

Meeting Minutes

2015/2016 Eton Parent Council (EPC) Meeting

Thursday March 10, 2016

8:45 a.m.

Attendees:

President	Angela Ting
Vice President	Lubdha Khandelwal
Secretary	Manizeh Pirzada
Treasurer	Anne Pace
School Liaison	Monica Maling

Community Coordinators

Upper Elem/Middle	Nancy Yim
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Unable to Attend

Pre-elementary comm. coordinator	Rukmani Gopalan
Lower Elementary comm. coordinator	Jodi Minkin
Volunteering	Paulina Salmón Del Real

Topics of Discussion

EPC Learning Events

On March 9, Kim Estes of Savvy Parents/Safe Kids presented a safety workshop aimed specifically at parents of middle school kids. There were approximately 30 people in attendance and overall EPC felt the presentation was well received. Even though there was some general safety information recycled from Kim's January workshop, she did have sufficient new material that addressed safety challenges faced by the older child.

For the future, in addition to advertising these Learning Events in the Community Connection email, a "reminder" flyer should be sent home with kids shortly before the event.

Learning event ideas for next year include:

- A workshop by Dr. Laura Kastner, a child, adolescent and pediatric clinical psychologist, or

- Screening movies for educational purposes; perhaps an internal panel can be made available afterwards for further discussion. Depending on the topic, these movies can be gender and/or age specific, and older children may also be invited to watch/discuss as well.
 - Angela will try to find the name of the movie she recently watched that was specific to middle school boys.

End-of-Year Picnic

The last day of school is June 15th and EPC will again host the end-of year picnic from 12:00 – 2:00 at a local park.

- Monica will try to book the picnic shelter at Perrigo park (just ½ day needs to be booked).

Community Coordinators and Room Reps

EPC has asked for feedback from the Community Coordinators regarding how the room representatives have been faring in their roles. Preliminary feedback suggests some room reps have been organizing additional events for their classrooms.

- Community Coordinators will contact the room reps to get a summary of their activities over the past year for discussion at the next EPC meeting.

Near the end of summer and before the new school year starts, Community Coordinators need to organize separate (pre, lower, upper/middle) get-togethers for Eton families. The purpose of this event (i.e. could be a picnic) is to welcome the community back and introduce new families. The community coordinators will need to send out email invitations to parents at least 3 weeks prior to the event. They will have access to email addresses by mid to the end of July. Perhaps information regarding the get-together(s) can be included in the summer packet that gets mailed to parents during the first week of August.

Community Involvement

In previous EPC meetings, there has been general consensus the school should support and/or volunteer for a local cause that is separate from what the Eton Student Council sponsors.

Lubdha attended a corporate tree-planting volunteer event on February 12th and presented EPC with her feedback. Overall it was a fun event, but physically tiring (3 hours long). Along the

same lines of environmental consciousness, a suggestion was made to see if GreenRedmond.org (partners with Forterra) could meet our needs (i.e. a little less physically demanding, tools that children can handle and perhaps a lesser time commitment).

Nominating Committee

All the EPC positions, Volunteer, and Community Coordinator roles have been filled for the 2016/2017 school year. As well, next year's EPC budget is ready to be presented by Dr. Smith to the board for its approval.

- Monica will ask Dr. Smith if he has a sense when the budget will get approved.

Staff Appreciation

It was suggested EPC brainstorm ideas for one more staff appreciation event for the middle of the school year (i.e. end of January). This would be in addition to the *Smoothie Drive* at the beginning of the school year and the *Luncheon* at the end of the school year. It could be another "food" idea or perhaps something a little different, like a 10-15 minute chair massage.

- Lubdha will try to contact the same massage company who provided this service at her work to get a sense of cost and availability (i.e. nice to have a chair in each of main, pre and lower). This service is needed for approximately 50 teachers/administrators.