

**Name of Committee: Early Years Community Advisory Committee (EYCAC)**

**Meeting Date: March 22nd, 2024**

**Notes:**

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**Attendance: via Zoom:**

Patricia Chorney Rubin, (Community Co-Chair/ George Brown College); Jill Oakes, (Community Co-Chair/ YMCA Child Care); Anh Lam, (Woodgreen Child Care); Nicola Maguire, (LEF); Pam McArthur, (Runnymede Adventure Club); Naama Ofrath, (Policy Development Officer, Toronto Children's Services); Kim Rogers, (Sunshine Child Care); Irena Setnik, (Silver Creek Pre-School); Patrina Stathopoulos, (Dandylion Daycare); Rosemary Stiglic, (PLASP Child Care Services); Donna Spreitzer, (Executive Director, Toronto Community for Better Child Care); and Amy Van Camp, (Toronto Children's Services).


Also present were: Trustee Deborah Williams, (Trustee Co-Chair, Ward 10); Cynthia Grundmann, (Senior Policy Advisor/Manager Early Years and Child Care Services); Trustee Dennis Hastings, (Ward 1); Liz Hoang, (Child Care Services Manager); Lynn Strangway, (Executive Superintendent, Learning Centre 3); and Jim Spyropoulos, (Executive Superintendent, Indigenous Education, Caring and Safe Schools).

**Regrets:**

Michelle Dutra, (Woodgreen Child Care); and Audley Salmon, (Associate Director, Learning Transformation and Equity).

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ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/ MOTION
Welcome/Introductions/ Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands		
Call to Order / Quorum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quorum confirmed.</li> </ul>	
Approval of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The agenda was approved.</li> <li>• Moved: Pam McArthur</li> <li>• Seconded: Patrina Stathopoulos</li> </ul>	
Approval of Minutes- January 26, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Minutes were approved.</li> <li>• Moved: Rosemary Stiglic</li> <li>• Seconded: Patrina Stathopoulos</li> </ul>	
Declarations of Possible Conflict of Interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed - No Conflicts were declared</li> </ul>	
Co-Chair Report	<p><b>Communication items (Co-Chair- Patricia Chorney Rubin &amp; Jill Oakes):</b></p> <p>No items</p>	
Trustee Co-Chair Report Update	<p><b>Trustee Co-Chair Deborah Williams, Ward 10</b> shared the following updates:</p> <p><b>Developing the 2024-2025 Budget</b></p> <p>On March 19, 2024, TDSB staff presented options to balance the 2024-25 budget. <a href="#">Read the report.</a> Trustee Co-Chair provided the following information and links:</p> <p><b>Public Engagement Opportunities and Meetings</b>  <a href="https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Business-Services/Budgets-and-Financial-Statements/Developing-the-2024-2025-Budget/Upcoming-Meetings">https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Business-Services/Budgets-and-Financial-Statements/Developing-the-2024-2025-Budget/Upcoming-Meetings</a></p> <p><b>Public Delegations:</b> Members of the public are welcome to bring forward issues and concerns through a delegation. Register to address the</p>	

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	<p>Finance, Budget, and Enrolment Committee on <b>March 26, 2024</b>  <a href="#">.Learn more and register here</a>. The deadline for delegations to be considered is 12 p.m. on Monday, March 25, 2024.</p> <p>There will be a <b>Special Board Meeting</b> taking place on <b>Tuesday, April 2, 2024</b>, at 4:30 p.m.- <i>*Agenda: Approval of 2024-25 budget.</i></p> <p>TDSB Chair Rachel Chernos-Lin and TCDSB Chair Nancy Crawford Shared a joint <a href="#">Op-Ed in the Toronto Star</a> on Sunday, March 3, 2024.</p> <p><b>Building of Child Care Centres</b>  <a href="https://www.tdsb.on.ca/home/ct/Details/mid/43824/itemid/260">https://www.tdsb.on.ca/home/ct/Details/mid/43824/itemid/260</a></p> <p><b>TDSB Multi Year Strategic Plan (MYSP) 2024-2028 Final Presentation</b></p> <p>  240321 MYSP 24-28  Final presentation.p</p> <p>Trustee Co-Chair shared that there will be an engagement report and encouraged EYCAC members to invite TDSB staff on how EYCACs feedback during the consultation process impacted the final revision of the MYSP.</p>	
<p>Lockdown/Emergency Procedures Update</p>	<p><b>Jim Spyropoulos, Executive Superintendent, Indigenous Education, Caring and Safe Schools</b> shared the following update:</p> <p>School Principals are expected to complete a few key health and safety documents annually for their schools, namely the Institutional Preparedness Checklist and the Toronto Emergency Safe Schools Strategy (TESS) form.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is expected that emergency preparation information is shared with everyone who occupies space in a TDSB building.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Motion:</b> EYCAC members to put forth a motion to authorize the co-chairs to work with TDSB Senior Resource Persons (SRPs) to finalize the text of the recommendations below.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Patrina Stathopoulos</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All parties are part of the fire drills and lockdown drills.</li> <li>• Toronto Police Services (TPS) communicates with schools if a situation unfolds in the community that may impact schools.</li> <li>• The Toronto Emergency Safe Schools Strategy (TESS) form is a form Principals complete for TPS noting: who the partners are that share space in the building; what the nature of their program is; the number of people who are involved in that program; and their contact information.</li> </ul> <p>Members discussed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administrators need to review TESS and the Institutional Preparedness Checklist with child care partners every September.</li> <li>• The need to engage child care partners in the school’s Caring and Safe School Committee is important.</li> <li>• TPS and 911 dispatchers have a map of the city with a list of all schools, including child cares co-located within.</li> <li>• Opportunities to enhance current health and safety practices and communication with child cares, particularly when the Principal isn’t in the building, on non-instructional days and during school breaks.</li> </ul> <p>Trustee Co-Chair asked EYCAC members if they would consider putting forward a recommendation for child care partners to be members of Caring and Safe School Committee at their respective schools?</p> <p>Community Co-Chairs shared they would like to put forth a recommendation.</p> <p>Staff shared the Early Years team hosted a series of sessions for principals/vice principals that have child care programs and BASPs in TDSB schools to support these partnerships. Staff can review best practices of Caring</p>	<p><b>Seconded:</b> Pam McArthur</p> <p>EYCAC voting Members all agreed that the following recommendations be submitted (CAC Standing Committee Report) to the next Program and School Services Committee (PSSC) on April 3, 2024.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b> Therefore, be it resolved that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Child care centres and stakeholders (including licensed Before- and After-School Program service providers) located in or operating in TDSB schools be included by school administrators as members (e.g. community partner members) of the local school Caring and Safe School Committee.</li> <li>2. Central TDSB staff provide annual</li> </ol>

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	and Safe School issues in those sessions.	communications to child care centres and stakeholders (including licensed Before- and After- School Program service providers) about the procedures and forms pertaining to Caring and Safe School policies, procedures and best practices, including but not limited to Emergency and Crisis Response Plans, Toronto Emergency Safe School Strategy Form and Institutional Preparedness Form.
TDSB Staff Updates (Senior Resource Person)	<p><b>Cynthia Grundmann, Senior Policy Advisor/Manager Early Years and Child Care Services</b> shared the following updates:</p> <p><b>Community Cafe Sessions</b></p> <p>Early Years staff hosted a session <i>Rethinking School Community</i> on January 19<sup>th</sup> for Principals of schools with child care and BASP. Over 130 principals attended this session. The concept of Community Cafes was introduced at this session to provide an open and guided forum for discussion on matters related to EY. The first session is tentatively scheduled in May.</p>	

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	<p><b>Sparking Joyful and Playful Learning</b></p> <p>On February 27th, the Early Years team hosted a day of professional learning for kindergarten educators about strategies for creating rich play experiences that spark a sense of wonder and joy in young learners. Positive feedback was received about the session and staff are looking forward to the next opportunity for some shared learning.</p> <p><b>Before- and After-School Program (BASP) Process Update</b></p> <p>Surveying has concluded. The Child Care Services team is working on reviewing the results and will be setting up registrations at schools where there is sufficient initial interest as expressed in the survey.</p> <p><b>Umbrella Lease update</b></p> <p>Toronto Land Corporation (TLC) is looking to start sending out the new consolidated child care lease agreements over the next couple of months. They will be providing an overview of the changes and hosting an information session for operators. More details will be shared directly through TLC.</p> <p><b>Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Procedures</b></p> <p>On January 31, 2024 the Board of Trustees approved the newly developed <a href="#">Community Advisory Committees (CAC) and the Board of Trustees Governance Procedure (PR741)</a> and the <a href="#">CAC Operational Procedure (PR742)</a></p> <p>All CACs will be reviewed every 3 years. There are 6 CACs that will be up for review at the Board of Trustees in November 2024, including EYCAC. The Senior Resource Person (SRP) has been notified of the review and the</p>	

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	<p>process. The SRP will complete a Board Report that will go to the Board of Trustees for review and decide of the status in November 2024.</p> <p><b>Status of Child Care Report Update</b></p> <p>At the Planning and Priorities Committee (PPC) meeting on February 28th, 2024, the <b>Status of Child Care Centres in the Toronto District School Board</b> went to Board and was received.</p> <p><a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/12ekHrmRLFuPPIKTPLbgSC2FdZJmWVvgU2hJOzG9U9rE/edit?usp=sharing">https://docs.google.com/document/d/12ekHrmRLFuPPIKTPLbgSC2FdZJmWVvgU2hJOzG9U9rE/edit?usp=sharing</a></p> <p><b>Wi-Fi Update</b></p> <p>Continued discussions are taking place with Legal Services on how to proceed with Wi-Fi access for child care partners in TDSB schools. More information will be provided.</p> <p><b>April 8, 2024, Solar Eclipse Safety</b></p> <p>TDSB staff recommend child care operators have conversations with school principals and caretakers where there are no blinds in the classrooms to ensure everyone's safety during the eclipse.</p> <p><b>BASP Service Agreement Plan</b></p> <p>All school boards in Ontario are mandated by the Ministry to provide BASP for K-6 students at all schools, except for schools where there is insufficient demand or viability. The Child Care Services team are working on updating the agreement that will include school-age programs and authorized recreation and skill building programs. In addition, operated extended day programs. This update will take place in the coming months. The team have asked for</p>	

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	<p>volunteers and have proactively invited members of EYCAC to be part of the review. The team will host one session in the coming weeks. Any interested members please reach out to Liz Hoang.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Liz and team to provide an overview of the feedback received at the May 24th EYCAC meeting.</p>	
Other Business:	<p><b>Shared Space Working Group:</b> Rosemary, Nicola, Leslie</p> <p>The working group were unable to meet since the last meeting.</p> <p><b>EarlyON Staff Update</b></p> <p>Simin Saleemi, RECE has accepted the permanent position of Program Officer, EarlyON.</p> <p><b>General Staff Update</b></p> <p>Anabela Ferreira, Manager, Bruce WoodGreen Early Learning Centre announced she is stepping down from EYCAC and was formally recognized for her dedicated service. Anh Lam, Assistant Supervisor, Bruce WoodGreen Early Learning Centre would like to replace Anabela on EYCAC.</p> <p><b>20th Annual Summer Institute on Early Childhood Development</b></p> <p>Community Co-Chair Patricia Chorney Rubin shared that this event will take place on <b>April 26, 2024.</b></p> <p><b>Action:</b> Claudette to share information/registration details and brochure to EYCAC members.</p>	



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	<p>Members discussed and were encouraged to attend the Board Program and School Services Committee (PSSC) to advocate regarding EYCACs annual reports, recommendations brought forward, and what EYCAC brings formally/informally to the Board with respect to Early Years matters. There are opportunities for members to participate in delegations that may be Early Years related, and for the Chairs to present all reports that go to Board.</p>	
<p>TDBS Community Advisory Committees Web page and EYCAC Web page:</p>	<p><a href="https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Advisory-Committees/Community-Advisory-Committees">https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Advisory-Committees/Community-Advisory-Committees</a>  <a href="https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Advisory-Committees/Community-Advisory-Committees/Early-Years-Community-Advisory-Committee">https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Advisory-Committees/Community-Advisory-Committees/Early-Years-Community-Advisory-Committee</a></p>	
<p>Next Meeting Date</p>	<p><b>May 24, 2024</b>, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. via Zoom</p>	
<p><b>Adjournment</b></p>	<p>March 22nd, 2024, at 12:06 p.m. Moved by Patricia Chorney Rubin</p>	