

Forest Hill Junior & Senior Public School (FHPS) SAC Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 26, 2022, 6:30 pm
Online Zoom meeting (due to COVID-19 restrictions)

Attendees: Adam Thompson (Principal), Denyse Stewart (Vice-Principal), Jordan Applebaum (Vice-Principal), Naz Yeganeh (Chair), Kurt Monteiro (Vice-Chair), Amit Goel (Co-Treasurer), Kathyryne Ma (Co-Treasurer), Laura Henry-Weir (Secretary), Lisa Cohen (Community Rep), Valerie Adam (Teacher Rep), Michael Caplan (Teacher Rep), An West (VM), Tempie Coelho-Freeman (VM), Leah Roth (VM), Jenny Lewis (VM), Risa Greenspoon (VM), Brenda Winter (VM), Carolina Bellina (VM), Andrea Turner-Sack (VM), Kalu Balogun (VM), Bash Balogun (VM), Tim Harlick (VM), Paul Constable, Maria Emilia Villalba Burbano, Maria Dalangin, Nelisha Andrews, S Wang, Belinda Longe, Saleh Khaled About Al Juboori, Jessica Bookman, Ryan Ungerman
VM: Voting Member

1. General Welcome and Approval of November 2021 Minutes (SAC Chairs)

- Naz welcomed everyone to the meeting
- Minutes were approved by nine voting members via virtual vote prior to this meeting.
- There was one vote to reject the minutes due to a discrepancy between the minutes and a subsequent email from Shelley Laskin. The Executive confirmed that the minutes accurately reflect the November meeting and because Shelley's email was sent following the meeting, it should not alter the meeting minutes.

2. Principal's & Vice Principal's Reports (Adam Thompson, Denyse Stewart & Jordan Applebaum)

- A request to book a second mobile vaccination clinic has been submitted; no date confirmed. TDSB vaccination clinic information will be shared with parents via email.
- The Toronto Public Health nurse that supported FHPS in the fall, who was temporarily re-deployed in December, has been re-assigned to us.
- Rapid antigen test kits were sent home with students last week. If you did not receive a kit and would like one, please contact the school.
- Each test kit contains 2 tests and instructions on how and when to use them. If the first test is positive, no need to use the second test or confirm the result with a PCR test. If both tests are negative and symptoms are improving for at least 24 hours, child and family members can come out of isolation.
- FHPS still has access to some PCR test kits which can be given to staff or students who develop symptoms at school.
- Short term virtual learning is available for those choosing to continue to learn remotely. Teachers will keep virtual classrooms updated with tasks and resources for asynchronous learning. Additional learning resources are available on the TDSB website including some live broadcasted lessons.
- For those that have requested to switch from in-person to virtual learning or vice versa, the switch date is February 22nd. The school is reaching out to confirm the details with each family that has requested a switch. For families that would like to make a change after the February 22nd date, please contact the school office.
- Term 2 report cards will be sent home on February 16th. Still awaiting confirmation if these reports will be sent electronically or hard copy.
- Parent-Teacher Interviews will take place February 17th in the evening and February 18th in the morning, if requested by the teacher or parent.

- Get REAL Movement will be running inclusivity workshops for students in Gr4-Gr8. The February topics are inclusion, anti-racism and celebrating diversity and in March the topic will be Trans 101. Workshop descriptions will be shared with parents in advance.
- A parent workshop is also being planned and the school will be reaching out for content input.
- A question was asked about whether the topic of “Consent” can be included in the workshops. Jordan agreed that this topic is an important conversation that should be had with students in all grades on an ongoing basis.
- Grade 8 transition updates:
 - Optional attendance forms, to attend a school outside of your area, are due on January 28th. You will be informed of the status of these requests by February 11th.
 - Grade 8 course selection opens on January 31st. Selections will be sent to parents for approval and then to Forest Hill for approval before it is sent to the high schools. Course selection closes on February 22nd.
- Yearbooks are on sale from now until March 31st at a cost of \$40 each
- Staff updates:
 - Amy Chan is now the acting Office Administrator while Yasmin is off on maternity leave. Jessica Persaud is temporarily filling in for Amy’s Secretary role.
 - Nadine Block has returned from Maternity Leave to take on the Gr4 Gifted class. Sorry to see Ms. Singer go as she did a wonderful job with that class.
 - We have 2 new lunchroom supervisors and we are still in need of additional lunchroom supervisors.
- Inclement Weather Procedure:
 - Between -20C to -27C, students are outside for 10 minutes for recess and 20 minutes for lunch recess. If the temperature is -28C or colder, they stay inside for recess and lunch.
 - Please remind students to dress appropriately for the weather.
 - A question was asked about where kids wait for the busses on very cold days. Jordan confirmed that students have access to the stairwell and will be supervised indoors if they are cold.

3. Treasurer's Update (Amit Goel)

- Naz shared that a voting member has submitted a proposal for SAC to allocate \$8k to purchase N95 masks for student use and to purchase prizes to be distributed at the next vaccination clinic. She indicated that the SAC executive does not believe this should go to a vote as it’s a large amount of money but opened this up for discussion. Kurt flagged some questions that should be answered before this can be voted on like whether the school would be able to mandate usage, can we pilot this first with a smaller quantity, can the office distribute these masks, etc.
- Questions were raised about whether we are allowed to purchase PPE; Adam has agreed to investigate that. He also confirmed that the school has access to 3ply cloth masks that can be distributed to students.
- Jessica shared that many parents are worried about safety right now and that we should do what we can to ensure that anyone who wants to wear a N95 mask can access one. She also suggested we consider donating masks to a community school with less financial resources.
- Concerns were raised about the need for various sizes, the lack of inventory available right now and the fact that N95s are not reusable.

- Suggestion was made to survey the school community to gauge the amount of interest and need in the community
- Belinda shared that parents can't buy PPE that would be distributed by the school to students; the board can only source PPE from specific approved vendors. The question was asked whether SAC could make the purchase through an approved vendor and Adam agreed to double check.
- Amit provided the following balances:
 - School Education Fund Account \$2,379
 - Forest Hill School Council Account \$76,600 (\$30k - \$35k of this set aside for the Auditorium project)
 - No major inflows or outflows since our last meeting

4. SAC Committee Updates

Auditorium Restoration (Leah Roth & Paul Constable):

- Mary Collins has joined this committee to assist with securing City of Toronto funds
- Planning to approach Shelley Laskin and Josh Matlow ahead of reaching out to the city re: grant

Teacher Appreciation (Naz):

- Staff Appreciation lunch was December 15th and it went well.

Wish List (Adam):

- All individual items approved for funding have been ordered. Lists are still being finalized to order larger sets of book collections and these should be ordered in February.

Virtual Community Events (Kalu Balogun):

- Looking for committee members to help coordinate two virtual events; one in March and one in June. Ideas include talent show, music show, magic show and/or trivia event.

School Clothing Committee (Jessica Bookman):

- New website is live with clothing available to be ordered at fhps.ca
- There are options from the "Stronger Together" product line along with more generic FHPS branded clothing
- Pink Shirt Day is coming up and those options are being added to the online store soon

SAC Communications Committee: (Laura-Henry Weir):

- Will be adding the minutes documents to the SAC website. Open to any feedback on other content that would be helpful to the community.

Graduation: (Risa Greenspoon):

- Planning is beginning soon. Looking for additional committee members to assist.

5. Additional Items and Closing Remarks

- A question was raised about whether we have a Spending Plan for our School Council Account. Shelley Laskin has strongly recommended that schools have a spending plan

in place even if we aren't able to spend the funds within the year rather than carrying over a large surplus.

- Amit advised that we are awaiting the final amount to be spent on the Wish List this year (estimated \$15k-25k). He also advised that we are not fundraising this year and are spending more than we are raising so the balance is reducing each year. He reviewed historical records and advised that we have carried over a surplus in the past.
- Proposal was put forward to establish a Budget committee to put together a Spending Plan in consultation with parents and school administration. Amit, Katheryne, Kurt, Leah, Jenny, Laura, Andrea and Brenda volunteered to form that committee.
- Lisa requested that we include specific account balances in the minutes each month.
- Belinda suggested we consider allocating budget to virtual field trips for each class.
- Meeting was adjourned at 8:02PM

Upcoming SAC Meeting dates are as follows:

Wednesday, February 23 @ 6:30

Wednesday, April 27 @ 6:30

Wednesday, June 8 @ 6:30