**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUMMARY MEETING NOTES**

Committee Name: Alternative Schools Advisory Committee (ASAC)

Date: June 18, 2018

Time: 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Attendance: Boriana Karan (elementary parent co-chair), Angela (Equinox parent via telephone), Jonathan Penney (SEED student), Andrea (EAST parent by telephone), Allan (EAST parent by telephone), Noriko Furuya (EAST parent), Laurie Patterson (EAST parent), Shelagh Smith (EAST parent), James Becloer (EAST parent), Cathy Nosaty (EAST parent), Alix Johnson (EAST parent), Karri Paradi (EAST parent), Erin Crysdale (Horizon parent)

TDSB Staff: Manon Gardner (Executive Superintendent), Liam Rodrigues (SEED, secondary co-chair), Grant Fawthrop (Principal, Sec. Alternative Schools West), Rachel Rosen (SOLE), Al Karim (North East Year Round Alternative), Denis Lopes (Principal, Secondary Alternative Schools East) Michael Gurgol (Vice Principal, Secondary Alternative Schools West), Deborah Adelman (Elementary teacher co-chair)

Regrets:

Recorder: Gillian Venning

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| **ITEM** | **DISCUSSION** | **ACTION ITEMS/ATTACHMENTS** |
| Welcome & Introductions |  |  |
| Call to Order/ Confirmation of Quorum | Called to order at 7:11 pm by Liam Rodrigues. Quorum not achieved but present members agreed to proceed with discussion of some agenda items and hold other items until September 2018 meeting. |  |
| Approval of Agenda | Motion to amend agenda by Liam:   * EAST concerns added as item #1 |  |
| Approval of Summary Notes –April 16 and May 28, 2018 | Holding on reviewing/approving notes until September meeting. |  |
| Declarations of Possible Conflicts | NIL |  |
| Concerns at EAST Alternative | Concerns included delivery of integrated arts curriculum; parent volunteer hours; staff changes; change in mission statement. Manon to follow up with EAST SOE following this meeting |  |
| Amendment to ASAC Terms of Reference | * Moved to September 2018 meeting |  |
| Update: process to include Alternative Schools information in parents registration packages | * Angela, chair from Equinox, has started a document to this end * In fall, 2018 we are undertaking a review of all specialized programs and hope to come out with a clearer definition of what each one is so that parents choosing a school for their child know what is available to them * It is important to note that not ALL schools on the list of Angela’s are open to Optional Attendance * Optional Attendance has not been reviewed since amalgamation – the review is coming starting in fall 2018 * When a review of lottery and enrolment processes takes place, we need to make this clear on school websites – all alternative schools should follow a single process for application and registration |  |
| Review, amendment and re-commitment of Policy 062 (Alternative Schools) | * This policy empowers students and parents, it is really time for the TDSB to review it * We would like to put forth a motion in September to review this policy and refresh it * Next steps: dedicate the September 17, 2018 ASAC meeting to discussing this and setting a critical path |  |
| Proactive Supports for Elementary Alternatives | It was suggested:   * The make-up of administrators at elementary and secondary is very different, secondary ones are dedicated to the alt schools while the elementary ones share the alt school with a regular school, and the alt school often becomes the less important portfolio * P062 is not being followed in the elementary alternative schools * The students, as major stakeholders, are too young to have enough voice to uphold and ensure that P062 is being followed * Elementary alternative schools need some extra support to advocate for themselves, how can we offer this? * Can we create a flyer for ASAC that we can send out to all schools? * We need to educate people so they know we are here * Can we host ASAC meetings in the Alternative Schools? |  |
| Supporting new Administrators of Alternative Schools | * List of moving and new Ps and VPs – at present there are two new admins, I will be meeting with those two people re their moves as well as any further names that are added to the list between now and September |  |
| Possibility of centralized hiring of alternative schools teachers | * Hiring is not connected to the pedagogy of the alternative schools, when staff gets placed in a school we lose our opportunity to ensure high quality matches and connections of teachers to our unique pedagogies * Can we build a pool of central teachers who have had additional training on alternative pedagogies that can be picked from to staff these schools? * We have had this discussion with employee services and the next step is really a matter of sitting down with the unions and realizing that not all teachers want to teach in alternative schools * Working with the unions means ensuring that all members are protected, but the possibility of an alternative schools teacher pool is not out of the question * Work is happening between employee services and the teachers unions |  |
| End of Year Self Evaluation | * To be reviewed at September 2018 meeting |  |
| Next Meeting Date | Monday, September 17, 2018 |  |
| Adjournment | Adjourned at 8:54 pm. |  |