

**Allenby Parents Association Meeting**  
**Oct 28, 2015**  
**Held: Allenby Jr. Public School Library**

1. Welcome & Introductions -Paula Riczker
2. Adoption of the October 2015 Agenda
3. Adoption of the Sept 2015 Minutes-Paula Riczker
4. Principal's Report - Tracey O'Toole
5. Treasurer's Report -
6. Motion & Vote for Team Jerseys for Allenby hockey team- Karen Andrews
7. Schoolyard Enhancement Project Update- Gillian Uy & Shannon Phillips
8. Committee Updates
9. Open Question Session

**1. Welcome and Introductions:** Paula Riczker welcomes everyone. Everyone in attendance introduces themselves. A quorum was reached (n = 18)

**2. Adoption of the October 2015 Agenda-** Paula Riczker  
Gillian Uy seconded the motion  
Motion Carried (unanimously passed)

**3. Adoption of the September 2015 Minutes** - Chair Paula Riczker moved to adopt the September 2015 APA meeting minutes, as posted on the APA website, be accepted  
Dawn Morris seconded the motion  
Motion Carried (unanimously passed)

**4. Principal's Report:**

***Job Action:***

- every staff member in the building are all on job action except principal and vice-principal; there are no meetings allowed; getting creative with ways the principal is communicating with staff; a lot of one way communication; send out "chalk line" with 2 week calendar with an email attached;
- Impact of Job Action - No extracurricular for now, no choir, no intramurals
- Unsure if Kids Lit Quiz will be running depends on what is going on with the Job action
- Peer Helpers will be up and running
- Policy by TDSB board that all volunteers must be a TDSB employee and athletic qualifications, therefore parents cannot take over the extracurricular; A motion was proposed at TDSB board at the end of August 2015 to change the policy to allow volunteers that are not TDSB employees to take over extracurricular
- No parent teacher interview unless the teacher has a "concern" may not accept meeting if parent reaches out to the teacher
- IEP for accommodated or modified expectations; sent home first 30 days of school on Oct 20, 2015; all IEPs went home on Monday Oct 26, 2015;
- The morale of teachers is still good; great atmosphere in the school even though a difficult time

***Band and Strings Program:***

- has not started yet b/c did not have instructors; now has been hired
- have gone through the instruments and finding out who took one home for the summer

- next Tuesday Nov 3, 2015 there will be a presentation to all students and show them the instruments and they can make their choice; if preference is strings then pick 2 strings instruments and 1 band instrument; if preference is band then pick 2 band instruments and 1 string instrument
- string/band program is not mandatory on day 2 and 5; is an elective; student's must catch up on what they miss in class
- will send home a contract to ensure the commitment to the program
- Question: Can students rent instrument? There should be enough instruments for students and we can borrow from other schools to ensure that we have enough
- Going to the music program as a class not as grade 5's or grade 6's only
- has been more popular in the French Immersion kids and not English; unclear why this is the case historically
- Doing this process because concern kids are being influenced by many factors and want them to make an informed and independent decision

**Halloween:**

- Parade this year is later in the day to allow more parents to participate and allows kindergarten students to participate; start at 2:45 to walk the track; parents to go to the middle of the field
- Pumpkin carving contest

**5. Treasurer's Report:** Lisa Parker (on behalf of Scott Larin)- see APA website for report ([www.allenbyparents.com](http://www.allenbyparents.com))

-Lisa Parker presented the actuals for September 2015 and the budget for the 2015-16 as posted on the APA website;

- Sept 2015 negative revenue b/c have not accounted for all of our pizza lunch money
- contributed \$200 for Kids Lit Quiz
- ending surplus of \$120,000; with \$26,000 earmarked for the schoolyard
- for October we will have update from parent donation drive

Gillian Uy seconded the motion

Motion passed (unanimously passed)

**6. Motion & Vote for Team Jerseys for Allenby hockey team-** Karen Andrews

- need for Jerseys for the Allenby hockey teams; we do not have enough of the same colour as many other teams; propose white with green on the top
- quotes for 27 jerseys; received 3 quotes ranging \$827 to over \$1000\$; 917\$ was the mid-range quote; this company was local, detailed about the art set up and available in 2 weeks as opposed to 5 weeks
- all teams will be assessed to see if they need jerseys

Motion to spend \$917 for Allenby Hockey Jerseys

Theresa Ebden seconded the motion

Motion passed (unanimously passed)

**7. Schoolyard Enhancement Project Update:** Gillian Uy & Shannon Phillips

**Phase 1:**

- waiting for trees south end;
- some discussion on the storage shed it was primed and perhaps student art work could be done to decorate the storage shed; also should the shed be moved

**8. Committee Updates:**

- a. Community Awareness Update (presented by Paula R):

- ward meeting Oct 27, 2015 presentation from Fix Our Schools, parent-based advocating for safe well-maintained schools across Canada; TDSB plans to sell property would not cover costs to fix up schools; fixourschools.ca; encouraging people to follow them and gain more support; talked about sharing information between school councils and sharing our speaker series with other schools;
- reminder enrollment for French Immersion Dec 2, 2015 and meeting Nov 4, 2015 is French Immersion information night at 6:15
- Alternate parent needed for PIAC (parent involvement advisory committee)
- Food drive raised 26,000 lb of food
  - b. Communication Update (Theresa Ebdon):
  - Big news is that the APA directory is out
  - social media continues and we have 132 followers on Twitter
  - c. School Program Update (Dawn Morris):
  - Swag committee- "T's and Toques" for sale this year; committee of 4 people and have not had a clothing offering in 4 or 5 years; positioning it to cover costs not a fund raiser; called "T's and Toques" for sale with Allenby colours; want order forms out in the next two weeks; main goal is to offer an economical t-shirt; can we give some to kids who show good character, can we give to kids who cannot afford t-shirts (Jamie can help identify and do anonymously)
  - after 4's going well
  - speaker series: 1. How to Handle Stress and Anxiety in our kids Nov 2014; 2. Internet safety: A children's talk and an evening parents talk Jan 2015; 3. Parenting talk with Alison Shafer – spring 2016; 4. Rain Plate Children's Talk (healthy eating) – spring 2016
  - d. Director of Health and Safety (David Heath):
  - looking for a co-director for Health and Safety
  - we would divide the duties one focusing on internal and the other on external issues of the school
  - real priority of this committee to make the area around Avenue safer. Two accidents within 6 months where car hit a house; trying to get stakeholders in this area to work together ie. Beez Kneez, high school, retirement home, Havergal, etc; have met with the counsellors; the "PX" pedestrian experience could be improved; will use parent expertise within the school to work on this; need a parent committee to help come up with strategy
  - looking for more volunteers for Kiss and Ride
  - need volunteers for lost and found; need to find a better location for the lost and found b/c not a parent traffic area; may need to move to the St. Clement's doors
  - e. Fundraising (Gillian Uy and Shannon Phillips):
  - working on Big Night Out for end of Jan 2016; need volunteers

## 9. Open Questions:

Meeting adjourned at 9:08

Next APA meeting Wednesday November 25, 2015; will be at 7 pm in Allenby Jr. PS Library