



BEDFORD PARK

BEDFORD PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

~ MINUTES ~

Tuesday October 20, 2020

7:00pm – **Parent** Council meeting

Parent Council Email: bedfordparkpc@gmail.com

Attendees

Janet Stone (Co-Chair) Anita O'Connor (Co-Chair) Janet Fong (Co-Treasurer) Sue Sclater (Co-Treasurer) Vikki Shimoda (Secretary)	<u>Members at Large:</u> Lesley Dyer Samara Enchin Sarah Bovaird Ruth Barrett Gillian Marr Sherryl Woodard Jenn Duxbury <u>Administration:</u> Susan Pitre Melissa Berger Mr. Henneberry	<u>Other Attendee's:</u> Due to the large turnout - A List of attendees are posted at the bottom of the minutes
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Regrets

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1. Call to order at 7:05pm

2. School Welcome – Anita O'Connor & Janet Stone (Co-Chairs)

- Our best turnout so far, so great to see everyone
- Welcome Mr. Henneberry for being the teacher liaison for this year
- Welcome Mme Susan Pitre to Bedford Park as our new Principal

3. Parent Council – Anita O'Connor & Janet Stone

- **Approval of June 2020 meeting minutes** – Janet
 - i. Motioned by Janet Stone
 - ii. Seconded by Vikki Shimoda & Susan Sim
- **Nomination of the new Parent Council Members** – Janet
 - i. Executive (All returning from last year)
 - 1. Co-Chairs: Janet Stone & Anita O'Connor
 - 2. Co-Treasurers: Sue Sclater & Janet Fong
 - 3. Secretary: Vikki Shimoda
 - ii. Members at Large (Minimum 3 are required – we are excited to have a large new group this year)



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1. Samara Enchin – Returning from last year (Community Outreach)
 2. Jenn Duxbury (Community Outreach)
 3. Gillian Marr (Communications and Social Media)
 4. Sherryl Woodward (Communications and Social Media)
 5. Lesley McCabe (Fundraising)
 6. Sarah Bovaird (Social)
 7. Laura Barnett
- iii. Zoom Poll set up by Ms. Berger to put the members to a vote, it was done by anonymously:
1. Do you elect the nominated individuals for the BP Parent Council? (Total Votes = 55)
 - a. Yes – 95%
 - b. No – 5%

o **Parent Council Update**

i. RAZ kids reading program

1. Levelled reading program for grades JK – Grade 2
 - a. Lesley has worked with the admin to purchase for students including the virtual students in those grades
 - b. More details to come from your teachers/PC for virtual

ii. Beautification Project – Anita/Jenn

1. Have been discussing about having the JK/SK classes plant daffodil bulbs in the fall to grow in the spring around the school
2. Total for the purchase is \$237.27 – this has been planned but require the approval to move forward.
3. Proposing to place these around the entrances to the school grounds (Wanless Ave and Ranleigh)
4. Have support from 2 teachers in JK/SK to do it with their classes
5. Voted for the approval (we do have budget for indoor and outdoor art)
 - a. Motioned by Jenn Duxbury
 - b. Seconded by Samara Enchin

iii. Class Parents – Call for more parents - Anita

1. Looking to get parent volunteer to help the teachers with communications etc. The roll is smaller this year as we will not be able to do as much as previous years (Class trips, in school activities)
2. We would still like to maintain the connection and continue building our community



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3. If you have done it in the past, it would be great if you could again for this year
4. If you are interested please send an email to the Parent Council: bedfordparkpc@gmail.com

iv. Communication – Anita

1. Communication is really important this year and we want to ensure we are able to communicate with all parents and administration.
2. Primary communication so far has been school via School messenger and Bedford Blues
3. TDSB will also be sharing messages with Parent Council Co-Chairs that we will distribute.
4. The main line of communication will be via School messenger
 - a. We will continue to work with administration to ensure everyone gets all communications.
5. Parent Council will also be given a school messenger account to allow us to communicate with you outside of our email address
6. We are working to streamlining website communications and other social media avenues and will share updates once available.

v. Other Business – Janet

1. We have been working with the administration and the Trustees on what we can do as a council to support school safety as it pertains to COVID (i.e. Air Filter Units)
 - a. We have been brainstorming since summer on what we as the PC can do to help with safety
 - i. Handwashing stations
 - ii. Air Filter units
 - iii. Water Filling stations
 - b. These items need to be purchased by the board due to standards and ensure equity between all schools.
 - c. We are waiting for the list of what can be purchased by the school and Parent Council
2. There have been limitations set by the board as to what we can and cannot purchase but in the last week more information has been becoming available and we will have further details for the next meeting. We are investigating options on air filters.
3. Virtual families
 - a. We want to make sure our virtual families are still part of the Bedford Park community



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- b. We now have all email addresses for virtual families and can start sending Bedford park communications
 - c. Will be looking to do some type of virtual activities to include both virtual and in school students to maintain the bonds between both
 - d. Please do sent PC an email if you have any thoughts
 - Review and Approval of Proposed Budget – Janet Fong
 - i. Focus on key highlights and changes from last year
 - ii. Budget: \$41,750.00
 - 1. Have removed some items from last year that we will not be able to have this year (i.e Terry Fox Run)
 - 2. We have kept Library and added more to this fund to look at more virtual tools since the library is closed.
 - 3. New items added to the budget
 - a. Outdoor space
 - b. Online/In School Family Engagement
 - 4. Additional items looking to fund, based on our annual fundraising and our budget:
 - a. Air Purifiers
 - b. Outdoor Classrooms
 - c. Additional Sports Enrichment (Cohorts)
 - iii. Motion put forward the budget for approval
 - 1. Janet Presented for approval
 - 2. Sherryl Woodward Second
- 4. Bedford Administrative Update & Town Hall – Mme Pitre & Ms. Berger**
 - Amazing turnout and nice to see people and meeting without a mask on – nice to see everyone’s faces
 - Updates:
 - i. Back to School
 - 1. Thank you for the incredible safe re-entry into the school
 - 2. The students have been so amazing and we are getting used to this new way of learning
 - 3. Thank you, parents, for doing those daily screening, it has been great and really helps with the entry processes
 - ii. Window Installation
 - 1. Phase 1 has been completed, all windows are installed, but blinds had to be removed to help with opening the top window.
 - 2. Blinds are being re-installed where possible to still have the window open but some windows will have a film added to them where blinds are not possible.



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- iii. Air Quality
 - 1. Have done initial investigation and has been passed
 - 2. In the winter will do this again once windows are closed more
- iv. Summer Installation
 - 1. New boilers to be installed next summer
- v. Vaccinations (grade 7&8)
 - 1. They will not be provided in the school this year; families are asked to take your children to your family physician.
- vi. Professional learning/leading
 - 1. Have already started working with the staff to ensure human equality.
 - 2. Reports
 - a. Homophobia/ racial comments – We are actively addressing this.
- vii. Academic Updates
 - 1. Assessments have started and teachers are working closely with students, making plans to close the gaps from spring closure
- o Questions Sent in advance
 - i. How are chrome-books being shared at Bedford and are they sanitized between each students' use?
 - 1. *We have purchased special tech wipes for the chrome books to be cleaned between users*
 - ii. Will lunch/recess zones rotate this year so that kids get a chance to play in different areas? Can the kids in the zones be changed during the year?
 - 1. *We have designed the schedule around TPH guidelines, we are aware that students want to move between zones (They have been writing letters to us to state their case for moving zones), we are working with staff on finding creative solutions to have students move through the zones. We don't have a timeline for this right now. We will consult with the staff for*
 - iii. Is there any guidance regarding outdoor learning (e.g. are teachers being asked to do a certain number of hours of outdoor learning?) Is this decision made by the teachers on a class by class basis?



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1. *There is no mandate for this. Teachers can go outside with their classes by signing up at the office for a particular zone to teach in*

- iv. When a class is in quarantine what is the expectation for remote learning, does this follow the same protocol as outlined in the Return to School Plan but it is run by the classroom teacher. What happens if the teacher is the one that is sick?
 1. *Teachers will follow PPM 164, "Requirements for Remote Learning", which is on the TDSB website, the class will pivot to online learning as in the virtual school, If it is the teacher that is sick, we would receive direction from Employee Services and TPH, we would most likely need to get a supply teacher for that teacher (like if it were in bricks and mortar) until the teacher is well. All staff have created a Google Classroom or Bright space account where they will be able to facilitate a seamless transition to virtual learning until the classroom reopens*

- v. What is the school's policy on cell phone usage in class and can this be reiterated with students and teachers?
 1. *Cell phones are not to be used during the instructional day (at recess), unless it is directed by the teacher. Cell phones that are being used when they should not be, are taken away by either the teacher or Admin, A lot of time students will say that their parents are texting them-we say that if parents need to get a hold of them, they need to contact the school. Students are able to use their phones at lunchtime*

- vi. Given the recent events in the Bedford park school yard after hours is there anything additional the board or the school can do to improve safety on school property. Should someone see an incident at the school who they call first?
 1. *We continue to review street safety with students, we ensure that all staff are being vigilant with monitoring the surroundings when they are outside with students, they will report any suspicious activity to the office immediately. Parents can call the TDSB security hotline number as well as police. When information is reported to use, we take our direction from Toronto Public Police and the Board. This is something the council can fundraise for*



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vii. What is the plan for ventilation at the school during the winter, will windows be left open?

1. *According to TPH, windows may be opened in the winter time. Students are encouraged to bring a sweater and dress in layers so that they stay warm in the classroom. Even a little bit of open can be left open*
2. *We are looking into the option to get approval for fans with filters*
3. *Air Purifiers are also being reviewed*
 - a. *No, parents cannot purchase and provide, we are still hearing the same “no” answer from the board but will continue to push*

o Additional Chat Questions

i. Will there be a Virtual Curriculum night?

1. *Working with the board on this*
2. *Anything that would have been shared during this night, we are looking to have it posted to each class Brightspace/Google classroom*

ii. Permits - speaking of damage to the field, a) Will the damage be repaired? b) What is the status on permits after school and on weekends? c) There seems to be a large basketball group (with instructors) that uses the grounds on weekends, do they have permits?

1. *We will be fixing the damaged fields*
2. *Only permit we have seen is for the gym (Indoor)*
3. *To our knowledge there is no permit set for after school or weekends. There has been no request for permits submitted to the school*

iii. How are you dealing with Safety and Security at the school (Before and after hours)

1. *See answers above from pre submitted questions*
2. *Also, PC Co-Chairs had a meeting with the trustee, there is a TDSB security line if you have an issue (there is only a few cars), if it is something of criminal to contact the police.*
3. *Susan – We do not have the funding to hire security, but there is TDSB security that is patrolling. We have raised concerns regarding security and will continue to do so.*

iv. After school there are a lot of older kids “hanging” around on the field. At times they have been seen drinking and smoking. As our



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children are still there, especially those in Ranleigh - is there any enforcement that can be done at that time?

1. *We will continue to raise the concerns to TDSB and the trustee*

v. Halloween – Will there be a parade, can the children dress up?

1. *Unfortunately, there will be no parade or Grade 8 performance this year.*
2. *Classes will get to go and view the decorated doors one class at a time.*
3. *Students will be allowed to wear costumes, but are not allow to wear costume masks – it is still mandatory that they wear their masks (there cannot be anything under or over their mask)*

5. Closing Remarks

- Next Meeting is November 17th
- Parents are encouraged to email Parent Council at any time at the email address: bedfordparkpc@gmail.com

6. Meeting Adjourned at 8:04pm

7. Attendees

Alison Hayman	Allison Bethune	Amy Fuller	Andrew Lee
Anca Wiseman	Aparna Sachdeva	Barb Scarola	Beth Lauer
Blaine Woodcock	Christopher Barr	Cristiane Cé	Danny
Dong	Ford Wong	Frances Cation Baillargeon	Glen H
Ian Lam	Jaonnes	Jessica Galliera	Joanne Saunders
John	Judy Lin	Justin	Karine Priemer
Katherineram	Kelly	Kristi Murl	Kristin Heins
Linda	Lin	Lindsay Colley	Louise
Maria Hansen	Matthew Vienneau	Melanie Van de Water	MG
Michelle Borthwick	Minh-Hien Le	Mony	Mya
Natasha	Rashida	Rhonda Rossi	Salmaa



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Sayeh	Shannon Knights	Shiphra Ginsburg	Simon
Steamwhistle	Stephanie	Stephanie Saul-McCaig	Susan
Susan Sim	Talia Klement	Tammy Chaisson	Tara Quigley
Ursula Sweitzer	Vanessa Chan	Vicky	Yvonne