

APA Meeting Minutes-Wednesday November 30, 2016 7-9 pm

1. Welcome & Introductions –Lisa Parker
 2. Adoption of the November Agenda and September Minutes–Lisa Parker
 3. Principal’s Report – Tracey O’Toole
 - Allenby School Budget for 2016/2017
 - STEM – What is it and how is it being taught at Allenby? (will be presented at the January APA meeting)
 4. Treasurer’s Report – Sarosh Nanavati
 5. Motion to Spend \$3,000 for Onsite Storage Unit – Gillian Uy
 6. Motion to Increase 2016/2017 Budget by \$1780 for Grade 4 Project Give Back program – Lisa Parker
 7. Motion to allocate \$10,000 towards the Kindergarten Playground Enhancement Project - Gillian Uy
 - Update on project
 8. Traffic and Safety - David Heath and Tracey O’Toole
 - Proposed Changes to Kiss and Ride – Lisa Parker
 9. Committee Updates
 10. Open Question Session
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1. Welcome & Introductions-Lisa Parker

2. Adoption of the November Agenda and September Minutes–Lisa Parker

Motion: Lisa put forth the motion to adopt the November Agenda and September, 2016 Minutes as presented.

Gillian Uy seconded the motion.
Motion carried (unanimously passed).

3. Principal’s Report – Tracey O’Toole

Allenby School Budget for 2016/2017- Allenby Budget Total: \$125,150.00

The budget is determined by the TDSB and given to Tracey from the projected enrollment numbers that are given last year. The projected enrollment for Allenby in the 2016/2017 school year was 784 students. Allenby has 820 students this year.

Tracey shared that the Budget is created at the board level and that the budget should align with what the school's goals are. If budgets are compared (School and APA), the budgets are in aligned. There is a partnership between the school and the APA.

The main goal for this year is to make the school a 21st century school.

Key priorities for this year's budget:

- Mental Health and Well Being (Mindfulness Mondays)
- Physical Education
- Literacy-Levelled libraries
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)

Classrooms get a budget allocation from the school towards consumables.

Division Meetings are held monthly in the school. Division Meetings are when the teachers from the same grade or division come together and meet once a month. One of the things that Tracey did last year was give each division \$5000.00 dollars. Teachers were then required to work together to determine how the \$5000.00 was spent (must benefit teaching and learning). It could not be textbooks or workbooks.

PLC- Professional Learning Committee (Once a month at the beginning of the week)

Tracey teaches teacher's in the library. Last week the teachers were taught how to code. The previous month was on technological problem solving. We will learn more about what the teachers are learning at the January APA meeting.

Teacher collaborative inquiry groups-every teacher in the building is part of an inquiry group. Teachers from different divisions and panels (French and English) meet and work on a specific inquiry.

Questions about the budget:

Q: Why are dance and drama allocated a significantly lower proportion of the budget?

A (Tracey O'Toole): Our classes get \$300.00 each, our drama dance teacher is a half time teacher so she gets \$150.00. If drama/dance needs something that costs over and above the \$150, it

can come from other areas of the budget. The line item is unchanged from the 2015/2016 school year.

Q: Is there a line item in the budget that has to do with community service?

A (Tracey O'Toole): The school does not specifically fund this but it does support programs and different groups that focus on community awareness (eg., Grade 6 Me to We program).

Allenby's School Improvement Plan for 2016/2017

Director of Education mandated that all school must develop goals around three main ideas (achievement, equity and well-being). Tracey O'Toole presented Allenby's goals for 2016/2017.

Achievement Goal - STEM-improve student engagement in mathematics and the image girls have of themselves as problem solvers.

STEM- What is it and how is it being taught at Allenby?

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math

There is a gender gap between boys and girls from EQAO results & attitudinal survey. Boys are out performing girl in all areas of math.

Actions: Creation of Innovation Lab

Application of math knowledge and skills in new contexts

Math Olympics-Open to girls to get them engaged in Math

Equity Goal (has been embedded into the Achievement and Well Being Goal)

In addition to a focus on girls, also a focus on STEM units on accessibility

Wellbeing Goal -How can mindfulness strategies implemented on a weekly basis improve students' abilities to manage themselves and assist with peer relationships?

Actions: Mindfulness Monday-every Monday all students practice mindfulness during 1st period.

Wellbeing representatives on Parent Council

Parent Speaker series on Anxiety

Boys Group-managing your emotions, sports, engaging in play

Minds Up curriculum, zones of regulation, psychologist to discuss anxiety.

Allenby's Technology Plan for 2016/2017

Tracey O'Toole shared a high level overview of proposed tech spending for the 2016/2017 school year. The plan was developed by Tracey and Allenby staff. \$30,000 in technology spending will be shared between the school and the APA, with the school contributing over \$18,000 and the APA contributing just over \$11,000. Here are the details of the plan:

FDK - The focus is on iPads and Interactive Whiteboards (IWBs) in the classroom. 2 IWBs are still needed to ensure that all classes have the same technology. Also, 2 iPad stands will be purchased. The total allocation is \$1,089.32

Grade 1 & 2 - The focus is on iPads in the classroom. 30 iPads, 30 iPad cases and 6 tech tubs are needed to ensure that all classes have the same technology. The total allocation is \$18,174.47

Grade 3 & 4 - The focus is on Google Apps and shared chromebooks. There is an existing cart of 30 Chromebooks. Another set of 20 Chromebooks will be purchased so that 9 classes are sharing 2 carts. The total allocation is \$6,976.17.

Grade 5 & 6 - Students are being asked to "Bring Your Own Device" (BYOD). Of course, students that do not wish to bring a device to school will have the option of using school equipment. No spending is required.

Special Education and Other - Various pieces of equipment are required to support Special Education and other areas of the school. Headsets, Chromebooks and a Projector will be purchased for a total of \$4,000.

All classes are already equipped with an Interactive Whiteboard, a laptop, at least one desktop, and at least one iPad.

4. Treasurer's Report – Sarosh Nanavati

Motion to pass the actuals as presented.

Gillian Uy Seconded the motion.

Motion carried (unanimously passed).

Sarsosh reported that we are in line with the budget for this year.

5. Motion to Spend \$3,000 for Onsite Storage Unit-Gillian Uy

The bunker is not meeting the needs of the school at present. The APA could use the existing bunker and more kid-friendly storage unit could be purchased for the storage of gym and recess equipment.

Gillian Uy brought forward a motion to spend \$3,000 for onsite storage.

Val Midmer seconded the motion.

Motion carried (unanimously passed).

6. Motion to Increase 2016/2017 Budget by \$1780 for Grade 4 Project Give Back- Lisa Parker

Project Give Back is a third party program that is funded by the APA and run in grade four. The focus is to engage students in thinking beyond their backyard. Grade 4's choose a charity and educate their classmates on the issues and objectives of that particular charity.

Lisa Parker brought forth a motion to increase 2016/2017 budget by \$1780 for Grade 4 Project Give Back.

Motion Seconded by Shannon

Motion carried (unanimously passed)

7. Motion to allocate \$10,000 towards the Kindergarten Playground Enhancement Project - Gillian Uy

APA cannot vote on this motion at the November meeting because it is over \$5000.00
Vote will be held at the January 2017 meeting.

Estimated Total Cost of the Phase II of the Schoolyard Project : \$68,000

Expecting \$50,000 from the City of Toronto

8. Traffic and Safety - Tracey O'Toole

Tracey O'Toole and members of the APA met with City Councillor Christin Carmichael Greb, Toronto Police Services and City Transportation Services to discuss the high incidence of accidents at the corner of Avenue Road and Castlefield and the speed of traffic along Avenue Road.

Earlier this year the APA had formed a Traffic and Safety Task Force and we are hoping to resurrect that Task Force. We will be scheduling a meeting for January to get started on a variety of projects including (but not limited to) advocacy for photo radar on our stretch of Avenue Road, line painting in the Kindergarten Zone and the bus loading zone, traffic sign campaign and design, Kiss 'N' Ride program build out and communications.

9. Committee Updates

Fundraising: Big Night Out raised over 15,000 dollars in one night. The committee is striving to improve the event. Unfortunately, attendance was down this year. A group will be meeting after the holidays to determine how greater participation in a fall fundraiser can be obtained.

Events:

Lip Synch: Lip Synch Committee is looking for new members. Event will take place Feb. 23rd and 24th for grades 1-6. Auditions will take place at the end of January.

Fun Fair: June 03, 2016-New members are always welcome

Health & Wellness: Thank you for the coats for the winter clothing drive. Looking for boots, coats and mittens for HJ Alexander.

What's in your lunch: Committee would like to get more ideas submitted by parents for newsletter about what is being packed in their children's lunches.

Community Awareness: Nothing to report.

Communications: Nothing to report.

Safety: See above (Item #8).

Open Question Session

Parent felt the safety committee has not met in a while. She would like more meetings and more information on what parents can do to help with traffic and safety issues around the school.