

Bedford Park School Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 28th, 2015, 7:00 p.m.

1. Council Update – Cindy McKay and Marianne Boyce

(a) Community Night – Parent Council would like to thank Monique, Kimberley and Catherine on an outstanding job organizing Community Night. It was agreed that the event was a huge success.

(a) Social Media Speaker Update – Speakers are booked for May 25th. There is a day presentation for the students and an evening presentation on internet social media at 6pm for parents. An announcement will also go out in the Blues.

(b) PRO Grant – Cindy has submitted a proposal for a PRO Grant so that the Grant (if awarded) can be applied early next year.

(d) Wanless Traffic Update – While police have been notified of the failure of vehicles to stop at various intersections on Wanless, no extra enforcement has been noted. Concerned parents should speak with Megan Segsworth and she will forward the police officer's contact information.

2. School Update - Kevin Battaglia

(a) Upcoming events - There are a number of assemblies coming up and the assemblies will include a Jump Rope for Heart Campaign and Bedford's Got Talent. A drumming group will also be performing next week and there will be a number of open events in classrooms. In addition, track and field and outside sports are commencing. Saturday morning with the Principal sessions will be offered soon in order to share information with parents regarding the school addition, bell times, etc.

(b) Soccer Field – The soccer field will be seeded again in August. Questions were raised regarding whether the TDSB is planning to seed in a different manner given that the seeding last time was unsuccessful. Further questions were raised regarding whether the field is properly graded given that the field was planted over concrete. Mr. Battaglia noted that he was advised that the previous failure was due to the severity of the winter, and he will ask someone from the grounds committee to provide him with an update on the specific plans so that he can inform Parent Council. It was noted that Gerri Gershon will be at Longos on May 7th and she could likely address concerns. It was suggested that we could attempt to raise money for turf alone or go into a partnership with a sports organization if parents are interested in having a turf field. It is possible that the TDSB will consider funding turf for our school however it is unlikely to be granted in the next few years. Terence Adams agreed to look into both turf and sod possibilities and will try to get in touch with someone from Allenby given that Allenby parents previously raised \$100,000 for turf.

Question from the Floor – Could we closely monitor the track and field program for safety issues? Mr. Battaglia agreed to look into safety measures for track and field due to the number of kids and quick turnaround for the activities.

3. Budget Update – Megan Segsworth

This was a slow month for spending. The Grade 4's are spending money from the art fund on Zumba. Final letters will go out to the staff regarding spending amounts and Megan will talk to the new teachers personally. Final figures are not in for Community Night however profits from the event look good with approximately \$8,000-\$9,000 from wristband sales and approximately \$21,000 raised at the event itself.

4. Open Discussion

Megan Segsworth noted that Parent Council will need to meet before the next meeting to consider the budget and she will forward some dates.

Meeting concluded at 7:35 pm.

Next Meeting Scheduled for May 26, 2015 – 7:00 pm in Library

Addendum

Mr. Battaglia has received information from the Board as follows regarding the soccer field: We will not be losing access to our field in the fall and no fencing will be required for the treatments. The treatments planned will take place once a year (one day) for the next three years. In 2014 the TDSB commissioned the University of Guelph Turf Grass Institute to evaluate and advise on their turf management strategies and we are now following their recommendations regarding fertilizers, types of seed, strategies etc. for all TDSB field management. As a result of the recommendations, the process, seed, and fertilizer that the TDSB used in 2013 has been changed. In 2013 sod was used in some fields and seed was used in other fields (ours) depending on various factors and the species of grass they were attempting to grow. Due to the length of winter all the fields that were sodded and seeded in 2013 had equal success (minimal).