

Parent Council Meeting Davisville Public School September 27, 2016<sup>1</sup>

The council began the meeting by acknowledging the Native Canadian tribes whose lands this school is standing on.

Last meeting minutes passed around.

Principal Shona Farrelly update:

**School reorganization:**

- we now have 5 English JK/SK classes (and 2 FI JK/SK classes)
- A new primary classroom was opened; and got an exemption for FI primary – no new class there.
- Mr Tim Hunter's class: from now on they're having lunch with the other Grade 2s.
- Entry/exit points for English JK/SK classes are problematic as there are 5 classes now. Their playground is in the yard near where the buses drop off/pick up students.

**Curriculum night October 6<sup>th</sup>.** It's later this year because of the reorganization

Reminder: School's Parking Lot is a dangerous area for pedestrians, it's not meant to be an access point to the school for people and kids walking to school.

This year we're transitioning to being a JK-Gr5 school.

We need a few parents for a transition committee – 3-4 parent volunteers for the 5<sup>th</sup> graders. A transition committee has to be a sub-committee of the parents council, and will help sort out some logistics (graduation parties, etc.).

Food Safety: Snacks began on Monday: **Need volunteers!** Please consider helping if you can come one (or more) morning a week from 9-11am! Dad volunteers meet on Thursdays – we'd love to have some

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<sup>1</sup> 39 people signed the attendance sheet.

dads in the school!

We now have lots of kids with **food allergies** and therefore no birthday food is allowed in the school. Now instead, a child celebrating her/his Birthday can bring a book to read to the class; or donate a new book to the class.

This also means we are considering introducing no parties with food; or parties with food with one ingredient (i.e. grapes/clementines/celery, etc.). This means we have to rethink our bake sales as well.

Out of our 5 English JK/SK and classes about 60% of the kids are in JK. Many children are not prepared to go to school: they've never been to social surroundings, aren't used to being around kids their age. Many children have trouble with toileting and independence.

We urge the parents to help their children be more independent:

- Let them carry their own bags;
- teach them to get dressed/undressed ON THEIR OWN;
- practice WAITING with your children – teach them to wait their turn
- allow them to FAIL (in games, tasks, etc.) in safe settings: If your child has never lost in a game – they are not prepared to be with 20 or 30 other kids, who all are used to winning, as well.
- Practice social skills at home!

### **Sicknesses and injuries:**

- Kids can be only sent to school once they're 24 hrs diarrhea and fever-free. If your child still needs medication to feel well during the day – she / he is not ready to go back to school. Keep them home!
- The School is not allowed to give out medication (including Tylenol, Advil, etc.) – none whatsoever.
- If a child gets a cut/bruise, the School is not allowed to clean cuts with anything but water.

### **City- run programs and Clubs:**

City-run summer programs were successful and full.

Lots of city-run programs starting next week in the school. The orange registration flyers are available in the office.

**Elections – Please contact the council to volunteer for the roles!**

- *Call for Action: School council does not reflect the diversity we have at the school. We don't have enough representation from the English side of the school. We need more English-side parents involved. We can provide interpreters for parents who don't speak English fluently, to attend meetings and work with volunteers.*
- We are looking for a co-Chair and a co-Treasurer of the council. These roles can be shared.
- Also needed: Library liaison, Athletic dept. liaison, Music dept. liaison – these roles communicate with the teachers and liaise their departments' needs to the council.
- Class reps for kindergarten, primary and junior classes: Grade level reps – liaise with all the depts. and the council, meet in the spring to figure out class organization for next year.
- Fun Fair Head and committee;
- Communication committee: Anita, Anya, Morgan;
- ECO club (free cycle, rummage sale, etc.) – working with Mme Cenac and the students
- Fresh school team: snack, lunch buddies, hand washing workshops, etc. Need volunteers!
- Join the New School redevelopment team (NSERT) – committee to be connected with the Board, the architects etc. re: our new school build.
- Need pizza lunch parent volunteers to hand out pizzas once or twice a month. Otherwise we can't have Pizza Fridays!

- In the spring we'll need an Acorn fundraiser parent volunteer

Treasurer update:

We're starting with 30,626 in the bank.

Our biggest fund raiser last year was Fun Fair with \$14,000 raised.

Pizza lunch raised almost \$11,000.

Movie afternoons raised almost \$3,000

Bake Sales raised over \$1,500

Misc.

Every JK/SK class gets \$300 (\$10 per child) to spend on the classroom

Primary classes get \$200 (\$10 per child) to spend on the classroom

Junior classes get \$300 (\$10 per child) to spend on the classroom

Parent council allocates the following money for the school departments below:

Field Trips: \$300

Specialists in class: \$200

ESL - \$50 per class

Phys. Education dept. \$1000

Library dept. \$1000

Music dept. \$1000

Fall fundraising plans: We need volunteers for this!

House party -

Spirit wear -

Direct ask - for tech needs in school

**Shelly Laskin**

Notes and Q&A from the meeting last week are posted on our Davisville parents site, [www.davisvilleparents.com](http://www.davisvilleparents.com).

The meeting was about the new school that will be built here.

Links to the information shared at that meeting are provided.

TDSB is building a 3-storey school, with underground parking and a 3<sup>rd</sup> storey gym. City-run childcare centre with 62 child spots (nursery up to preschool) will be housed within the school.

NSERT members will review designs and be part of the planning process.

Principal Farrelly and Vice Principal Cecile Robertson are point-people liaising with the TDSB.

Final design due: March 2017

Shovel in the ground: Summer 2018, depending on the City's permits process, bylaws and exemption process.

This Thursday (Sep 29) is the Ward-wide Forum on Coding.

November Ward-wide forum is on Anxiety and Stress in Children

### **Cecile Robertson's update: EQAO results 2015-2016**

- Davisville School has a large population of newcomers to the country and ESL students that impact our results
- Gender gaps are significant (attitudes and literacy; behavior data)
- Achievement data – encouraging ratings.

54 Grade 3 students (all of our Gr. 3s, or 100%) wrote the test  
French Immersion population here growing, but students in Gr 3 don't write the English literacy portion, only math. French Immersion Grade 6s write both parts.

Gr 3: gender results: Davisville boys performing worse than the boys ward-wide. The school is examining teachers' instructional practices to improve these results. By Grade 6 the differences are less pronounced. Learning skills show a big gender gap for boys.

Staff plan for the future:

Staff to evaluate demographic data and our challenges, improve understanding of our demographic situation

School made significant gains over time. We can be proud of our students' achievements in literacy and math in the last year, well above the provincial average.

Compared to TDSB : Grades 3 - reading 75%, writing 79%, math 81% above level 3 and 4.

Compared to TDSB : Grades 6 - reading 86%, writing 90%, math 78%  
above level 3 and 4.

In Attendance:

Val Upfold  
Corey Rotman  
Heidi Kerney  
Kayla Rudburg-Rotman  
Anne Gallagher  
Anne Sasu  
Wendy Bhim  
Lesley Stoyan  
Chris Trussell  
Dan Collins  
Mancelo M. de Lima  
Alexey Fadeev  
Irina Fadeeva  
Morgan Hedges  
Anya Laskin  
Anne Mullins  
Laura Greer  
Amie Luckock  
Tanya Murdoch  
Lynne LeBlanc  
Patrck Robinson  
Martin Cecchetto  
Chris Thompson  
Alison Stanley  
Ulrica Jobe  
Penny Hiddema  
John Hiddema  
Amber Lepage-Monette  
Anita Huang-Teshima  
Danielle Lavallee  
Anne Gallagher  
Tamara Kolber  
Pamela Byrne  
Christine Kilby  
Naomi Buck

Renata Vaccaro  
Anthony Magnaye  
Junghyun Lee