

PAC Meeting Notes

Thursday, October 25th, 2018

8:15-9:30am

Location: The Multi-Purpose Resource Room, ELC basement at 7 Glen Morris St.

1. Introductions - Karen Venneri
2. Program updates – Karen & Rebecca
3. Financial Statement – Francesca
4. Other Business

1. Introductions

- Parents in attendance: Jae (inf), Naomi (P3) with baby Jesse, Julie (P2), Francesca Dobbin, Rosalyn Figov, Karen & Rebecca

2. Program Updates

- Enrollment: Glen Morris is almost completely full. At this time, a few full-time spaces in preschool are not being filled because there are toddlers getting ready to move up soon. By November / December the movements will be complete.
- At OISE we currently have 7 toddlers/ 8 preschoolers. UTM has 10 tots / 8 preschoolers
- Enrollment surveys will be going out to families in November for any changes to children's enrolment schedules for the Winter semester.
- George Brown ECE students just completed their placements; we will have 7 new students at GM starting Monday, October 29th, for 7 weeks.
- UT Psychology students recently completed observations for research in our preschool program. The faculty overseeing the research is a past-parent.
- We have a partnership with the Faculty of Kinesiology, and currently our Preschool 1 & 2 children attend a gym program every Thursday at the Athletic Centre. Preschool 3 & 4 to attend next semester starting in February.
- Michelle is back doing music every Wednesday afternoon at OISE and every Friday morning at GM (alternating weeks between infant/toddlers & preschool).
- Playgrounds: the planter boxes on the 2nd floor playground have been removed. The boxes were old and soil was clogging the drains and causing flooding when it rained. In the Spring we will replace the planters with movable planters that staff can position in the best areas for their programs. This week the wooden wall on the 2nd floor is also being replaced with an engineered wood wall.
- Email reminders will go out to parents in November about the Winter closure this year from December 24th to January 4th. Holiday closure information is also posted on the ELC and UofT websites. During this time facilities staff will be able to come in to do work: steam carpets, polish floors, etc.

3. Financial Statement (As of September 30th, 2018)

- The fiscal year runs from May 1st to April 30th

- Explanation of terms in the budget statement:
 - GOF: General Operating Fund (formerly WEG /WIG) a provincial grant given to the city to administer. Fund increased by 5%, resulting in no increase to toddler and preschool fees, and we were able to reduce infant fees by 1.5%
 - Student Life Subsidy is a grant – explains offset in fees between students and staff/faculty
- F&S/PP: general Services Expenses– we have added \$80K to this line for playground renewal. The ELC is now 15 years old, there is surfacing and structures that we are looking to replace, this work will include getting quotes, putting the work out to tender, purchasing new equipment and resurfacing the playgrounds (in a way that deals with the growth of tree roots).
- The City budget year runs from January to December. In the new year we will know what our funding will be in 2019. We are hoping for no cuts to the new funding, and we are not expecting any increases under the new provincial government

4. Other Business – Open Discussion

Questions:

Have you ever not been able to move a child?

Answer – It does happen occasionally. We try to plan out movement in advance based on what we know of our enrolment and the children’s birthdates.

Does the length of Maternity leave effect the length of the waitlist?

Answer – We haven’t seen the extension to 18 months maternity leave effect the waitlist yet, in time we may likely see more applications for toddlers than infants, particularly from staff parents, but among faculty and students anticipated start dates tend to follow our semesters.

Jae – I really appreciate your openness and detailed budget.

It is important for families to know we are open to showing parents what our costs are, and where external funding comes from.

Karen – PAC is open to all parents. We meet 3 times/year. If there is an issue that needs addressing, we can create a working group with parents to meet more often. Parents are welcome to share ideas, ask questions and hear from other parents about their experience.