

April 2022 SAC Meeting Minutes



URSULA FRANKLIN ACADEMY SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes April 26, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Meet Via Zoom and in-person at the school

Co-chair: Kira

Recording Secretary: Samantha Hodder, Anne Keary

Staff: Petal

Teachers: Heather, Tony, Seth

Attendance: approximately 20 online and 10 in-person

AGENDA

Adoption of Minutes of last meeting

Report of Student Council, FAA, PALS, Union of Students, 9 & 10 retreat co-ordinator

Report of Teacher /Staff - Heather & Tony

Elearning – Seth

Report of Principal - Petal Farquharson

Parent Concern Protocol

PAO group – Shone

Ward 7 Update – Anne

Next Meeting - May 31

1 – Opening remarks SAC Co-Chair

Kira welcomes everyone

2 – Adoption of Minutes of Last Meeting, March 23, 2021

Motion to approve: Kira

First: Petal

Second: Jane Craig

3 – Report of Students: Council

From Ella Pataki

Grub Day is on April 29, 2022 – proceeds will go to Carnival

Bake sale on 27th – proceeds to Carnival.

Zoe Silverberg-Ceresne reports

Carnival – Happening for the first time since Covid. June 3, rain date June 10. Happens on the field. Whole afternoon is devoted to carnival Inflatable fun! And food – snowcones, cotton candy on the field.

FAA – not present

PALS - Anne Marie

Gave the guided tours at the school tonight. Updates from PALS

Retreat, happening! If you want to leave must have signed note.

Please bring litter less lunch. Will provide pizzas.

Dress for outdoors. It will go on unless of thunderstone. There is a rain plain.

Students cannot leave in the middle of it – must be present for the entire day.

4 - Report of teachers –

Seth E-Learning

Concept came first in 2019, from the Ford government – policies and budget cuts.

This was well before pandemic...came out on the heels of the labour dispute. Now down to two mandatory courses, but students can opt out.

Concerns from staff about this program

- Courses will have no live instruction
- Students will take the course from home or at school, no teacher.
- Students can opt out – but barriers to this opting out process, which will
- Boards are being forced by the Ministry to show parents a script that indicates they've been made aware of the policy of opting out, -digital future. Etc. claims not based in

research.

Public resistance, teachers reacting. Government is clear that they will do it..

You are allowed to opt-out.

HOWEVER, they are funding as they are happening.

Schools will feel this by teacher cuts and course cuts.

It's unclear, but it will likely result in having to take that e-learning elsewhere.

The province will get to bake in the cuts.

Why – funded average is 30:1 – Thirty students to 1 teacher...and in-school class is 22:1.

Save money, and eventually will lead to a loss of teacher allocation.

Ford asking teachers to run these at school, but have a central roster of teachers.

It's not synchronous. Not like covid learning. It's run centrally, and students will need to do it all on their own.

Education staff – asking that it can be an option, but don't make it mandatory. And fund the difference, fund what students want.

Board is trying to sort through the consequences for students who opt out. And it's unclear what it means. Can't exceed class caps, but it does mean it will likely increase class size.

Also waiting to see what happens with the election this year, and if that changes funding for education.

The more people who opt out, the more compelling the story is that it's not sustainable for staffing purposes. The future is unknown.

Collective action is always the best advocacy. Teachers organizing efforts. Parents are starting to form around this issue as well.

SAC LETTER

MOTION: SAC would propose to write a letter to the Minister of Education opposing mandatory online learning and its impacts on staff, students and families.

First: Anne

Second: Stefani

None opposed or abstained.

Motion passed.

HEATHER:

Grade 12 assembly

- **Volunteer Hours – need those submitted ASAP. There are still ways to get them if you need to do this.**
- **Grad date: June 29, 2022. Formal invitation will go out soon, it's happening at 3:30**
- **Valedictorian – voting happening now**
- **Prom: Date set, it's June 14th**

PALS had a great time and excited to do the meeting

Potluck, AKA Taste of UFA, happening May 19

FAA banquet happening.

Spring sports starting next week

TONY –

EQAO happening. Grade 9 mathematics test happening.

Date forthcoming

No preparation necessary.

Tests will be completed electronically, at the school.

Participating in PISA. Program for International Student Assessment

International standardized assessments, math, science, financial literacy. Done in Ontario and around the world. The main portion this year will be mathematics but will also have other questions. It's an international test, but in reality, it's about how Canada compares to other countries.

53 Grade 10 students (and 1 Gr 9) were chosen randomly by a computer.

This will be Wednesday May 19, 2022.

Not curriculum based.

Letters will be going out in next week.

Started New Committee about Learning Day Schedule:

Purpose: To review the daily schedule for next year.

Will be required to remain a semester school next year, as mandated by the province. Normally a full-year school.

Teachers put together a committee to review the daily schedule, thinking ahead to the next years. Should UFA stay semestered? Go back to full year? Something completely different?

This will go out in the Newsflash, so please fill out the survey.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf9ui5_eT3lXpX4HcO2SOhwdqw4wxXYFfLYSPLvsmrRplxyjg/forrestricted

5. Report of Principal - Petal Farquharson

Read the newsflash! Lots of information in there to stay in touch with everything.

Tomorrow is Administrative Professional Appreciation day – Spread the love! They are the backbone of this school.

Permission Click. Please go on and click. Emails went out for this...could be permission slips for outings, or for sports.

Right now in midst of staffing for next year. UFA has lost one teacher for next year, due to budget cuts.

Student absence protocols.

There is a form to complete if students will be away for an extended absence.

Uniforms. We are a uniform school. Solid navy pants, no logo. UFA top. Please help ensure that students leave home wearing uniform. Will be sent to office if they don't show up wearing uniform, and will be loaned a shirt if show up empty.

Parent-Teacher interview

Keeping virtual format, it was very efficient

6 – Parent Concern Protocol

Robin Pilkey is the last stop for complaints, not the first. The protocol is baked in.

Parent concern protocol for school issues. If a parent has a concern – first speak to the classroom teacher; then if you have questions beyond the classroom, vice principal, guidance or principal. Then, if not happy, go to superintendent. Then go to Robin Pilkey.

Too many parents are going to Robin first. The protocol must be followed.

Emergency procedures – we have completed 6 fire drills done. 1 lockdown done, 1 to go.

Prom committee all set to go. \$2000 raised! Prom tickets \$110 .

Guest application

Theme – Enchanted forest. Upcycled decorations. Accepting twinkle lights and other items for this.

Parent question about exams. Will students be inexperienced going into exams in university?

When exams return in school – will this be tough for the grade 11s, 12s, who have not done exams in previous classes. Adjustments will be made.

Alison – special shout-out to Tony for all his hard work in ensuring students learn math materials.

8 – PAO Report

Shone Joos

- April 6th – workshop, 123 registered. Great interest and need for these conversations on anti-racism.

- **Please join the committee!!**
- **Swansea Black Student success group – Thursday (date?) presentation by parents of Black children.**

Parent education sessions TDSB.

9 – Ward 7 Update

Anne

On the budget

The TDSB faces significant budget shortfalls. Projected expenditure and projected funds leave the TDSB with a \$184,535,249 shortfall.

Ongoing funding challenges may lead to reduction or cancellation of board funded programs.

- **Key Dates:**
 - **April 26 – Preliminary budget presented to Finance, Budget & Enrollment Committee (FBEC)**
 - **May 16 – Final staff recommendation on actions to balance budget (publicly available on TDSB website – May 13)**
 - **May 17 & 19 – Virtual Town Hall to get public feedback**

Consultations

There are a series of consultation on policy for which the TDSB is seeking feedback. These include

- **Parent engagement**
- **Transportation of Students Policy**
- **Parent and Caregiver Engagement Policy**
- **Communications**

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Policies-Procedures-Forms/Policy-Consultations>

MEETING ADJOURNED 8:45

Any questions, comments: email

UFASac@Gmail.com

NEXT MEETING:

May 24, 2022