

**Ward 7 Council Meeting  
January 26th, 2016  
7PM - 9PM  
HumberSide Collegiate Institute (Library)  
MINUTES**

**Attendance**

School Trustee: Robin Pilkey  
 Ward Council Chair: Marcela Saitua (Parkdale Jr. & Sr. Ward7 Rep)  
 Superintendents: Curtis Ennis; Jane Phillips-Long  
 Principals: Rosanna Sardella (Howard PS); Eric Szonyi (Fern Ave PS);  
 Daryl Chaing (Lucy McCormick), Lorraine Linton (HumberSide CI);  
 Mary Gyemi-Shulze (Warren Park)  
 Guests: John Malloy, Director of Education;  
 Karen Falconer, Executive Superintendent & Rodrigo Fuentes, Central  
 Co-ordinating Principal – Continuing and International Education  
 Committee reps: Loen Hansford, Julie Fortin (PIAC), Nora Green and Paula Boutis (SEAC),  
 Carolyn Paterson (FSLAC)

Annette Street Junior and Senior Public School 1	Fern Avenue Junior and Senior Public School 1	Garden Avenue Junior Public School 1	High Park Alternative Junior School 1
Howard Junior Public School 3	Humbercrest Public School 2	HumberSide Collegiate Institute 3	Indian Road Crescent Junior Public School 1
Keele Street Public School 3	King George Junior Public School 1	Lucy McCormick Senior School 2	Mountview Alternative Junior School 1
Parkdale Collegiate Institute 1	Parkdale Junior and Senior Public School 2	Queen Victoria Public School 0	Runnymede Collegiate Institute 2
Runnymede Junior and Senior Public School 1	Swansea Junior and Senior Public School 1	The Student School 0	Ursula Franklin Academy 3
Warren Park Junior Public School 2	Western Technical-Commercial School 1		

## **Host Presentation**

Humberside CI is a large school of over 1100 students and 67 faculty. Nonetheless, they nurture an environment where everyone is part of the family. Humberside has very active student body that holds fun fairs, dances and charity events such as the Inside Ride. They have an excellent language program which even includes Latin. The school will host their 125 year anniversary in October 2017 and the community is welcome to join the celebrations.

## **TDSB Presentations**

### **John Malloy, Director of Education**

Director John Malloy emphasized his role of director will focus on listening and collaborating with the every part of the school community. John aims to foster a culture where everyone has an authentic voice, and where debates still result in goals to be achieved. Furthermore, he believes the future of learning must be founded on modern learning methods, student wellbeing, engaging the school community, and ensuring equity of access and outcomes. John concluded his presentation by suggesting it is vital to not only focus what is not working, but is what is good and should be celebrated.

During the Q&A section, John was asked about Special Education inclusion policy, provincial funding streams, the state of school disrepair, and problems with French language instruction. Broadly, he believes that while he is prepared to advocate for more funding, he emphasized the need to show due diligence first by shifting resources from outdated traditional learning models to modern effective ones. To that end, he has been consulting people at the ground level to better understand the TDSB's situation. Once he and his team are properly informed, he hopes to be able to communicate more specific solutions.

### **Karen Falconer, Executive Superintendent and Rodrigo Fuentes, Central Co-ordinating Principal – Continuing and International Education**

While many of us connect public education with children going to school during the day from fall to spring, Karen and Rodrigo would like to draw our attention to the great opportunities for education outside this mold. They spoke proudly about the summer school classes for younger students who wanted to get ahead or needed a little help catching up, as well as adults who wanted to further their education through with ESL, online learning, or general interest classes taken at night.

Furthermore, Karen and Rodrigo would like parents to know about the Edu-Travel program where students are able to earn a credit with an emphasis on experiential learning. In partnership with the TDSB, this program provides a more affordable option than private travel credit packages. Courses include learning about civics in Ottawa and Canadian History in France.

## Reports from Advisory Committees

### **PIAC: Loen Hansford and Julie Fortin**

- PIAC's School Council Appreciation night will be held on February 25<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 9pm at the Montecassino Hotel and Event Centre. Please RSVP at [www.tdsb.on.ca/parentconference](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/parentconference). Registration closes February 17<sup>th</sup> and is limited to 2 representatives per school.
- The TDSB is working to integrate children from the family of Syrian refugee's as quickly as possible. Please note the neighborhoods that they are sponsored and living now is not necessarily the destination location they would be settling in and going to school.

### **SEAC: Nora Green and Paula Boutis**

- David Lepofsky is the new chair of SEAC. David Lepofsky is a champion of accessibility and disability issues. Notably, his work helped to get announced transit stops on the TTC to help the vision impaired.
- SEAC is in the process of improving their website. For example, they aim to make their meeting's presentations available online. They are seeking feedback on what needs to be improved so please share your thoughts.

### **FSLAC: Caroyln Paterson**

- While the Toronto Public Library has French materials to supplement student learning, none exist within Ward 7 boundaries. To that end, a trial French storytelling program is being planned to gauge the interest in the Ward. We will keep you updated as we get more information.
- The TDSB released a report in the fall of 2015 on student demographic and achievement data of students who take extended/immersion French.

Research Brief on the Characteristics of Students in French Second Language Programs at the TDSB, Fall 2015

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/Community/Community%20Advisory%20committees/FSLAC/Characteristics%20of%20Students%20in%20FSL%20Programs.pdf>

- FSLAC and the TDSB are committed to the principle of inclusion and accommodation in French language learning. That is, they adopt the attitude that every student can be good at French through proper supports. The Ontario report and the TDSB presentation on them can be read below:

Ontario Report: Including Students with Special Education Needs in French as a Second Language Program

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/amenagement/includingFLS2015.pdf>

TDSB Presentation on Including Students with Special Education Needs in FSL Programs

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/Community/Community%20Advisory%20committees/FSLAC/2015%2011%2024%20Including%20FSL.pdf>

## Trustee Report

- An additional PA has been scheduled for April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Labour negotiations have mostly been settled except with CUPE and OSSTF.
- Additions at Swansea PS and Keele PS have opened.
- Long Term Program and Accommodation Strategy development is underway for this coming year.
- New principal starting at PCI (Alisa Cashore), effective February 1. Rob Parsons, VP- PCI and Debra Munchnek, VP – HCI are switching schools, also effective Feb
- Congratulations to Neethan Shan who is our new trustee in Scarborough Agincourt. A strong turnout of 8000 shows is a sign that Torontonians understand the importance of public education.

## Next Meeting

Date: March 29<sup>th</sup> 2016, 7-9PM  
Location: **Swansea Public School**  
Topic: TDSB Budget and Finances  
Speaker: Carla Kisko, Associate Director Finance and Operations