



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Committee Name: Equity Program Advisory Committee

Date: March 26, 2015

Time: 6:30 pm – 8:15 pm

Present: Trustee Co-Chair Jennifer Arp; Marjolein Winterink Co-Chair (Parent); Joesiann Nelson Co-Chair (Black Creek Community Health Centre); Trustee Parthi Kandavel; Byron Gray (Jane Finch Community Centre); Margaret Blair (Parent); Sharon Simpson ; Nathan Gilbert; (Inner City Advisory Committee); Sharon Simpson (Urban Alliance on Race Relations); Sawan Sengupta (Black Creek Community Health Centre); Leonard Wandili (African Heritage Educators Network); Derik Chica (Latin American Education Network)

TDSB : Jyoti Khona (ACL English, social Sciences); Diane Dei Amoah (Central Coordinating Principal); Jim Spyropoulos (Executive Superintendent); Kevin Sutton (Equity and Inclusive Schools)

Regrets: Christopher Penrose (Success Beyond Limits)

Guests: Kuga Palan

Recorder: Latha John (Parent and Community Engagement Office)

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/MOTION
Call to Order/Quorum	Chair Winterink called the meeting to order at 6:57 pm. Quorum was achieved.	
Approval of Agenda	Motion to approve the agenda by Nathan Gilbert, seconded by Trustee Parthi Kandavel. All in favour. Motion Carried	
Approval of Minutes –February	Motion to approve the February 12 th minutes by Byron Gray,	



12th, 2015	seconded by Nathan Gilbert. All in favour. Motion carried	
Co- Chair Report	Trustee Co-Chair Arp ,EPAC Co-Chairs Marjolein Winterink and , Joesiann Nelson, and Diane DeiAmoah met on March 11, 2015 to discuss EPAC membership , contacting members in regards to attendance, quorum, purpose of equity and strategic directions of EPAC.	
Trustee Report	Trustee Arp- Trustees are getting organized for the rest of the school year. Provincial panel of financial review from the government to be expected EPAC to give a deputation to the board on the committee and functioning of the committee and to bring equity issues forward.	
Staff Report - Jim Spyropoulos Executive Superintendent	<p><u>Greek Heritage Month</u> Second year of Greek Heritage Month celebration in March.</p> <p><u>African Heritage Month</u> African Heritage Month was celebrated with great success, it was a different model this year and lot of people were actively engaged.</p> <p><u>Revised Physical health education</u> There has been lot of questions/concerns from mostly faith based groups on teaching sexuality and gender based education. The Board is in the process of updating teacher resources. Fastest growing sector in education is private faith based schools. The board is concerned and consultations are</p>	



	<p>ongoing to support make accommodations. The requests for accommodations from the community are growing daily and are not only faith based but from different areas of study like music and arts. Consultations are ongoing in the board to determine what reasonable accommodations are, the board has to be very clear and not permit accommodations which are an infringement of the human rights of others.</p> <p>Budget The Ministry of Education has announced that the board will receive an influx of money for capital improvements and support the infrastructure.</p> <p>Action: Annual Aboriginal Education update to be in the EPAC agenda in the upcoming meeting</p> <p>September Tragedy The group that examined the aftermath of the tragedies of violence at TDSB schools and the conditions that exist in the schools has prepared a report. The report to be released in April</p> <p>Action: The Report to be shared to EPAC by Jim Spyropoulos Executive Superintendent</p>	
<p>Staff Report - Diane DeiAmoah Central Coordinating Principal</p>	<p>STEMposium STEMposium on Saturday March 28th 7pm at Central Tech. Communities are invited to attend.</p>	



	<p>Bringing together Hip Hop, Science Technology, Engineering and Math. The Board is tiring to be innovative with STEMposium as students from marginalised background are underrepresented at STEM. Friday March 27th workshops are being held , 20 student workshops 4 Teacher workshops</p> <p><u>Latin@/Hispanic Heritage Month</u> This year marks the 6th time that the TDSB celebrates April as Latin@/Hispanic Heritage Month. With more than 5,000 TDSB students speaking Spanish as a first language and representing over 21 countries. The Latin@/Hispanic Heritage Month Committee and a group of youth from a Saturday social sciences course for Latin@/Hispanic students are working on a variety of initiatives to support curriculum and learning during the month of April.</p> <p>They are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A newly revised resource guide, which will be released in the March 30th edition of Direct Line. • A two part mural workshop series - March 28th in the Central Technical School Library. • Spanish language workshops on Early Years learning, Library and Literacy, and Navigating the Education System; these will be delivered at the WR2 Making Connections Conference at Westview Centennial Secondary School - student artwork from both elementary and secondary panels will also be featured at the event. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A school-wide assembly for students at King Edward and a teacher workshop on Latin@ identity and youth empowerment - featuring a local spoken word artist • The students are currently organizing a symposium. Details to follow. 	
<p>EPAC drafts a deputation – Student leadership policy</p>	<p>The draft deputation of Students Leadership policy was presented to the EPAC Committee. The deputation was drafted by students and Equity staff. Representation of marginalised and rationalized students in the student council to be included in the Student leadership policy.</p> <p>Feedback The deputation to be presented in point form to the board committee. Educational discussion as a staff policy on leadership goals to students in schools to be incorporated in the deputation.</p> <p>Action: EPAC to have a conversion in regards to Student Leadership Policy with Coordinating Superintendent Jeff Hainbuch and Executive Superintendent Sandy Spyropoulos who are staff representatives to Student’s Super Council.</p> <p>Motion by Derik Chica and seconded by Trustee Kandavel to support the revision of Student Leadership Policy. All in Favour. Motion carried</p>	
<p>EPAC Recommendation letter to Ministry</p>	<p>The recommendation letter from EPAC was sent to the Ministry. Two directions from the Ministry about the future of the public education system- Barbara Hall has been appointed chair of a</p>	



	<p>seven-member panel that will conduct public consultations to review the governance of the Board and Karen Peitre has been appointed as a Special Advisor for consultations on schools as Community Hubs.</p> <p>Discussion EPAC needs to be part of both discussions to represent Equity.</p> <p>Action: If the information on the Community Hubs was received before the next meeting, Latha to share the information with the committee.</p>	
<p>Conference on EPAC Strategic Directions</p>	<p>EPAC to have a one day conference on Strategic Directions similar to Inner City Advisory Committee.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>Different equity seeking communities to have a voice at the conference. Conference can bring more awareness of EPAC among communities who are seeking equity. EPAC had been directionless and the Board is very diverse, the diversity of the board is not represented at EPAC. EPAC's roles and goals to be identified and to bring focus to the committee. To invite Barbara Hall, Karen Peitre to the EPAC conference. Action: EPAC to come up with the list of Invitees A stirring committee to be formed and meet in a week.</p> <p>Conference Date</p>	



	The committee decided to have the conference on May 30 th , 2015	
New Business	<p><u>Announcements</u></p> <p><u>AHEN</u> Annual Parents and Teacher conference on April 11 Saturday 9:30 am to 2:00 pm</p> <p>Nominations open for African Heritage Educators Network's 3rd Annual Black Student Awards on May 14, 2015 at Earl Haig Secondary School.</p> <p>Action : Latha to forward the information to the committee</p> <p><u>Latin American Come Out Conference.</u> "From dialogue to Action"-The conference had discussions on the common barriers faced by the Latin American community in the education system. The conference was very successful, the report to be shared with EPAC.</p> <p><u>PIAC and SEAC Conference</u> on March 28th at Earl Haig.</p>	
Next Meeting Date	Next meeting date April 23 rd .	
Adjournment	Motion to Adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm by Nathan Gilbert, seconded by Margaret Blair. All in favour. Motion Carried	

