



# BEDFORD PARK

## BEDFORD PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Tuesday November 21, 2017 @ 6:30pm - Meeting minutes

- Council Update (Cindy McKay, Beth Lauer)
  - Donation Letter has gone out.
  - Volunteer Opportunities - Looking to fill some core roles.
    - Community Night - 2 chairs needed (or it can be led by a team of 3 or 4 – the existing leads are happy to provide coaching). Community Night is the largest fundraiser for the year. The full list of volunteer roles needed for Community Night will be itemized on the website including room leads and an org structure.
    - Pizza lunch - On site organizers are needed. The existing on-site organizers have been in place for a long time and need to be replaced as they will be leaving Bedford. The on-site organizers are responsible for emailing and leading the volunteers on each pizza day, as well as ordering the food & drinks & buying the treats. This is another major contributor to the parent council budget.
    - Some other small roles needed but Community Night and Pizza are the two major ones.
  - Cash Online (Heather Turner)
    - It's very easy to register and is all in one location if you have kids in different schools.
    - Poinsettia order form is currently on cash online.
    - Next year the pizza lunch will be on cash online at the outset but kids can still join now via cash online if they missed the original registration.
    - If you're registered for cash online you get updates on upcoming events such as poinsettias and science days, specific to your child's class.
  
- School Committees (Ms. Davis, Ms. Nickerson & Ms. Komlos)
  - The school has aligned the budget with committees (Numeracy, Literacy and Community), focussed on the core goals of achievement, well-being and equity.
  - Teachers from each grade are on committees.
  - **Numeracy committee** – Goals were set to focus on enhancing communication on mathematical knowledge in order to assist students in expressing knowledge and understanding. Math is based on how you arrive at the final answer and how you communicate the process rather than the actual answer.
  - **Community, culture and care committee** – Goal is feeling safe, comradery, collegiality, and collaboration.



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- A lot of feedback has been received from staff and students from Wellness Day. Kids would like to have more opportunities to do all the activities. And spread it out throughout the year rather than isolating activities to a day or week.
- The committee is talking to staff about how apply the wellness initiatives in the classroom.
- Hoping to involve the greater community in the workshops. Examples of workshops last year were kickboxing, yoga for different age groups, drumming, beading, sunshine and broccoli singing duo, parent workshops conducted on healthy eating and journaling, and a partnership with Earl Haig doing dance workshops. Focussing on the idea of the school as being the hub on the community.
- The workshops increased kid's confidence and introduced activities to use as tools to cope with the everyday in the classroom.
- Wellness Day in 2018 will be May 11.
- **Literacy committee**
  - K to 2 levelled readers have been purchased that will rotate amongst the classrooms.
  - Staff are focussing on writing in terms of assessing and consistency. Staff have been given time to look at examples and where the students are struggling they are targeting strategies.
  - Financial literacy sessions have been arranged from K to 8.
- **Grounds revitalization update (Dima Nijmeh-Mantia & Melissa Ngo)**
  - Working with TDSB facilities and the sustainability office – TDSB will cover a portion of the cost and the school will be required to fund the balance (via fundraising – parents and community).
  - Entire grounds to be focused on. Students, teachers, daycare and caretakers are all involved in the discussions.
  - Proposal:
    - Field to be replaced by artificial turf.
    - Two existing baseball diamonds to be replaced by 1.
    - Four lane track maintained – to be asphalt. The opportunity to upgrade to another material is being investigated.
    - Stones and trees have been identified as a safety issue. The stones will be reused in new bleacher type seating.
    - Existing bleacher seating to be moved to the drainage area (the area north of the staff parking lot).



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- The consultants were asked to address the area off of Wanless that is used as a passageway. They are relooking at the parking lot to realign a few areas to direct pedestrians away from the play area.
- The proposal for the existing area with stones will have a basketball court with multiple hoops to allow for more kids to play at the same time. This is an area that the board may not cover.
- The hockey court will not be touched.
- A quiet area is proposed for reading or playing quiet games, with seating, games tables, and trees from other parts of the yard.
- The existing play structures are not included in the plan but facilities is looking into portions of these areas that are in need or repair (slide in the enclosed playground).
- Overall the TDSB is focussing more on naturalized play areas and are concerned about shade.
- The project will be phased to ensure kids still have a place to go outside and the intention is to start work on it summer 2018.
- A final dollar amount for the project and in turn the portion not covered by the TDSB won't be known until the plan is tendered for contract. So it is unclear at the moment as to how much money the school has to raise.
- Ranleigh Rascals Daycare is providing \$10,000 in support of the project.
- January estimate for budget and timeline.
- Council would like to express its thanks to Ms. Mantia who has helped shape the vision for the grounds revitalization and has been working tirelessly with the TDSB on the project which will ensure Bedford fundraising is effectively utilized.
- Council Budget Update (Heather Turner & Sue Sclater)
  - Fundraising – pizza lunch did well.
  - Donation \$4,250 to date.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30.