



EBSAC Public Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2025

Meeting Venue: Virtually over Zoom

Meeting Time: 8:00pm

EBSAC Attendance: Lauren Hilderley, Megan Sauro-Love, Betty Zhou, Stephanie Lovering, David Del Grande, Kate Dupuis, Nicole Roberto, Melissa Eller, Elise Fullerton, Julia Pace, Lauren Caldwell, Sandra Huh

Faculty Attendance: Lee Ann Maier, Jennifer McColl, Mme. Loubier, Ms. Brown

Beatty Buddies: Lisa Winters

Members of the Public: Various

Land Acknowledgement

Principal's Update – Lee Ann Maier & Jennifer McColl

- Friday October 24 is picture day, first family movie night as well as the official Blue Jay Day
- Halloween parade on October 31st, first thing after students arrive. Instructions will be sent out in the Friday Flash.
- November 3 – First Caring and Safe Schools Committee meeting
- November 6 – Pizza Lunch
- Nov 9 – Fall order date for spirit wear
- November 11 – Remembrance Day assembly and progress reports
- Nov 13/14 – Interviews
- Nov 21 – Photo retake day
- Reference School Calendar for dates further in the future
- CCAT Testing – Standardized aptitude test, looking at novel puzzles, analogies and that type of thing. Not an academic achievement test, but more so how students' minds are working. If students score at a certain level they can have additional screening for gifted programs. It also provides reports for teachers to create groups for different learning styles, etc. Useful for a couple of years. They also triangulate the data and look at other assessments done in the classroom.
- Grade 8 transitions – In the media yesterday, emerging information. They used to have a system where students applied to specialized programs for high school, was a previously lottery system but are now switching back to the portfolio system. Information will be coming to schools in the next few days, Ms. Harrison will be point person. All schools with specialty programs have open houses going on in October and November. Encourages family to go check them out. Even if your child is in grade 7, take a look. Multiple entry points to these programs, though grade 9 is the main one. Link to program here: <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/High-School/Going-to-High-School/Open-Houses-and-Information-Nights>
- Thanks provided for coming to Curriculum Night.

- ExtraEd registration is open and deadline for signing up is October 30.
- Holiday Hamper program – School is matched with a family and provides the things that they need. The want to set up a committee of teachers but would like to have a parent liaison – coordinating with faculty to make sure everything is tracked and organized, helping with outreach.
- City of Toronto has made a commitment to have a nutrition program in every school – EB is in phase 3. Goal is for all schools to be given a morning meal. Looking at starting in January, will likely use the conference room beside the office for the nutrition program. EB has applied for a grant to provide a portion of the funding (25%) and the rest will be donation based. They need a Nutrition Coordinator (technically not a paid position but you get a stipend that is roughly equivalent to minimum wage – this pay also comes from donations. Parent committee will have a role in determining how fundraising will work and what works best / how it will look at our school. At other schools, the Nutrition Coordinator is given the opportunity to attend food safe training.

Teacher's Update – Ms. Brown & Mme. Loubier

- Thank Yous – Kate for bringing in Tim Bits
- Jump Math – Explicit instruction on math and literacy is a big priority. Last year EB was part of a pilot and got the materials for free. This year we elected to purchase the materials to continue the work that was done last year. Teachers really like the program – happy to invite the speaker back if there is interest from the parent community. Teachers wanted to continue because they have seen good results. EB's results were very strong in math and there is interest in seeing if the trend continues. Scaffolded instruction that gives very small steps and before you know it the kids are doing very sophisticated math.

Lisa Winters – Update from Beatty Buddies

- They have one school age space that is available (grade 1 to 4 age group).

Sick Kids Saliva Testing Program – Nina Talya

- Respiratory illnesses are among the most common illnesses in children – it is good to understand the spread and help understand / contain outbreaks in the future. The program began on 2020 as a response to COVID-19 but has been expended to include other illnesses. Sick Kids will provide samples free of charge and tested daily. If you have symptoms you can pick up a test kit, take your sample and drop it off to the school's drop off station and keep refrigerated until then. Results are available through MyChart within 24-48 hours. Sick Kids will not notify the school if a test result is positive. Study is part of a larger research initiative to understand the spread of illness in schools and households and to guide public health policy in the future. The research component is anonymous, and families can opt out at any time. Classes may receive a one-time sampling set, and families can decide whether or not their child participates. You can also choose to receive results from this or not. Parent and student ambassador roles are also available to contribute to the program and support the community.
- Tests are available in the office and you can pick them up from Claire or Faye. Courier comes daily, usually around 11am.
- Program is also available to Beatty Buddies.

School Safety

- Caring and Safe School Committee has been established. Parent to email Lee Ann directly with concerns or questions so that thoughtful answers can be provided. Emails provided: lee-anne.maier@tdsb.on.ca & jennifer.mccoll@tdsb.on.ca.
- First meeting at November 3 @ 4pm.
- Dynamics of what she is seeing is based on students being outdoors, Lee Ann is outside and circulating so that she observe things and make changes incrementally.

- Collaborating with staff to understand what has / hasn't worked in the past.
- Also have an advisor from the Board.
- Being transparent is a huge priority and they want to create some common language.
- Concerns coming so far – Grade 7/8s are playing really closely with grade 1s. There can be issues with balls being thrown too hard etc, and it is tricky due to size and age differences. Zoned play areas are being established to avoid collisions. They are trying to maximize lunch schedules and increase supervision as well as how they are circulating, looking around corners. The supervisors are brought up to speed on issues and things to look for (dynamics of concern). They then can provide consistent feedback to the administration.
- Lee Ann and Jen are trying to be out there at lunch and recess, wearing pink vests for visibility.
- Indoor lunch will be starting soon and will necessitate further changes.
- Soccer games – caring and safe schools advisor suggests setting up the field in a half court format to take the power of the kicks down.
- Incidents of race and bias – Equity Department has been contacted, and a coach will come work with classes and staff to have some consistent language, responses and approaches to these situations. School will also work on this independently. A lot of the time it is microaggressions and we need to interrupt these things.
- Students who have permission to leave, and getting into things that they shouldn't because they weren't really leaving all the way. Were also coming and going. They now have to sign out and sign back in when they do their class attendance. The lunchroom supervisors appreciate it because it wasn't clear who had permission.
- Most issues happen at lunch because the overall supervision level is lower, and the supervisors have different relationships with students than the teachers do.
- Supervisors are only letting small groups go to the washroom at the same time. Frequent checks in the basement, and BB staff are on walkie and can communicate any issues they encounter in real time.
- Student conflicts – follow up and get to the source of why things are happening. May even go speak to a whole class if things are recurring. For more serious incidents they are using a progresses discipline program and is done in conjunction with the caring and safe Schools Committee. They have gone as far as a suspension this year, but when the student returns, they reiterate the education piece and make sure there is a plan for better choices. Get a social worker involved.
- Open door policy – continued collaboration is the way to go.
- Consequences will always be confidential – but just because they won't share details of consequences doesn't mean they aren't tough when needed.
- Some parents were hoping to have more of a two-way communication – Lee Ann wants to make sure no kids are singled out and wants to make sure it is handled in a safe and appropriate manner.

Financial Update – David Del Grande

- Typically we have a clearer idea of how we want to disburse funds to the school at this point in the year.
- There are a lot of items currently in discussion, so we have a lot to discuss, what are currently showing is based on historical spending patterns.
- Fundraising target of \$50,000 for the 2025-2026 school year
- Have raised approximately \$2,000 so far (Fresh from the Farm and Curriculum Night pizza)

- Snapshot of potential fundraising disbursements:

Disbursements	Costs	Net	Costs	Net
<u>Classroom learning</u>			<u>Arts and literacy support</u>	
Ukulele lessons	\$ (5,500)		Library	\$ (2,000)
Scientists in the School/in-class special learning	\$ (6,000)	<u>Classroom reading materials</u>	\$ (3,750)	
	\$ (11,500)			\$ (5,750)
<u>Activity support</u>			<u>Donation</u>	
Busing	\$ (2,500)		Sister school donation (10% of net fundraising)	\$ (5,300)
Track and field trackers	\$ (500)			
Heritage event	\$ (1,000)		<u>Truth and Reconciliation</u>	
Field trips (TBD)	\$ (5,000)	<u>Truth and Reconciliation Committee activities</u>	\$ (3,500)	
	\$ (9,000)	Indigenous Mural	\$ (8,000)	
<u>Classroom improvements</u>			<u>Student celebrations</u>	
26 classroom gift cards (replenish classroom supplies)	\$ (6,250)		Grade 5 French celebrations/graduation	\$ (1,000)
Coffee socials	\$ (500)		Grade 8 English celebrations/graduation	\$ (1,000)
			Grade 8 class trip busing	\$ (1,000)
			End of year freezes	\$ (120)
				\$ (3,120)
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS				
				\$ (57,020)

EBSAC Events Update – Lauren Caldwell

- October 24 – Family Movie Night. Pizza orders for Friday night close at 10pm on October 22nd
- November 21 – First parent trivia night
- Coffee Social – Halloween prior to the parade. Please bring a reusable coffee mug!

Bill 33 Update – Kate Dupuis

- New legislation under the Education Act the will impact how the ministry can take over school boards and supersede trustees voting rights – in particular what can get cut.
- Bill 33 has not passed yet – but has gone through a few readings and could pass soon.
- Planning to reinstate the school resource officer – not the same as the community police that we have now, believed to be a solution to violence in schools
- No commitment on funding through this to bring funding up to an inflationary level – i.e. the potential pool cuts – no longer have a mechanism to advocate for pools.
- Ministry is now able to take any school property from any board and do whatever they wish – no parameters on how this works, very unclear.
- What does this mean for kids – parent lose their ability to advocate for kids through trustees
- Class sizes could increase – if they are taking over properties there could be overall fewer schools and no funding to support smaller class sizes.
- Trustees had no role in the reorganization this year (they usually do).
- Sports, pools, ISP, gifted, alternative, supportive, music, etc. may be cut due to not having the required support staff.
- TDSB is under supervision and none of the decisions he makes have to be justified and they are made behind closed doors. No transparency.
- Sandra and Kate are hosting an advocacy townhall on Zoom – November 3 @ 7:30-9pm
- What can you do? Call or email government officials – Paul Calandra, Doug, Ford, TDSB Supervisor.
- If you can, join an advocacy group – Toronto Education Advocacy Group, Fundourschools.ca, Parent Involvement Advisory Committee, policingfreeschools.ca

Q&A

- Please email EBSAC and we can connect you with the right people to answer questions.

Next meeting: TBD

Adjourned: 9:37pm