

**In Attendance:** Leslie Middaugh - Chair (Bruce), Bart Harvey – Chair (Monarch Park), Mike Gallagher (Superintendent), Jennifer Story (Trustee), Alison Warner (VP - Eastdale), Martha Bartly (Principal – Eastdale), Alisa Wing (Leslieville), Maxeen Paabo (Leslieville), Cori MacFarlane (Dundas), Amelia Hoyt (Dundas), Linh Dang (Frankland), Pam Koch (Westwood), Gayle Bowen (Eastdale), Christine Gullage (Pape), Emma Cheng (Pape), Jen Volk (Frankland), Joanne Clese (Eastdale), Alisa Metcalfe (Danforth), Nicole Herbert (Riverdale), Romeo Tello (student, Monarch Pk), Laleh Moshiri (Eastdale), Lisa Manuel (Monarch Pk), Elin Marley (School Garden educator), Krista Wylie (Fix Our Schools)

**Regrets:** Sarah Smith - FSLAC (RH McGregor)

Copies of the agenda, last meeting's minutes, and other handouts were distributed as people arrived.

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Leslie welcomed everyone. The group introduced themselves.

### **Part I - Speakers**

#### **1. Fix Our Schools**

Krista Wylie spoke for this parent driven group who are advocating for safe and well-maintained school buildings. They want this issue put on par with other public infrastructure challenges and funded accordingly. This group is raising awareness on the school repair backlog across Toronto and the province. Go to [www.fixourschools.ca](http://www.fixourschools.ca) for more information, or to sign up for updates.

#### **2. Host School presentation**

Martha welcomed everyone to Eastdale and the group watched a Prezi (slide show) on this unique secondary school. Eastdale is a small school of 145 students in 2 programs: an MID (Mild Intellectual Disability) non-credit program focussing on life skills, and a credit program for at-risk students needing extra support, coming mostly from other schools across the city. Co-op is a big part of ECI students' lives. Partnerships with groups like Foodshare on the rooftop garden, and Peacebuilders provide remarkable opportunities for students. Its intimate environment strives to create a sense of belonging for students through small classes and various special projects with each student creating a goal for life beyond high school.

Community volunteers for Peacebuilders are welcome. Interested adults can contact Martha, or go to [www.peacebuilders.ca](http://www.peacebuilders.ca)

#### **3. Roundtable Discussion**

##### School Gardens and Greening projects

Elin Marley spoke about her role as a school garden educator, where she runs curriculum related programs within the gardens and the classrooms. The group discussed some of the issues with managing a school learning garden, training staff & parent helpers, coordinating grounds work with board staff, planning for the summers, and lack of awareness around groundskeeping.

Leslie will add Greening to the list of topics for Ward 15 discussions.

## **Part II – Regular Business**

### **2. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda and minutes were approved.

### **3. Superintendent Report**

Labour update: Mike reiterated to the group much of what has been in the news. Work actions for high schools have been averted for the remainder of this school year, but there may be actions in the Fall. Elementary teachers are currently in a strike position, with some job actions in place. Report cards will be affected. There may be new information next week.

Good news: Greenwood SS Bike Club were featured in the news for collecting bikes for their newcomer students. Students shared their stories of the differences between bike use here and in their home countries.

Mike remarked that it has been an amazing year for our schools, and referred to student lives that were saved by W10 staff this year. Our staff demonstrate their skill at supporting in crisis situations.

### **4. Trustee Report**

K-12 First Nations school: Jennifer spoke about the new proposed **K-12 First Nations school** under consideration for the Eastern CC building. The proposal goes to the planning committee meeting and to Board for a final approval June 17.

Spec.Ed boundary changes: Parents of designated Gifted students may want to attend one of the 2 upcoming meetings around **boundary changes** for high schools offering these Spec. Ed. classes. June 11, 7pm at Woburn CI, and June 16 at Western CTI.

The board will vote on the **Capital budget** at their next meeting.

PARC update: Jennifer has requested an information letter home to all parents of the schools involved in our Family of Schools pending Area Review. Representation will be requested from all players, including parents and community members. There are 2-3 initial meetings expected, plus 3-4 community consultations. The board is aiming for a November 2015 start to the public process.

### **5. Reports from Committee Reps**

No reports at this time.

### **6. Other Business**

In order to address the growing list of ideas for future ward meetings, Jennifer plans to send out a survey this summer to help prioritize the topics for discussion. The Steering Committee will meet to go over the results and help organize potential speakers, as needed.

### **7. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: late September 2015