

Ward 3 Council
Setting out for success: Foundations for a great school year
Wednesday October 4, 2017 7:00pm - 8:30 pm
John English JMS, 95 Mimico Ave
Minutes

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Trustee Pamela Gough gave an acknowledgement of Traditional Lands.

2. **Ward Representative Elections:** A slate of representatives was presented

Richard Carter -SEAC

Melanie Amadasun - FSLAC (there is room for an Alternate)

Trevor Burnett - PIAC

Felicia Lau - PIAC Alternate

Christy Heath - Ward 3 Rep

No other nominees came forward and no one opposed the slate so all Ward 3 Reps are elected as above.

3. **Trustee's Report:** <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Ward3/>

4. **Superintendent's Report:** Superintendent Tracy Hayhurst welcomed everyone back to the new school year. She reiterated the TDSB's focus on Equity. This year's focus is on the adults in the schools. EQAO results are coming out soon for grade 4 & 7 students. Universal Screening is currently taking place for grade 3 students. Superintendent Hayhurst encouraged everyone to visit the TDSB website regularly www.tdsb.on.ca, there is currently a great section on Welcome Back with resources for parents and students.

5. John English School Council Chair Jennifer Zakrewski gave a welcome to the school highlighting John English JMS and all that is going on at the School this year.

6. **Ward Rep. Reports:**

Melanie Amadasun, FSLAC: There will be a French Program Review in 2018. Changes in Application Deadlines for Early Immersion, October 30- November 30 to allow families to have acceptance before the holidays. Extended French Deadlines will be from January 8 - February 8, 2018. Deadlines and information sessions will be posted on the TDSB website <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Elementary-School/School-Choices/French-Programs>.

Richard Carter, SEAC: The year is off to a good start. Anyone wanting information or having anything they want addressed a SEAC should contact Richard Carter.

Felicia Lau, PIAC: Parents Make a Difference Conference November 25th

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Conferences>. Registration starting mid

October. School Resource Officer program being consulted on
<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Media/News/artmid/2750/articleid/1123/school-resource-officer-update>.

7. Panel: Setting out for success: Foundations for a great school year -Moderated by
Trustee Pamela Gough

The Panelists introduced themselves and indicated their personal thoughts on Foundations for Success.

Heather Johnson, TDSB Social Worker with Mental Health and Wellbeing- her focus is on mental & physical well being and she believes that family is integral in building healthy attitudes.
Trevor Burnett, PIAC Rep & SK Parent & SAC Chair - laying groundwork of education begins in early years. Mind Up Curriculum, volunteer at your child's school.

Charlene Lyn, SAC Chair Lakeshore CI - Be involved in the school, get to know what is happening in the school and show your children that school is important. Use agendas and teach your kids to use agendas

Tina Chan-Kim, SAC Rep John English - Partnership and dialogue between parents and school/teacher.

Craig Howe, Principal John English- As educator provide opportunities for students to find their interest and want to come to school. Communication! Allow students to make (and recover) from mistakes, build responsibility and resilience.

Steve Murray, Kindergarten Teacher John English- support children at home through informal lessons Addressing these - Short, Simple, Structured, Sensory, Surroundings.

Helga Trudeau, Gr. 2 Teacher, French Immersion John English - Get involved with your child's homework (don't do it for them), read at home - with them, to them, in front of them. Get help when you need it and encourage children to seek help themselves. Have balanced after school activities and give kids down time. Have a routine at home for all 7 days a week. Protect Family Time. Outdoor play.

Discussions with the panel proceeded on the following topics:

Home work - be aware of it, but do not do the work. Allow your child to be responsible for their work.

Chores - give children responsibility around the house. Builds responsibility and community.

Anxiety, Speaking out in class - teach kids about anxiety, to focus anxiety and provide tools to deal with it.

Mental Health Parent Committee -

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Elementary-School/Supporting-You/Mental-Health-Well-being>

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm with the presentation of a door prize. The next Ward 3 Council Meeting, Parent Involvement 101, will be Monday November 13th 7:00pm at Lambton-Kingsway JMS.