

DUKE SC MEETING: June 23, 2022

Attendees

SC: Jill Hollingsworth, Catherine Miller-Mort, Suhasini Date, Sue Munn, Chris Hazard, Miranda Indrigo

Staff: Ms. Shea, Mr. Flegas, Mr. McIntyre

Parent/Caregivers: Lauren Han, Adene Kuchera, Laurie Barnett, Karen Molloy, Lily

May 25 Meeting Minutes: Motion for approval raised by Catherine Miller-Mort, seconded by Chris Hazard

New Agenda Items

Participatory Budget update (Chris Hazard)

- Conversations are continuing to support this for next year. Chris is working with Mr. Flegas to share previous experiences so that we can start this in September and continue with next School Council team

Community Partner Updates

- SH Armstrong Community Center has spaces available for summer camp: 4-5 Early Years, 6-12 Camp, 6-12 Arts & Crafts Camp
- Applegrove Community Complex also has space at their summer camp programs:
 - Summer Adventure Camp (6-12 year) \$135/week
Core Hours (9 am to 5 pm)
Before and after care – additional fees apply Summer
 - Leadership Camp (12-16 years) -\$270/session
Core Hours (10 am to 4 pm)
Session 1 - July 11 to 22 (5 spots left)
Session 2 – August 8 to 19 (1 spot left)
 - EarlyON Drop-in Program (Children ages 0-6 years and their caregiver)
Open all summer
Monday to Thursday (9 am to 2 pm)

Date for September School Council meeting

- School starts Sept 7
- Need two-week period pre-election for people to sign up for new School Council team, which brings up to the week of September 22
- Tuesday, Sept 27 or Wednesday 28; Jill to run by incoming principal and send final date

Agenda Items

Budget (Jill Hollingshead)

- School Council currently has just over \$23,00 in our PACE account; approximately \$9000 carry-over after earmarked expenses
- Pizza lunch fundraising: \$6500 after expenses
- SC has used all of our gift cards and no new funds have come in
- No additional expenses this school year, except staff appreciation lunch, which was covered by separate fundraising
- Given that we have funds available, Jill H. recommends purchasing iPads for the kindergarten classes, which did not benefit from our earlier tech spend. If there are no objections, she'd like to request that Jen Q. order four iPads (one per classroom) in September
- Pool expense funds continue to be set aside and we hope to use them next year
- Need to follow up on Indigenous Learning Puppet set to see if this has already been ordered
- Question of whether to host Dance-a-thon in September as fundraiser/fun kickoff event for school year
- In the past, we've used Dr. Jamz, which is full-service and doesn't require volunteers.
- DJ plays music, each class has a time, collect donations
- Sue Munn noted that Dance-a-thon was popular with younger kids, less so with older kids
- Last time, quiet room was set up in library and many older kids hung out there because kids weren't into it
- Space was intended to be respectful of kids' sensory boundaries but it got quite loud/ stimulating
- Ray—Intermediate team can poll kids to see who is interested; intermediates might be more into it if it seemed like a dance vs a kids event
- Carol noted that dance team leads came to do dance workshops and kids had a great time—led by high school kids and was very popular. could be a good addition to have high school kids lead kids
- Jill to connect with Carol about her contact for dance team and investigate for the fall

Ms. Shea Recognition: Catherine Miller-Mort

- Thank you to Carol Shea for her work and leadership at Duke, especially during the pandemic and her commitment to keeping communication open
- Carol's enthusiasm and positivity shines through, and her deep care for our students is evident
- On behalf of the school community, we wish you all the success at your new school

Principal Report: Carol Shea

- Construction:
 - Roofing projects going smoothly
 - SH Armstrong will be undergoing roof repairs throughout July and August; some disruption expected but working to make it as minimal as possible.
 - Front of school: ball hockey court construction over summer, even surfacing and decking, new seating—aiming to have construction done by September

- New root surfaces for trees
 - Foundation work is continuing
- Pool update:
 - School has had difficulty securing for aquatics instruction
 - Hoping for next week to get into pool (junior classes)
 - September start up for full swim program anticipated
- 2022 – 2023 Staffing
 - Staffing is all filled now, no vacancies at Duke
 - Reduced staffing causing some change of staff in support roles (ECES, ENAS, SNA)
 - New Itinerant music instructor for band, strings in fall—IMI depends on hours and allocation, usually junior and intermediate students but depends on allocation (to be confirmed)
 - Commitment to one rotary teacher being a specialist drama teacher
- School schedule 2022 – 2023
 - Planning for next year is in progress.
 - Schedule will return to one schedule for all students
 - Lunch: 55 minutes, with junior and primary students eating first in cafeteria while intermediates are outside, then intermediates come inside to eat while primary/junior students are outside
- 2022 -2023 School Year: Misc.
 - Agendas have been ordered for all students to support learning, communication and executive function skills next year
 - Melanie Doane will be back with duke's uke grade 4
 - 900 truth and reconciliation t shirts have been ordered for Orange Shirt Day so that everyone can participate—happening across the TDSB at all schools
 - Island school returns to overnight bookings; Carol has booked four weeks (two weeks in October, one November, one February) for all grade 6 classes next year (including 5/6 and 6/7 classes)
 - Ordered portable sports nets from Spartan Lacrosse for back field—going out in early fall next year
- Recent Duke News
 - Pride t-shirt design contest was held by TDSB; shirts feature student artwork on back
 - Duke admin gave to support staff, lunchroom supervisors, and Voice of Change student leaders as a gift of thanks
 - Play Day was held Tuesday and Thursday, run by students and Ms Webber, Ms. Anastasi for all classes
 - Track and field, softball, frisbee going on
 - EQAO test completed online for grades 3 and 6
 - Most students enjoyed the format, some technical issues to be sorted out initially but once resolved completed successfully
 - Waiting for results to come in soon
 - No lunch provided Wednesday or Thursday next week (June 29, 30)

- Art solstice—very well intended, fabulous event, live performances from choirs, Mr. Ford’s class, artwork, sculptures—amazing sense of community and excitement, thanks to Ms. Pierce for organizing
- Graduation (Mr. McIntyre)
 - Ceremony at Riverdale on Tuesday, June 28 from 4 – 6
 - 2 tickets per family distributed soon
 - 140 grads x two tickets = 400, large group indoors, need to make it equitable for all families and safe and comfortable for indoor celebration
 - Monday: Boat Cruise for grade 8 students
 - Clap out happens Monday morning around 9am as students leave for boat cruise
 - Parents can come to the basketball courts out front if they would like to see the clap out
- Report cards: Paper reports will be sent home with students this year

Question: Will parents been told which teachers are leaving so that we can say goodbye?

Answer: Yes, it will be included in the final Dash of Duke

Question: Will classroom assignments be included on the report cards?

Answer: No, that info will be provided to families in late August

Bylaws (Jill Hollingshead)

- Team to work on changes prior to September meeting and will distribute then
- Sue Munn noted that we can indicate in September that we’ll be working on certain items throughout next year—e.g. land acknowledgement, option to work with urban indigenous center next year with new council

Review of last year and Looking Ahead (All)

- Committee work:
 - Glad to see committee work progress—dismantling inequity workshops, budget and fundraising committee, grad committee, school improvement, safe and caring, school budget
 - CMM—really enjoyed the workshops that the council arranged under Jill’s leadership
 - Last one, invited Applegrove and other community partners; beneficial to open up to committee
 - 5 Applegrove staff participated and appreciated the opportunity
 - Very positive feedback; speaker has other topics we could explore—how to talk to family and friends about racism could be a good follow up
 - Another indigenous learning opportunity would be great
 - Ray suggested looking at aligning that with Indigenous day (June)
 - More staff at workshops would be great
 - Hope for council to continue work and have a broad focus beyond fundraising
- Pizza lunch—very well received and opportunity for fundraising, hope to continue next year
- School Council meetings
 - Next year—in person SC meeting, virtual, hybrid? Need to see in the fall

- Many people looking forward to in person, more engagement
- Ray—has been teacher rep at various SCs for many years, and Duke has one of the most active and well attended council. Hybrid might be a good option.
- People want to feel connected to the school
- Fundraising/Spending
 - A lot of money for tech, spartan lacrosse, spending across all grades
 - Next year more complex budget potentially if we're past the pandemic, opportunity to do more
 - Get staff to start thinking about it—Ray to raise with staff
 - Tech assessment needed next year to review what's actually in the school, what's outdated
 - Some in intermediates, younger grades—staff to review and may come to SC for help
 - Lacrosse was great, more opportunities for primary kids would be great (sports, music etc grade 4 and up)
 - Want to hear from parents, teachers about initiatives that other schools are doing along the lines of Spartan Lacrosse, school wide events
 - Graduation: should we look at this differently in terms of equity? Are there celebratory experiences that are accessible to everyone?
 - Total cost of trips in short time—10k for 4 hour boat trip
 - Important celebration and for some students it may be their only graduation
 - \$450 student for Camp Wahanawan—important to evaluate value for kids to maximize opportunities for students
 - School community values—do we want to spend that much on one experience, are there other ways to generate that experience and maximize the value
 - We can create new traditions for school and ensure that everyone can participate
- Hoping for talent show or musical next year