# Name of Committee: Environmental Sustainability Community Advisory Committee (ESCAC)

**Meeting Date**: **January 4, 2022**

Notes

A meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Community Advisory Committee convened on Jan. 4, 2022 from 6:35 p.m. to 8:05 p.m. via Zoom Video Conferencing, with Trustee Manna Wong presiding.

## Attendance via Zoom:

Manna Wong (Trustee, Ward 20), Barbara Falby (For Our Grandchildren), Esther Collier (Retired Teacher), Anne Keary (Parent, Climate Fast, Climate Action Network), Dan Maclean (Trustee, Ward 2), Sunday Harrison (Green Thumbs Growing Kids), Hilary Inwood (OISE), Stefan Sommer (CUPE 4400), and Bob Spencer (Community Member, Beach Community Energy), Andrea Stephens (Parent).

Also present were: Richard Christie (TDSB), Kelly Crosthwaite (TDSB), Kristen Evers (TDSB), David Hawker-Budlovsky (TDSB), Mandeep Gabhi (TDSB), Peyton Leung (TDSB), Pam Miller (TDSB), Linda Naccarato (TDSB), Janet O’Reilly (TDSB), Amie Presley (TDSB), and Gigi Shanks (TDSB).

## Regrets:

Haley Higdon (Natural Curiosity)

| **ITEM** | **DISCUSSION** | **RECOMMENDATIONS / MOTIONS** |
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| Call to Order / Quorum | * Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m. |  |
| Approval of Agenda | * Agenda approved |  |
| Approval of Nov. 2, 2021 minutes | * Minutes approved, without comments |  |
| Student Census 2022 Consultation | TDSB Research and Development staff presented the draft Student Census 2022. ESCAC was invited to provide feedback on the following:   * data collection plan * proposed topic constructs * who to reach out to in terms of community agencies/groups   Feedback from the committee included:   * How is the environment shown as a priority in the census? * How do environmental issues feature in school climate surveys? * Can connections be made between environmental/climate justice and social justice? |  |
| 2022-23 Strategic Budget Driver Consultation | An overview of the Strategic Budget Driver survey was shared with the committee to provide feedback on budget driver priorities and focus areas.  Members were encouraged to review and complete the survey [Strategic Budget Drivers Feedback Survey](https://forms.gle/YNNdczZjJQwNFo56A) by January 31, 2022.  Discussion points included the following:   * Absence of environmental sustainability or climate action included as a budget driver. * Members discussed the possibility to make a deputation at a Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee (FBEC) meeting regarding the importance of environment and climate action as a key budget driver. * Suggestion to revisit the survey results with ESCAC in early spring. |  |
| Youth Climate Action Guide (YCAG) | Overview of the newly launched [YCAG online resource](https://sites.google.com/tdsb.on.ca/youthclimateactionguide/home) was shared with the committee.  Members were invited to attend the upcoming [TDSB/OISE webinar](https://www.tdsb.on.ca/environment/Home/education/Professional-Development/Webinars-Events) (Jan. 13) to learn more about the guide and City of Toronto grant opportunities. |  |
| Joint Management Labour Environment Committee (JMLEC) Update | JMLEC was included in the newly ratified OSSTF (District 12) Collective Agreement.  The committee is now in process of creating its own Terms of Reference.  A working group will be established to investigate the feasibility of transitioning to electric tools for TDSB maintenance. |  |
| Revitalizing School Grounds and Building Exteriors Report | Topic was deferred to next meeting. |  |
| Member Updates/Announcements | * Bob Spencer: To present on schools as energy hubs at the next ESCAC meeting. * Sunday Harrison: Federal funding opportunity for tree planting initiatives |  |
| Next Meeting Date | * Feb. 3, 2022 |  |
| **Adjournment** | * Jan. 4, 2022 – 8:05pm |  |