

**Parent & Community Engagement Office (PCEO)**

**5050 Yonge Street, Main Floor**

**Toronto, ON M2N 5N8**

To: Members of Alternative Schools Advisory Committee (ASAC)

Date/Time: Tuesday, April 12th, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm (6:30 light refreshments);

Location: Library, Davisville Public School, 43 Millwood Rd

Committee Co-Chairs: Prafulla Prabhu, Caillie Feldmann, Kowthar Omar, Liam Rodrigues,

Present: Chris Rush (Curriculum Leader), Louis Marrone (Mountview, parent); Sheena Taylor (ALPHA, parent); Sonya Allin (ALPHA, parent); Barb Gosse (SEED Parent); Tania Szablewski (ALPHA, Parent); Megan Wiigs (Hawthorned, parent); Kelly Dyment (SEED, parent); Manon Gardner (TDSB, staff); Grant Fawthrop (TDSB, staff); Stephen Cooper (parent);

Regrets: Trustee Malik

**MINUTES**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | **ITEM** | **LEAD** | **MOTION/**  **RECOMMENDATION** |
|  | Welcome & Introductions | Co-Chairs  -Meeting commenced at 7:05pm. Introductions were done. |  |
|  | Approval of Quorum | Co-Chairs  -Quorum of 7 was met. | Approved. |
|  | Declaration of Possible Conflict of Interest | Co-Chairs  -None declared. |  |
|  | Approval of Agenda | Co-Chairs  -Amended: add motion after Superintendents update  -Add School update after Equity in Alternative Schools  -remove Impact of Change-Relocation.  -Agenda approved. | Approved. |
|  | Approval of Minutes - February 2016 | Co-Chairs  -Minutes were approved. | Approved. |
|  | Parent Conference 2016 | Co-Chairs  -ASAC pamphlets will be provided at the ASAC booth.  - This is a follow up email regarding the TDSB Alternative Schools invitation to host a table at the Parent as Partners Conference this April 16th.    PIAC (Parent Involvement Advisory Committee) has invited ASAC (Alternative School Advisory Committee) to have an information table at its annual conference.    The PIAC Conference boasts 80 sessions and attendance approaching the thousands. It is a great opportunity for your school to get the word out to prospective students and to promote the diversity of the TDSB’s Alternative Schools.    If you are interested in having any information available (brochures, et al) at the conference, please email the information or forward through TDSB Board Mail to Liam Rodrigues (SEED) or Kowthar Omar (EAST) at their respective schools. | Information received. |
|  | Superintendent's Updates | Manon Gardner  -Director of Education began four Learning Centres next year to support schools and this was conceptually approved by the Board. Currently each of the Family of Schools reports to one superintendent. Next year there will be one executive superintendent responsible for one Learning centre; then seven superintendents will cover the schools in that FOS. Each superintendent will oversee not more than 20 schools within the FOS. There will be 90 Coach positions to assist and coach teachers in Literacy, Numeracy, STEM. Each principal will have access to the coaches.  -There are new reporting structures for the advisory committees that are being implemented. The minutes will not be presented to the Board committees; only the new template for the standing committee will be reported to Board standing committees. | Information received. |
|  | Motion – Alternative Schools  - Alternatives and Equity: Strategies for Providing Choice and Access | Co-chairs  -The motion was given.  -Due to the shuffling of responsibilities currently being done at the Board, this motion will wait.  -Discussion was around what the learning centres are and how to revise the motion to include the learning centres, possible to have a few superintendents designated to the alternative schools system.  -Feedback is welcome from the ASAC members within 10 days from today, before the next PSSC meeting. Informal meeting April 26 at Blake Street PS (at Pape subway station), 6:30pm | Discussion received. |
|  | School Updates | ALPHA:  -Decisions are currently being made regarding Alpha position. Can ASAC support in translating Alpha’s community approach?  -Alpha is democratic community school and there is much discussion on authoritative processes that is disrupting the mission of the school.  -send letters to Trustee Malik to show community support.  HAWTHORNE:  -Mark McQuigan is no longer a representative of Hawthorne.  -Statement of School needs is well-documented. | Information received. |
|  | New Business  -Announcement of co-chair elections. | Co-Chairs  -Nominations are now open for teacher co-chairs (elementary and secondary), Elem. student co-chair and parent co-chairs (elementary and secondary). Current co-chairs are stepping down.  -The ASAC Terms of Reference is still a required piece for members to work out.  -The Grants for Student needs is available from the Ministry of Education website.  -The Student Fair is happening in the Fall. | Information received. |
|  | Next Meetings | Co-Chairs   * Informal meeting April 26 at Blake Street PS (at Pape subway station), 6:30pm. Manon had suggested that ASAC rework the motion to make it clearer. * Formal Meeting, May 17, 2016 | Information received. |
| 14. | Adjournment | Co-Chairs  -Adjourned at 9:05 p.m. | Yes |

Please RSVP to: Manalo, John, Committee Assistant at [John.Manalo@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:John.Manalo@tdsb.on.ca)

Please visit TDSB Alternative Schools Advisory Committee website to learn more: <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/HowtoGetInvolved/CommunityAdvisoryCommittees/AlternativeSchoolsAdvisoryCommittee.aspx>