

Ward 16 Council Meeting – May 13, 2013

Meeting Notes

Present (as per Sign-In sheets): Balmy Beach: Susan Morgan; Bowmore: Thelma Sambrook (P); Duke of Connaught: Katy Dockrill; Gledhill: Joel Krentz; Kew Beach: Stephanie Hurst; Kimberley/Beaches Alternative: Lilian Hanson (P); Norway: Carina van Heyst (P); Norway: Lesley Sargla; Norway: Tracy Sicard; Williamson Road: Beverly O'Brien (P); Williamson Road: Evadne Macedo; Bag2School: Aaron Curran; TDSB: Sheila Cary-Meagher; TDSB: Vicky Branco (S); TDSB: Cathy MacKenzie

(P) Principal; (VP) Vice Principal; (S) Superintendent

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions – Lesley Sargla, Norway SAC Co-Chair
2. Overview of Host School – Carina van Heyst
 - one of the oldest schools in TDSB; existence can be traced back to 1848
 - current building opened in 1977
 - approximately 300 students currently enrolled in Grades JK-6
 - became Gold Eco-School in June 2012
 - programs offered include: Special Education Communications; Home School Program (HSP) and Resource (Res)
 - extra-curricular offerings limited this year due to teacher job action; athletic and club activities returning slowly
 - active parent community works hard to build “community” in this upper beach neighbourhood through *Welcome Back BBQ* (Sept), *End of Year BBQ* (June) and variety of other events (i.e. speaker events, parent workshops, etc.); Healthy Eating Workshop: *Rainbow Plates* scheduled for May 15 at 7:00 p.m. > everyone welcome; for more info, check out <http://www.rainbowplate.com/gallery/show-me-your-rainbow-plate/>
 - proceeds of fundraising endeavours are used to support classroom learning with visits from authors, artists, scientists, etc.; in 2012-2013 funds were also used to purchase Apple iPads and a computer cart
3. Special Presentation re Bag2School – Aaron Curran
 - fundraising program turns second hand clothing into cash for schools
 - program was founded in UK in 2000; to date, over \$12M has been paid out to 18,000 schools across Canada, England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales, Holland and the USA
 - how program works > school community collects used clothing and textiles; bag2school weighs textile donations then pays school cash (at current market rates); all textile donations are shipped overseas and sold as quality used clothing in developing countries
 - by directly reducing the volume of textiles sent to landfill (in most western countries, discarded textiles make up 6-12% of total landfill waste), Bag2School not only helps the environment, it helps create affordable clothing markets
 - for more info re Bag2School program, school presentations, etc., visit www.bag2school.com or call 416-762-9415
 - NB* previous participants include Norway and Duke of Connaught SAC
4. Extra-Curricular Sub-Committee Report – Cathy/Susan
 - Alyse sends her regrets
 - committee met in April; agreed to develop a comprehensive “kit” re how to run extra-curriculars should teachers withdraw services again; NB* of those who attended this meeting, many indicated that teachers at their schools are still not willing to resume support of extra-curricular activities
 - committee members continue to research TDSB requirements re permits, insurance, police checks, etc.
 - next meeting planned for June, more info to follow
 - *suggestion* > invite TDSB Permit department staff to present at future Ward Council meeting

5. Environmental Coordinator Report – Cathy
 - Catherine sends her regrets
 - arboretum/tree stewardship project continues; now have 20+ high school student volunteers from EYCI and Malvern who have agreed to maintain/water new trees at Ward 16 schools over summer months in exchange for community service hours; all students have been trained by Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests (LEAF) in the basics of tree care; as students are available on a first come, first serve basis please contact Catherine ASAP to log your request; NB* schools must be able to provide students with access to an outdoor water supply, watering cans, a short hose and a secure storage site over the summer months; Catherine will accompany students on first visit; students will then be required to check in with Catherine on a weekly basis
 - info re basic tree stewardship (i.e. watering/mulching) is also available to any interested Ward 16 teacher/parent
 - green bin roll-out to all TDSB schools in 2013; if your school has not yet completed questionnaire found at <https://mytdsb.on.ca/+CSCO+0h756767633A2F2F6771666F6A726F++/survey/-CSCO-3h--surveyAD.asp?id=1559>, please do so before the end of June to avoid the September rush!
 - for more info re any of the above, and/or to share your green/eco ideas, contact Catherine at catherine.dorton@tdsb.on.ca

6. Superintendent Report – Vicky
 - orientation continues; focus on building relationships with parents
 - incidents at 22 of 25 Ward 16 schools over first 21 days; continue to work with Principals/students/parents to find creative solutions to specific problems/issues
 - TDSB Excellence Awards held May 9th, recognized outstanding staff; award recipients included Kizuna Project Team at Malvern CI and Alison Pearce, Program Coordinator, French as a Second Language, Classical and International Languages
 - EQAO testing scheduled May 27-June 5; for more info, visit <http://www.eqao.com/categories/home.aspx?Lang=E>

7. Trustee Report – Sheila
 - budget time again; TDSB currently underfunded by \$55-70M; 2013-2014 Budget to be voted on at Board Meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m. on June 19, 2013; have your say, attend TDSB Budget Work Group Meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m. on May 16, 2013 at 5050 Yonge Street, and/or contact your trustee directly
 - on May 8, Board approved the Capital Deficit Recovery Plan; for more info, visit http://www.tdsb.on.ca/about_us/media_room/Room.asp?show=allNews&view=detailed&self=35079
 - Capital Deficit Recovery Plan still on hold; north end of Ward 16 short 1000 pupil places; need \$40M for additions on 3 schools (DA Morrison, George Webster, Secord); Special Advisory Team (SAT) approval required before projects may proceed
 - re French Immersion programming in Ward 16 > demand far outweighs supply; unfortunately, no space in Ward 16 schools to expand FI programming at this time; continuing to explore other options; more info to follow

8. Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) Report – Cathy
 - Kate sends her regrets
 - planning for 2013-2014 school year currently underway
 - next PIAC meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m. on June 12, 2013 at 5050 Yonge Street
 - PIAC's mandate is to advise the Board on matters related to parent and community involvement and to provide feedback to the Board on educational matters of broad community interest; as Ward 16 PIAC rep, Kate represents your interests on this committee; please contact Kate at katewallisPIAC@gmail.com with your concerns

9. Other TDSB/Advisory Committee News – Cathy
 - next FSLAC meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m. on June 25, 2013 at 5050 Yonge Street

10. New Business
 - school/community sharing:
 - Balmy Beach > Silent Auction held 2 weeks ago; spring concerts to be held over 2 days; extra-curriculars returning, slowly; plans for Grade 6 overnight trip in the works; Principal recently underwent knee surgery, currently on leave

Beaches Alternative > spring concerts held May 6-10; Silent Auction to be held this Thursday (May 16); Speaker Event: Why Do My Children Keep Doing That? (Alyson Schafer) to be held May 22

Bowmore > swim meet last week; girls soccer tournament today; Welcome to Kindergarten, spring concerts, Open House, talent show, art show coming up; sang/tweeted with Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield on Music Monday; TIFF student finalists recognized by MP Matthew Kellway in federal parliament on May 9, will receive certificate of acknowledgement from House of Commons May 20-24

DA Morrison > Intensive Support Program (ISP), Literacy through Hip Hop, teaches students with learning disabilities and/or personality/mood disorders about the history and globalization of hip hop and its subcultures; for more info, visit <http://www.citynews.ca/2013/04/24/literacy-through-hip-hop-provides-at-risk-youth-with-more-than-education/>

Duke of Connaught > extra-curriculars returning, slowly; recent Mardi Gras event raised \$3500; spring concerts, “greening” day (i.e. garden planting), etc. to be held in coming weeks; International Potluck Dinner to be held May 23; end of school year trips in the works

Gledhill > FunFest to be held May 31; recent Native Plant Sale overwhelmingly popular (for more info, contact Catherine Dorton); SAC communications team continuing its work on improving communication with school community via Facebook, Twitter, etc.

Kew Beach > extra-curriculars returning, but sadly no musical production this year; recent spring plant fundraiser huge success; Grade 6 students to Ottawa and welcome to kindergarten evening held last week; NB* FDK will begin in September 2013; Fun Fair to be held May 25 – high school students needed to help out in exchange for community service hours; SAC election process changing – plan to elect some members before end of June, remaining members to be elected September, all parents now eligible to vote

Malvern CI > celebrated 110th Anniversary May 11-12; event included brief opening ceremony, meet and greet, decade pub night (at various locations), etc.

Norway > in April, students took Pink Pledge and participated in Earth Day activities; prep for FDK (September 2014) in the works – staff working with peers at schools where FDK has already been implemented to plan programs, purchase resources, etc.; Inner City Angels to visit in support of school-wide focus on oral language arts; parent workshop: *Rainbow Plates* (re healthy eating) to be held May 15; welcome to Kindergarten, spring concerts, track & field meets, etc. scheduled in coming weeks

Williamson Road > students recreated YouTube phenomenon the Harlem Shake on Music Monday (video to be posted on school website); author Judy Irwin visited with Grades 4-6 students last week; “engaging voices” focus of education week activities; students continuing to plant seeds in edible garden; cricket team plays first exhibition game May 14; 100th anniversary celebration plans underway

- Kew Beach Eco-Leadership Camp – August 2013; camp led by Toronto Renewable Energy Cooperative (TREC) Education and supported by TDSB and Bluffs Advocate; for more info, visit kewbeachecocamp.wordpress.com
- TDSB Summer Programs > register now; for more info, visit <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/site/ViewItem.asp?siteid=10641&menuid=41781&pageid=35066>
- as promised, Trustee Glover’s May 2013 PowerPoint presentation re 2013-2014 TDSB Budget is attached

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

June 17, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Victoria Park ES, 145 Tiago Avenue