

Lord Tennyson Elementary School
PAC General Meeting
January 17, 2022
Via Zoom

Attendees: 53 Lord Tennyson parents

Meeting called to order at 19:04

Please note – Meeting is being recorded, mute your mic except if you're speaking

Land Acknowledgement: Please join me in acknowledging, with gratitude, that our school, where we play, work and learn, is on the traditional, unceded territory of the sel̓íl̓wítulh (Tsleil-Waututh), x̱m̱əθḵw̱əy̱əm (Musqueam), and s̱ḵw̱x̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish) Coast Salish Peoples.

Agenda: is approved by unanimous consent

November 22nd minutes: minutes are approved by unanimous consent as published on the Tennyson website (<http://www.lordtennyson.ca/meetings-minutes-bursaries-forms.html>)

A warm welcome to our new principal Bruce Sallee.

Bruce Sallee is giving an update how he became a Principal at Lord Tennyson (too fast for being able to note all the stations).

- Big believer in self-regulation, kids core regulation
- Super calm with kids and adults
- Teacher first, not a punisher, a problem solver
- Focused to make school a calm safe place
 - Rule #1: be safe
 - Rule #1a: if you are not feeling safe, you are not safe

Omicron update:

- About 1/5 of kids are absent. Parents are not necessarily saying why the kids are absent
- Staffing situation is difficult, but Tennyson is managing so far
- Classrooms were reorganized, where possible
- Everyone got reminded of the handwash protocol
- Daily health check protocol is going to be updated: runny nose, sore throat and unusual fatigue will be added
- VCH is overwhelmed by Omicron, parents need to self-report to possible contacts
- Rapid tests are expected in schools end of week, for kids and staff members with symptoms

- Local health authorities can order school boards to reveal the vaccination status of their staff members

Questions/Answers:

- Parents should report absences through the absence line ((604) 713-5426)
- Masks have not yet arrived
- There are disposable masks in the office if kids forget or lost theirs
- Outside pod doors and windows are open as much as possible
- If parents want to get HEPA filters for the classrooms, they can

Functional closure:

- In the unlikely event that there are not enough staff members available to guarantee student safety
- At 7am district looks at staffing
- Parents/kids are notified before 8am
- Not sick staff members have to work
- If kids cannot stay home with someone, they can come to school (but won't get any instructional time)
- In case of a closure teaching staff won't provide teaching from 9 to 3, staff has to be shuffled
- There are work packages for every division for 2 days at the office
- There will be some instruction given, but not necessary from the own classroom teacher
- Functional closure will be for a few days, until staff members are able to come back

Questions/Answers:

- During a functional closure there is supervision for kids at school, but no instruction from 9-3.
- Parents, kids and staff have to be flexible and creative
- There are no known functional closures in the district, yet
- If a kid has symptoms but a negative rapid test, stay home until symptoms are gone
- Parents are not allowed to do in school supervision right now
- The understanding is, that functional closures are from day to day
- TOSS and YMCA would probably stay open because they are not affected by school staff shortages

Construction update/timeline:

- Happy to see kids on the playground, thanks for the community install
- Rest, except field, won't be handed over at the end of January. More likely end of March
- Bruce communicates with Mike Rossi who communicates with Natasha and back
- Parents can help by communicating concerns to Tai who will report to Bruce
- There should be a weekly update for accountability

Other:

- The scoreboard arrived in pieces, one box was damaged and send back
- Pop up place would be a good idea, now, as everything takes longer
- Ideas for a sensory pathway, obstacle course to enhance student movement
 - Known for inside of school but awesome idea
- Bricks for around the school arrived on the schoolground today. Will take them roughly 2 weeks to finish that work

Treasurer's report: Brenna is absent, but everything is on track and in good order

- All programs have to be cancelled for at least 3 weeks. Lunches are most likely back the week of Jan 31st.
- Grade 7's are allowed to go on the sidewalk around the school, now
- Schools are ordered to limit all visitors to only the essential ones (no basketball, no hot lunches, no noon hour programs, ...)
- No Fire drills, lockdown drills, earthquake drills
- Friday mornings, Rachael Doyle opens the Gym for the kids to play Basketball. She is looking into offering Yoga over lunch time.
- After Spring Break it will be time for Badminton.
- Discussion about how the basketball trainings could go on.
- Nicola Daughy is coming back for a parent talk via zoom on January 26th.
- It's not yet voted how to allocate the money that came back from Quebec 2021.
 - Q2021 is returning around \$36k
 - \$7500 of that money is spoken for Quebec Futures
 - Q2021 parents would like to see \$1500 of the money going towards Grad 2022 and rest towards an outdoor classroom
 - Pre Covid, Grade 7 parents and kids were fundraising for their Graduation by offering food during the Howl. Not possible at the moment.
- It was voted that by unanimous consent \$1500 of the Q2021 money is going to Grad 2022.
- Thank you to everyone for donating during the kickstart campaign. School cash online is still open and that's the only way to get a tax receipt.

Quebec 2022 update:

- perhaps a virtual exchange. Only 12 families are interested in a virtual exchange and so it might become more an individual virtual exchange than a school one.

- Quebec future meeting perhaps beginning of February.
- Walk, Bike, Roll Grant: the event happened in December. A huge thank you to all the volunteers who stepped up and helped setting it up.
- Howl boxes: Bruce is asking how expensive VSB storage would be.
- We're getting a new earthquake bin.

Diversity and Inclusion committee:

- Are selling pink shirts again
- There were great resources in the pac email blast about Anti-Racism and Black Excellence Day.
- School highlighted famous black persons during the daily announcements.

DPAC update:

- There was a special Omicron meeting on Jan 10th and DPAC is collecting questions which are forwarded to VSB and VCH
- VSB is looking for parent input for the remodelling of the MACC program (multi age cluster classes). Check for an email from VSB.

Volunteer positions:

- We're looking for someone who is taking over the email blasts.
- Tai's two-year term as pac chair will end in June.
- We're looking for volunteers for many other things.

Future PAC meetings: February 28th, April 11th, May 16th, June 20th AGM

Meeting adjourned at 20:59.