Ward 9 Co-Chairs Meeting

Monday Apr 17, 2023, 6:30 pm
Givins/Shaw Junior Public School

A Light dinner was provided from 6-6:30 pm

Welcome and Introductions

- The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm
    - Land Acknowledgement
- Introductions
    - Executive Superintendent Jack Nigro, Superintendent Mary Linton, Superintendent Erin Altosaar, Superintendent Jennifer Chan
    - Ward 9 Trustee, Alexis Dawson
    - Co-Chair and Parent Representatives made personal introductions

Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) Representative Introduction

- www.torontopiac.com
- PIAC Working Groups
- Ward 9 Co-representative Melanie Medeiros-Sims
    - Melanie is on the School Council Support Working Group
        - Focusing on student nutrition, safety, and communication
- Ward 9 Co-representative Karin Trajcevski
    - Karin is on the Strategic Planning Working Group
- Melanie and Karin can be reached at PIAC.Ward09@tdsb.on.ca

What is a Trustee? / My Priorities

- Trustee Alexis Dawson - https://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward9
- What is a Trustee - https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom
- Trustee Committees - https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Committees
    - Trustee Dawson is on the following TDSB Committees:
    - Programs and School Services Committee
    - Planning and Priorities Committee

    - Inner City Community Advisory Committee
    - Negotiations Steering Committee
        - Watch Live Webcasts
        - Read Agendas and Minutes
        - Become a Delegate
        - Write to your Trustee
- Trustee Dawson is a Director on the Ontario Public School Boards Association (OPSBA) and a member of the Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) Association
- Trustee Alexis Dawson's Priorities
    - Pandemic Recovery
        - Learning Loss and Well-being
    - Equity and Inclusion
        - Deeply embedding equity, anti-racism & anti-oppression in all schools to close persistent achievement and well-being gaps
    - Human Rights
        - Support the reporting Racism, Bias and Hate (RBH) reporting portal & Combatting Hate & Racism Student Learning Strategy
    - Ward 9 Capital Projects and Planning
        - Lower Yonge Precinct Condo School
        - Bloor CI
        - West Donlands Elementary School
        - Long Term Program and Accommodation Strategy
    - Community Engagement
        - Develop stakeholder engagement and best practices
- Key Decisions to Date
    - Understanding Contemporary First Nation, Metis and Inuit Voices, mandatory Grade 11 English Course
    - Priority Schools Initiative (PSI) Advocacy.
    - National School Food Program Advocacy
    - Caste-Oppression Motion
    - Received and provided feedback on multiple staff reports
    - Budget - Staffing Allocation
- Budget 2023-2024
    - Social Media Shareables: Pandemic Recovery is not over, TDSB forced to reduce these positions
- Multi-Year Strategic Plan Renewal
    - Have your say
- Upcoming Ward 9 Forums
    - Thursday Apr 27, 20237:00 pm: Multi-Year Strategic Plan Renewal Virtual Joint Ward Forum with Wards 7 & 10. Register here

- Tuesday May 16, 2023 7:00 pm: School Building in Toronto: Where are we now? Virtual Joint Ward Forum with Ward 8. Register here.

Superintendent Update

- Executive Superintendent Learning Centre (LC) 4, Jack Nigro
  - Grants for Student Needs (GSN) have not been allocated by the Ontario Government yet.
  - School Based Allocation - Teachers and Support Staff
  - School Based Allocation - Non-Classroom and Support Staff
  - School Safety
  - TDSB HUB: Community Support www.tdsbHUB.ca
- Good News: STEM/STEAM, Science, Robotics and Literacy
  - Digital Math Tools: BrainingCamp, Knowledgehook, MathUP
  - Building Thinking Classrooms
  - Grade 9 Destreamed Math
  - Early Years Math
  - Right to Read Inquiry Report
  - Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement (CEBSA)
  - Equity and Inclusion

Brainstorming Session

- **Issues of Concern for Ward 9 Parents/Guardians**
  - No supply teachers- moving other teachers and losing resources
  - School Safety
    - access to grounds particularly (dogs, people etc.)
    - car traffic around schools
    - crossing guards
    - violence - more supervision/training resources for staff
    - supervision
  - limited support
    - Mental Health tools
    - Mental health Support for students and staff
    - Spec Ed
  - Resources
    - support staff
    - Student Nutrition (TFSS)
    - Family supports
  - Communication and Transparency
    - workshops for staff on efficacy

        - accessible communications
        - increased frequency of communication to parents
        - bridge language barriers in communication
        - sharing solutions/best Practices (PIAC Resources)
        - culture of communication - more informative and inclusive
        - Absence of best practices – more knowledge-sharing and transparency at every level
        - advocacy/ community mobilizing
    - Pandemic Learning Loss
        - etiquette and behavior loss
        - emotional regulation
        - Social skills
- **Ward Forum Topics**
    - Mental health
    - Effective communication with kids
    - Online safety/social media etiquette – how caregivers and teachers respond
    - Community Building
        - Local resources / Build with the local community
        - Engaging with kids and families
        - School councils – tools for effective communication
    - How to navigate the system
        - How to access support
        - Disseminating info about academic tools
        - Public Education advocacy at multiple levels of government
    - TDSB Data
    - Budget
    - Staffing
    - Destreaming
    - Equity best practices
- **Equity - How can we address equity in Ward 9**
    - Language interpreters
        - Don’t wait for people to ask
        - Council often operates in English-only
    - Ensure representation from all grades
    - Hybrid meetings
    - People need to see themselves in what the school does
        - Representation in the classroom / leadership
        - Co-activities and presentations with parents
- **Budget**

    - Professional Development
        - Mental health training / crisis management
    - More Spec Ed Support / Investment
    - Nutrition!
    - Staffing!
        - Smaller class sizes (Ministry of Education decision/advocacy)
        - VPs
        - Lunchroom supervision
        - Proper support staff
        - More Resource teachers
    - Fix our schools!
        - School grounds (bring back OPAL)
        - Building repairs
    - Increase Student Interest Programs in secondary schools
- **Fundraising**
    - Parent's night out
    - Movie night (PWYC)
    - Bake sale
    - Pizza day
        - Everyone gets a slice (just need to consent)
        - Option to give extra
    - Fun fair
    - Hot Chocolate
    - Chocolate Almonds
    - Cash donations
        - No overhead!
    - Terra Cotta cookie dough
    - Dance-a-thon
        - All classes participate during the day
        - Cash donations
        - Parent or secondary student DJs

Meeting Adjourned at 9:03 pm