



BEDFORD PARK

BEDFORD PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

~ MINUTES ~

Tuesday December 1, 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 Sherryl Woodard Jenn Duxbury Rhonda Rossi <u>Administration:</u> Susan Pitre Melissa Berger Mr. Henneberry Rachel Chernos Lin (Trustee) Ron Alymar (Facilities)	<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

Gillian Mar Laura Bartlett		
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1. Call to order at 7:08pm

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

- Thank you for joining our 2nd virtual meeting.

3. **Health & Safety – Air Quality Update** – Ron Alymar from Facilities

- **Background** - Janet
 - i. Spoke a little in the last meeting about the test that was completed. Susan gave an update and Parent Council asked can we do more? Right now, Parent Council cannot provide any filters etc. as this is being provided by TDSB.
 - ii. There was a letter provided last week outlining what type of systems the schools have. Bedford was listed as having a “Non-Mechanical” system which meant we rely mainly on our windows. There are assumptions that we will be getting all new systems for our school.



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- **Facilities Update - Ron**
 - i. Need to update everyone with regards to the letter that was shared. There was an error as Bedford Park is actually mostly Mechanical, there are multiple systems in the school currently.
 - ii. Assessed every School:
 1. There are 3 ratings
 - a. Fully Mechanical
 - b. Partially Mechanical
 - c. Non-Mechanical
 2. Bedford Park is fully Mechanical (the letter said “Non-Mechanical”)
 - a. 2 supply fans and exhaust
 - b. 4 large mechanical systems
 - c. 12 supply units
 - d. There are multiple systems throughout the school that have supply air and exhaust (with extra drawing from classes and hallways when the class doors are open).
 - e. New guidelines have us changing the filters every 2 months (48 filters changed each time), where are pre-COVID we would do every 4 months.
 3. New rules in place
 - a. Open windows – at least the top ones and doesn’t have to be a large amount.
 - b. Systems are running longer hours each day, as to previous (until 11pm)
 4. Rooms may be a little cooler as there is more fresh air than normal coming through the system, school maintenance team is working on balancing the heat to keep it comfortable for all.
 5. There was only one room in question - B7, which now has a new hepa filter for that room.
- **Questions**
 - i. *Has air quality been tested?*
 1. It was not really needed right now due to what system we have currently.
 2. From Initial testing, school is well ventilated
 - ii. *Are the filters sent to the lab to test for virus?*
 1. Not at this time, it has not been recommended, just to increase the rate of time the filters are changed (every 2 months)



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- iii. *How often is there a complete air exchange in each classroom?*
 - 1. Recommended 4 times a day, but since we have boosted our system to run longer days, it is happening about 6 times a day.

- iv. *Is there CO2 Meters in the school?*
 - 1. No

- v. *Parents wanting to donate additional air purifiers, is it possible?*
 - 1. Not at this time, we are working with the government and the board with set vendors to ensure same set ups, warranties etc.

- vi. *With it getting colder, is there a way to keep it warmer, do we have to keep the windows open or can we close them?*
 - 1. Our caretakers are working hard to keep the heat on high and balanced in the classrooms
 - 2. Also, it is how much you open the windows, need to use the top windows only and not open as wide. If it does become a problem, we can request and push for filters sooner.

- vii. *Wouldn't you do everything you can do to ensure the air quality which would including the test.*
 - 1. Absolutely, if you feel we need it, I will make the request to do it. We will request to test with windows open and closed.
 - 2. **ACTION:** Susan to request the air quality testing to be completed
 - a. **Note:** Ron has already submitted the request for this – 12/02/2020

- viii. **Recommendation:** Ensure classes have the windows open, especially the top ones, they are built to work this way and improve ventilation.

- ix. **Any Concerns:** Please do reach out anytime, send your other concerns/questions to the parent council and they will have them addressed and sent back to you.



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4. **Ward Update** – Rachel Chernos Lin

- Scheduled a ward forum, Rachel will be sending out a flyer on Wednesday Dec 2nd to the principal and Parent Council to distribute to the parent
- **Forum Date:** December 10th
 - i. We will have some superintendents and others from virtual schools attend.
- Changes coming for grade **4 Extended French Program:**
 - i. September 2021-2022:
 1. French Immersion will start at Jr. Kindergarten
 2. Grade 4 – will not be full French Immersion and not Extended French – we will be phasing out extended French after this year.
 3. Children in current extended French will start full French immersion by Grade 9. There are more details to come on this.
 4. Bedford will be changing to Grade 4 French Immersion starting next September, not extended French anymore, Registration will be in January
- **Superintendent Update:**
 - i. John Chasty is retiring (Current Superintendent), He will be finished in 1.5 week and we are in the process of looking for a replacement.
- **Organizational Board:**
 - i. Every year, we have an organizational board meeting to select the board members for the coming year, last year's chair has been re-elected as and a new vice chair.
 - ii. Rachel is the co-chair of the "French as second language" committee.
 - iii. She will also be part of another committee as the chair.
- **Questions:**
 - i. *Director of education – we currently do not have one, so who will be hiring the new superintendent?*
 1. We have an interim director right now and will ensure there is a superintendent put in place, this could be interim until the new director is hired, but there will be someone appointed ASAP.
 - ii. *Information in the news – Asymptomatic testing at Thorncliffe? What is the plan with this?*



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1. This is a pilot program by the province, provincial and Toronto public health. Partnering with Michael Garron hospital.
2. The goal is to test 34,000 over 1 month. These schools were selected as they have a high + rate (16%) and cannot tell exactly where they are coming from, so want to understand this a little more and know if it came from the community or the school.
 - a. 19 cases have been identified from this test – 1 teacher (750 students in this school – Grade 1-5)
 - b. Testing is Voluntary – 70% were tested, which makes it 4% positive. Spread over 14 classes, not all in 1 class or cluster, which shows it is not spread through the school.

iii. Will there be other schools tested?

1. Other schools are Valley Park and Marc Garneau (which are the feeder schools for Thorncliffe).
2. There will be, but it will depend on how many cases there currently are and if they are community spread.
3. It also depends on what we learn from this pilot.

iv. Has there been any discussions of additional switch dates between in-school and virtual school after January?

1. No, we have not heard anything on this, there is still the one at the end of January and would have you start after the Family day weekend.

v. Any discussion about extension of the holiday break for an additional week (first week of January)?

1. We haven't heard anything, there was some initial discussion but now saying there will be no extension. This will be up to the Ministry and the province.

vi. Will teachers be mandated to be visually online if we go virtual

1. Yes, there will be a pivot to virtual learning if classes are shut down. All of our teachers have been working hard to be prepared and ready to switch to online quickly and get the children learning right away.
2. Teacher from the most recent shut down has provided the Bedford Park admin with some feedback on how it went and recommendation.

- **Any Concerns:** Please do reach out anytime if you have any other questions or concerns.



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5. Bedford Administrative Update & Town Hall – Mme Pitre & Ms. Berger

- **Superintendent:**
 - i. As mentioned, our superintendent is retiring but will be working hard with the new superintendent.

- **Student leadership:**
 - i. We are creating a student leadership team with Grades 4 – 8 students.
 - ii. We are looking to have them selected and decided this week.
 - iii. Will be doing Socially Distant Meetings at lunch on Fridays.
 - iv. Ms. Gryfe and Ms. Diakos are the teacher leaders

- **Grade 8 Update:**
 - i. Did a dance outside and helping bring the school together including planning spirit weeks.
 - ii. Did videos for the students
 - iii. All month week to week spirit activities
 - iv. There will be a transition meeting on December 8th
 - 1. There were emails sent out for LC1

- **Universal screening**
 - i. We will be conducting universal screening for grade 3 students over the next few weeks
 - ii. For Virtual school Grade 3 students will happen on January 15th, information to come for that.
 - iii. Students will be completing the full assessments during a full day (5 sections)
 - 1. As books will then go into quarantine before next cohort can use it.

- **Recess Zones**
 - i. Kids have been moved to their new zones today

- **RAZ KIDS**
 - i. We will be sending the log in details for our virtual school students (JK-Grade 2) in the next few days.

- **Blinds**
 - i. Blinds have been moved and the windows are now open
 - ii. You can really notice and feel the air
 - iii. Curtis is working everyday to keep the heat up in the classrooms, there was one day it wasn't working but he has now had it fixed.



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- **Boilers**
 - i. Central staff have come through to start preparing for boiler replacement next summer
- **Exterior Lighting**
 - i. Replacing exterior lights to make it brighter for better visibility
- **Any Concerns:** Please do reach out to Susan or Melissa at any time if you have other questions or concerns.

6. Parent Council and Committee Updates – Anita O'Connor & Janet Stone

- **Parent Council Updates – Janet**
 - i. Will send the dates for the rest of the meetings in the next blues
 - ii. Request for volunteers
 - 1. There is a new “Save schools committee” with other schools – looking for 2 parents from Bedford Park (once a month) to start in January – Email Parent Council if you are interested. bedfordparkpc@gmail.com
 - iii. New Families program
 - 1. We are looking to run through our school – it will be to connect new parents with other parents
 - 2. Details will be on the Parent Council Website.
 - 3. Looking to get an ambassador for this initiative – if interested in helping email Parent Council
- **Committee Updates**
 - i. Fundraising / Social – Lesley / Sarah / Laura
 - 1. In process – Bedford Love Local
 - a. We are looking to support our local communities and provide information on what stores are offering to help parents know where to go and shop local
 - 2. We have many fun ideas for the new year so stay tuned.
 - 3. Also looking to do some virtual events starting at the end of January. This will be for both virtual and in school families together.
 - ii. Outreach – Samara / Jen
 - 1. Last year we did the backpacks but unfortunately with Covid this year we are unable to do it again.
 - 2. In the new year we are looking into other items
 - a. Teddington Manor – There has been a small outbreak of Covid at this location so we are looking at options to help cheer up the residents.



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- b. Looking at sending cards from the younger kids – more details to come.
 - c. Valentines for Vets – At Sunnybrook – we are looking into the details on what we can do here and how many can be involved.
 3. Family day Weekend
 - a. This is for In School and Online Families
 - b. There is a company in the city that will go around and pick up food made by families at home and will be shared with those in need that day.
 - c. Stay tuned in the new year for more details.
- iii. Social Media – Sheryl / Gillian
 1. Running PC Instagram account, hoping to use this as an easy cheat sheet to help parents remember upcoming events and dates. Also, to keep everyone informed in a fun and exciting way.
 2. Stay tuned for Community and School Events
 3. Really want to use this to keep everyone smiling while getting great information at the same time.
- iv. Budget – Janet F
 1. Haven't spent too much this year
 - a. License for RAZ kids
 - b. Daffodil bulbs
 - c. Will be sending communications to teacher for their enrichment funds, have put more to sports equipment for individual cohorts (will be working with Mr. H)

7. Closing Remarks

- Next PC Meeting dates will be in the Blues at the end of December.
- If your class doesn't have a class parent, please do volunteer if you can.
- Parents are encouraged to email Parent Council at any time at the email address: bedfordparkpc@gmail.com

8. Meeting Adjourned at 8:15pm



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9. Attendees

Alison Hayman	Allison Bethune	Amy Fuller	Andrew Lee
Anca Wiseman	Aparna Sachdeva	Barb Scarola	Beth Lauer
Blaine Woodcock	Christopher Barr	Cristiane Cé	Danny
Alison Hayman	Amy Fuller	Andrew Gold	Angelica Liu
Aprana Sachdeva	Atoosa Zareei	Bingo Chan	Amanda Wang
Cristiane Ce	Daniel Galliera	Debbie Abreu	Lauren Bull
Gema Zepeda Mancia	Jeffrey Reisman	Jessica Galliera	Joanne Anderson
Barb Scarola	Judy Lin	Julia Drayton	Lara Skripitsky
Lin Cong	Linda Pak	Mark Fuller	Mark Solerno
Mary Dempster	Matt Murl	Michelle Borthwick	Michelle Calloway
Michelle Gregory	Minh-Hien Le	Natasha Ryde	Nicole Cairns
Punam Mony Singh	Paul Teshima	Ross Dixon	Ruth Burk
S.E Lauer	SR G	Steve Smith	Tammy Chiasson
Tanveer Wares	Vera Wang		