

**Name of Committee: Early Years Community Advisory Committee (EYCAC)**

**Meeting Date: May 31, 2023**

**Notes:**

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**Attendance: via Zoom:**

Patricia Chorney Rubin (Community Co-Chair/ George Brown College), Jill Oakes (Community Co-Chair/ YMCA Child Care), Nicola Maguire (LEF), Pam McArthur (Runnymede Adventure Club), Kim Rogers (Sunshine Child Care), Patrina Stathopoulos (Dandyllion Daycare), and Rosemary Stiglic (PLASP Child Care Services).

Also present were: Trustee Malika Ghous (Trustee Co-Chair, Ward 18), Audley Salmon (Associate Director, Learning Transformation and Equity), Trustee Dan MacLean (Ward 2), Sharon Hack (Child Care Services Manager, Extended Day Program) Liz Hoang (Interim Senior Policy Advisor/Manager Early Years and Child Care Services) and Nadejda Lekosky (Interim Child Care Services Manager).

**Regrets:**

Michelle Dutra (Woodgreen Child Care), Anabela Ferreira (Woodgreen Child Care), Irena Setnik (Silver Creek Pre-School), Lynn Strangway (Executive Superintendent, Learning Centre 3 and Early Years), and Amy Van Camp (Toronto Children's Services).

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ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/ MOTION
Welcome/Introductions/ Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands		
Call to Order / Quorum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quorum confirmed.</li> </ul>	
Approval of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The agenda was approved.</li> <li>• Moved: Rosemary Stiglic</li> <li>• Seconded: Trustee Malika Ghous</li> </ul>	
Approval of Minutes- March 24, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Minutes were approved.</li> <li>• Moved: Trustee Malika Ghous</li> <li>• Seconded: Rosemary Stiglic</li> </ul>	
Declarations of Possible Conflict of Interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed - No Conflicts were declared</li> </ul>	
Co-Chair Report	<p><b>Communication items (Co-Chairs'- Patricia Chorney Rubin and Jill Oakes):</b></p> <p><b>EYCAC Self-Evaluation Template 2022-2023</b></p> <p>Claudette will send out a reminder to members that have not had the opportunity to complete the self-evaluation.</p> <p><b>EYCAC meeting dates for 2023-2024 school year</b></p> <p>October 13, 2023 – 10am            January 26, 2024 – 10am            March 22, 2024 – 10am            May 24, 2024 – 10am            October 11, 2024 – 10am</p>	

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TDSB Staff Updates	<p><b>Audley Salmon, Associate Director, Learning Transformation and Equity shared the following updates:</b></p> <p><b>EDP Report</b></p> <p>Staff will bring forward the report to Finance, Budget, and Enrolment Committee on June 1, 2023. This report has been prepared as requested through the following motion passed at the January 23, 2023, Finance, Enrolment and Budget Committee: <b><i>Be it resolved that the Director review the TDSB EDP (Extended Day Program) against other extended day or before and after school programs, including models, staffing practices, costs, and programming best practices and report back to the Board in the April meeting cycle.</i></b></p> <p>Audley and Liz shared that the report will be an analysis of EDP and its viability. The report will provide comparisons to other school boards. The other public-school boards that operate an EDP are Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) and Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB).</p> <p>At this time, expansion of the EDP will be limited to the current 22 programs. This direction has been put in place to lessen further financial deficit and will remain in place until EDP is able to achieve cost-recovery.</p> <p>WRDSB and OCDSB established EDPs in 2010. In 2022, both</p>	

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	<p>OCDSB and WRDSB converted their programs to a licensed child care model. The OCDSB and WRDSB Extended Day Programs are enrolled in the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care system. Through 13 years of operation, OCDSB and WRDSB have achieved full cost-recovery programs.</p> <p>All three public school board EDPs are experiencing challenges in similar areas.</p> <p>Staff will continue to meet regularly with WRDSB and OCDSB EDP leads to compare practices and implement a more cost-effective model. Staff will continue to work closely with the Ministry of Education and Toronto Children’s Services.</p> <p>To view report please click on the link and go to Agenda and Minutes/ Finance, Budget, and Enrolment Committee June 1, 2023:</p> <p><a href="https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Agenda-Minutes">https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Agenda-Minutes</a></p> <p><b>The Umbrella Agreement</b></p> <p>Audley shared that TDSB is still in negotiations with the Ministry regarding cost per square foot. Audley and Craig Snider, Executive Officer, Business Services will continue to follow up.</p> <p>Liz, provided the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The current conversations with the Ministry are around child care occupancy.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A small number of EarlyON Child and Family Centres are under the Umbrella Agreement but are not part of the Ministry conversations as they are not eligible for CWELCC. EarlyON staff will be meeting with third party EarlyON organizations to present a plan to transition them into TDSB EarlyON partnership permits at no cost to support the viability of these programs. There will be an information session for EarlyON partners in mid-June. There should be no service disruptions.</li> <li>• A member shared significant increases in fees is being discussed at the provincial level for permits. Some school boards are increasing fees. Child care operators are very concerned about the escalation of fees.</li> <li>• Audley stated that rates are based on cost recovery. The Ministry has provided an interim amount and the Ministry restricts school boards from running deficits. The Board is very limited in options.</li> </ul> <p><b>Liz Hoang, Interim Senior Policy Advisor/ Manager Early Years (Child Care, EarlyON, Extended Day Program) and Nadejda Lekosky, Interim Manager, Child Care Services shared the following updates:</b></p> <p><b>Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC): 2024 Funding Formula Discussion Paper</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff submitted a response on behalf of the Board</li> <li>• This included comments and recommendations within the themes of:</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ensuring child care programs receive stable funding to ensure financial viability.</li> <li>○ Ensuring replacement grants maintain current funding levels.</li> <li>○ The potential for inequities and a two-tiered child care system.</li> <li>○ How financial viability for child care directly impacts how school boards can meet the legislated duty for BASP?</li> <li>○ The need for school-based accommodation formulas to reflect actual costs for school boards and consider cost escalations.</li> </ul> <p><b>EarlyON Innovation Grant Update</b></p> <p>(TDSB in partnership with Early Child Development Initiative (ECDI) created two new EarlyON Child and Family Centres through TCS EarlyON Innovation Grant).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A survey is going out this week to families attending and families who participated in the initial consultation process to determine summer programming.</li> <li>• Programming has moved outdoors to local parks and playgrounds to meet families where they live and play.</li> <li>• A calendar of events for the months of May and June has been created and distributed in the communities listing fun activities such as dance parties, African games, playdough making, story time in the park, giveaways such as diapers, bring-a-friend incentives, bubbles, etc.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plans are underway for summer programming to include trips and fun outdoor activities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Summer Camps Update:</b></p> <p><b>EDP Summer Camp</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offered at 16 locations</li> <li>• Operating for 7 weeks from July 4th- Aug 18th</li> <li>• Serving 600 families</li> </ul> <p><b>Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement, Early Years and Model Schools for Inner Cities (MSIC)</b> will operate two types of Pre- Kindergarten and Kindergarten Summer Learning Programs during July 4<sup>th</sup> to July 28<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 12:00pm at 11 site locations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Inspired to Excel Africentric Pre-Kindergarten &amp; Kindergarten Summer Learning Programs</b> (7 site locations) In this program, grounded in Africentric perspectives, children will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Develop self-identity, self-confidence and self-awareness through meaningful learning experiences</li> <li>○ Develop foundational skills in literacy and mathematics</li> <li>○ Be provided opportunities to learn in a classroom environment that reflects their identity, interests and their community</li> <li>○ Infuse oral traditions, literature and reading through the use of Africentric and Culturally Relevant principles and resources</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Inspired to Excel Culturally Relevant and Responsive Pre-Kindergarten Program</b> (4 site locations) In this program, grounded in Culturally Relevant Teaching, children will:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Participate in a rich and inclusive program that is responsive to their diverse backgrounds</li> <li>○ Explore play-based learning</li> <li>○ Build skills in literacy, numeracy and science</li> <li>○ Focus on developing a positive self-image</li> <li>○ Develop self-identity, self-confidence and self-awareness</li> <li>○ Receive academic instruction infused in literature through the use of Culturally Relevant resources</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>TDSB Designated Early Childhood Educator Professional Learning Part 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will take place on June 2, 2023 (9:00 am - 11:30 am).</li> <li>• Supporting the Implementation of the Ministry of Education’s Effective Early Reading Instruction: A Teacher’s Guide – Kindergarten.</li> <li>• A session for child care will be planned for the Fall.</li> </ul>	
Other Business:	<p><b>EYCAC Wi-Fi Working Group</b> - Liz provided the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jill, Patricia, Pam, and Patrina met with Audley, Liz, and Ronnie Lebi (Senior Manager, IT Operations) on May 9th to continue the Wi-Fi discussion and provide an update.</li> <li>• The members shared several suggestions on how to be able to make Wi-Fi accessible within the current structure.</li> <li>• Ronnie and the IT team are reviewing cost structures.</li> <li>• Ronnie is using a sample of 5 child care programs in schools and is assessing feasibility based on the existing structure.</li> </ul>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TDSB staff will continue to work with the working group and will provide an update at the next EYCAC meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Shared Space Working Group</b> - Nadie provided the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rosemary, Nicola, Leslie, and Nadie met on May 9th.</li> <li>• The group discussed past and ongoing conversations that have occurred during EYCAC. The gains/progress made with shared space.</li> <li>• Noted new concerns related to the pandemic.</li> <li>• Discussed goals for the group. Opportunities to highlight great happenings in shared spaces throughout the system that are working well (e.g., visual library resources on public website). Ways to promote and celebrate shared space. Opportunity to discuss and address shared space concerns at the system level.</li> <li>• Please forward any ideas or suggestions to <a href="mailto:Nadejda.Lekosky@tdsb.on.ca">Nadejda.Lekosky@tdsb.on.ca</a></li> <li>• To further brainstorm ideas around collaboration opportunities between RECE's in child care and DECE's/OCT's.</li> <li>• Nicola and Rosemary will connect with their respective staff to ensure other pieces to consider.</li> <li>• The working group will meet again in July.</li> </ul> <p><b>BASP Website Resources Working Group</b> – Nadie provided the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Karen, Nadie and Jill met on May 8th.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggestions to add more links and resources on the public website page for the following:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Urban Indigenous Education Centre</li> <li>○ The Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement</li> <li>○ TDSB Committee links</li> </ul> </li> <li>• TDSB Child Care Services team will be working with these departments and will be revising the program resources page to include more information.</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.tdsb.on.ca/EarlyYears/Before-and-After-School-Program-4-to-12-Years/Program-Resources">https://www.tdsb.on.ca/EarlyYears/Before-and-After-School-Program-4-to-12-Years/Program-Resources</a></li> <li>• To create a calendar and a reminder of important dates (when to submit permits for winter break holidays and Easter Monday, Kindergarten Registration month, BASP survey period, etc.)</li> <li>• TDSB Child Care Services team will be working on these pieces and will be placed in the coming weeks.</li> <li>• Please forward any suggestions to <a href="mailto:Nadejda.Lekosky@tdsb.on.ca">Nadejda.Lekosky@tdsb.on.ca</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Working Together: A Resource for School and Child Care/Before-and After- School Program Leaders – Nadie</b> provided the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TDSB Child Care Services is excited to share that the discussion guide and the revised Child Care/BASP Resource Tool will be shared the week of June 12<sup>th</sup> on TDSB Child Care Services public web page (program resources) and System Leaders' Communication.</li> <li>• Communication is intended for Principals with new or existing Child Care and Before-and After- School Programs.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The documents will be reviewed regularly, and updates/revisions will be made on a regular basis.</li> <li>• Please provide feedback to the Child Care Services team Early Years Coordinator’s Leslie Murray and Eliza Yankelovich.</li> <li>• A member asked if Principals will be encouraged to review and meet with child care operators prior to the school year. Suggest that Principals use this now and on an ongoing basis.</li> <li>• A member asked what is the accountability for Principals and will Superintendents be checking in?</li> </ul> <p><b>Brainstorming Topics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A member shared to bring child care operators to the school team table to regularly connect and discuss children, share information as a good practice to benefit the child.</li> <li>• A member shared that some classrooms within schools are not going to be available due to low enrollment and to reduce costs. Some classrooms could be closed and not available which may impact operations of child care programs. Some child care operators may be faced with moving programs.</li> <li>• A member shared there may be consequences of classrooms being moved apart (e.g., going to the washrooms down the hall, children may be less supervised, more children wandering around).</li> <li>• Audley thanked members for their information around the impact on child care operators and moving or closing programs.</li> <li>• Nadie shared that any movement of spaces needs to be identified on the lease agreement. Child Care Services Early Years Coordinator’s need to be part of the conversation to ensure that if child care spaces are being moved it needs to</li> </ul>	

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	<p>reflect their program needs. Please connect with the Child Care Services team with any questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A member will share their personalized Land Acknowledgement at the next EYCAC meeting in October. In the spirit of learning, growing, and sharing together.</li> <li>• Audley welcomed and encouraged others to share their Land Acknowledgement to reflect and recognize the lands. The community is the learning, so TDSB fully support this.</li> </ul>	
<p>TDBS Community Advisory Committees Web page:</p> <p>EYCAC Web page:</p>	<p><a href="https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Advisory-Committees/Community-Advisory-Committees">https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Advisory-Committees/Community-Advisory-Committees</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Advisory-Committees/Community-Advisory-Committees/Early-Years-Community-Advisory-Committee">https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Advisory-Committees/Community-Advisory-Committees/Early-Years-Community-Advisory-Committee</a></p>	
<p>Next Meeting Date</p>	<p><b>October 13, 2023</b>, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. via Zoom</p>	
<p><b>Adjournment</b></p>	<p>May 31, 2023, at 11:05 p.m. Moved by Jill Oakes</p>	