

Bedford Park School Parent Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 31st, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

1. Introduction of Student Council

Student council introductions were made. Projects currently underway for student council include designated spirit days, survey questions for a playground renovation, and community outreach proposals.

2. Council Update – Heather Robertson

(a) Executive changes – Jeffrey Graham has decided to step down as co-chair given that he no longer has a child that is a student at Bedford Park. Anyone interested in the co-chair position should contact Heather Robertson. The co-chair would ideally be interested in chairing parent council next year and the possibility of two chairs is acceptable.

(b) Yijia's Club – Yijia's club is in honour of one of our Bedford Park students and thanks was given to Cathy Miller for starting the club. Students will be making paper origami cranes to be delivered to Sick Kids hospital at a later date. Ms. Rix and Ms. Henry are also helping with the club. Parent council will be making a small donation to the club to cover the cost of origami paper.

(c) Community Outreach Program – Ms. Robertson met with student council to discuss four proposals that were received. Student council will be introducing the proposals to all of the students and all students will be voting on their community outreach choice. Student council will ultimately decide whether the total amount of \$2000 goes to one organization or gets split between two organizations.

(d) Acorn Art Card Fundraiser – Teachers have now been provided with blank acorn art cards and the cards are to be worked on during school hours. Teachers have been asked to have students prepare a family or birthday themed card. Once the class has finished the art project, the card design will be sent home with the students and parents can determine whether they would like to purchase the cards. A portion of the proceeds goes directly to parent council funds.

3. Budget Update – Heather Turner

Letters have gone out to teachers informing them of monies spent/monies remaining in art, science and general funds. Planning for Community Night is well underway and things are running smoothly. A simplified cash analysis has been prepared.

4. School Update – Dima Nijmeh-Mantia and Anthony Levy

(a) Student Assembly – An assembly will be held for all students and student council will present the four community outreach proposals. Further, four grounds revitalization questions will be presented to students.

(b) Report Cards – Report cards will be going out on February 14th and parents are free to set up interviews with teachers.

(c) Safety Committee Meeting and Other Safety Issues– Parent sign-ins at the office have improved and teachers now all have staff cards. Also, police came to speak to all students and provided safety advice on streetproofing. With respect to traffic safety at the school, parents have been conducting illegal u-turns on Ranleigh Avenue and the police division has been notified.

The TDSB has provided a quote for security cameras around the school and the total amount is a little over \$20,213.56 with half of the funding to come from the TDSB. The school would need to cover the remaining \$10,106.58 with funds coming from the school budget. Parents are not permitted to fundraise or otherwise provide money for security cameras. The school is considering the purchase of the cameras and in doing so would like to first consult with students, parents and teachers. A parent survey is being prepared to gauge support for the school's purchase of cameras.

5. Technology Update – Mr. Chan

The Kindergarten classes have ipads in each room. Bumpers have been installed on ipads to keep them from being damaged. Unfortunately, the installation of the bumpers themselves have caused some ipads to become damaged and training around the removal and reinstallation of bumpers was necessary. The damaged ipads have been repaired. In addition, a review of technology in each classroom has been conducted to ensure each class has workable technology.

6. Other Business

A question arose as to whether Bedford could possibly have a French program incorporated into the school. The Principal clarified that any French designation would need to come from the Board and likely wouldn't be a possibility in our school given that there is no class space for additional French classrooms.

Next Meeting Scheduled for Tuesday February 28th.