote to parents whether or not they want bell times changed and Melanie seconded. School council members voted to pass motion: 6 for in-person and 0 on-line, 5 on-line and 2 in-person opposed to sending out a survey. Motion failed.

Ms Newnham – Adam Beck Focus Group data from survey session. Students from grades 4-6 chosen by homeroom teachers and administration chose 4 or 5 more students for a total of 37 and answered questions orally and in written form.

- What would you like to see more of, or less of, in your classroom? Less noise, less fidget toys, more class pets, more seating plan changes, less social studies, more group work, more lessons on respect.
 - Where do you feel safest at school? Almost 100% replied in their homeroom class, also Phys Ed, library, when it's quiet.
 - What could make our school feel safer? More teacher support when students hurt, locks on washroom stalls, higher fences around yard, more trees around perimeter of yard, educating students around differences, easier access to Wellness Room, more lockdown drills, knowing who is in our class before year starts.
 - What is student voice? When students stand up for themselves, talk to each other, changes based on thoughts & opinions.
 - Do you feel your voice will change how your classroom looks, feel & sounds? No, I am quiet & teacher decides everything, there are too many kids in the class, I would rather let the paid adults change those things. Yes, I have a good relationship with my teacher.
 - When and where do you feel most included at school? In Stem, working in groups, when I get picked for something eg. a team, collecting shoe bin, helping teachers, participating in clubs, recess, in Phys Ed.
 - Should tech be used in the classrooms? Yes, for research, free time. What's a careless use of tech? TDSB should block sites rather than students ensuring they don't access.
 - Do you have a go-to adult in the building who you feel comfortable discussing your problems with? Yes, my homeroom teacher, my past teacher. No, I don't have one or need one.
 - Do you think selection process for sports teams is fair? Yes, kids are given a chance to show their skills. No, same kids make teams all the time.
 - What advantages do students on sports teams have? Bragging rights, school recognition, more time missing school.
- More opportunities to promote academics.
- When you hear the word equity, what do you think of? Equalness, everyone gets what they need to succeed.
 - Can you name any equitable practices at school?
 - In what ways can we as a school improve? More time to eat, new washrooms, more hot lunch days and food choices, Grade 5's out for Friday lunches, more schedules for school yard areas, plant more flowers in the back

field, more guest speakers to help with skill-building, class robots, turf on the soccer field, more field trips, fix basketball nets and courts, redefine pavement games, class pets.

1. Jan 29th Lunar parade
2. February 7th Kindergartens went to Hillside 4/ 5B went to the aquarium
3. February 10th , 12th Girls volley ball
4. February 13th Snow Day
5. February 14th PD day
6. February 12th , 18th Ice hockey Tournament
7. February 18th Dance.

New Business

Shannon is in her last year at the school and therefore council is looking for a new Co-Chair. Other parents leaving as well and therefore there will be several committees that require new leads as well.

~End~