

# Tanbridge Academy Parent Association Minutes



Date: October 11, 2023  
Time: 6:00pm  
Where: Tanbridge Academy

**Executive Council Members in attendance:**

Scott M – President  
Andrew L – Vice President (Zoom)  
Ryan L – Treasurer  
Erin H - Secretary

**Others in attendance:**

Reesa Laur  
Karl Rowiski  
Humaira Barezai

**Tanbridge School Principal or VP in attendance:**

Lindsay Choy

**1. Introductions**

**2. Call to order**

- 2.1. Meeting called to order at 6:05pm
- 2.2. Attending: As above
- 2.3. School Representative: As above

**3. Approval of Minutes and Agenda**

- 3.1. Approved by Ryan
- 3.2. Seconded by Andrew

**4. Parent Teacher Interviews**

- 4.1. Thank you to Lisa Reardon for taking care of the Teachers
- 4.2. Dinner for the teachers during parent teacher interviews

**5. Financial Update**

- 5.1. Operating Account Balance – \$21,553.97
- 5.2. Need to make the payment for apples
- 5.3. Casino Account Balance \$38,754.38 – goes down by \$2/month for banking fees
- 5.4. Total Account Balance \$60,308.35
- 5.5. Starbucks Gift card for teachers for appreciation – digital cards
  - 5.5.1. Linda – The teachers were very thankful
  - 5.5.2. Purdys fundraiser – goes towards the gaga ball pit

**6. Fundraiser Update**

- 6.1. Lots of activity with the apple fundraiser
- 6.2. A lot better notes in the e-transfers to ensure the funds were connected to the kids. Most was cheque and EFT – so not much money handling.

- 6.3. Sold \$10,140, paid out \$7,787 paid out – 12 boxes short from what was purchased last year which was surprising since we added new families
- 6.4. Getting ready for the next fundraiser – Purdy's
  - 6.4.1. Communication has to be tied to this – hope is to help with the engagement level
  - 6.4.2. Show the progress as we go in relation to the goal

## 7. Volunteer Coordinator Position

- 7.1. Nominate Kristy Thompson for Volunteer coordinator
  - 7.1.1. Approved by Ryan
  - 7.1.2. Seconded by Andrew

## 8. Andrew to speak on Gaga ball project- repair vs replace

- 8.1. Linda – Gaga pit is like a dodgeball that you play with your hands. Kids of all ages love the game. Shauna Oakey would like the ability to move the pit to the new campus in 3 years
- 8.2. 3 different quotes:
  - 8.2.1. Option 1 – MBL Construction Company - \$5,500 CAD
    - 8.2.1.1. More of a repair versus redo – repair current structure and install artificial turf for the ground
  - 8.2.2. Option 2 – GPI Masters of Play - \$15,408.75
    - 8.2.2.1. Decommission/demobilize current
    - 8.2.2.2. Base prep and add infinity turf and whole new structure
    - 8.2.2.3. Supply all materials and labour
  - 8.2.3. Option 3 – Coach Cliff's - \$9205.33
    - 8.2.3.1. Built one for Trico Centre, Calgary Academy, Deer Run School, Andrew Sibbald School – some had product donated, all had volunteers to install
    - 8.2.3.2. Rubber floor tile system
    - 8.2.3.3. Not much control over the conversion and shipping as it is coming from the US
    - 8.2.3.4. Does not include labour – would need to pull together a group of people and possibly put on a BBQ.
- 8.3. Reesa: Is it open for all kids to use? The Junior academy the teachers are doing a great job to engage and get the kids outside, but they do not have anything for them. The park is not an option. Suggestion is to add something for the Junior Academy/Kinders instead. Teachers are struggling already as the kids want to go to the big playground but they are not allowed too. This does not have to be expensive but something they are able to play with. Teachers do not take them to the Gaga Pit as it is right by the playground and they are not allowed to play at the playground. Something specifically for them would be nice.
- 8.4. Ryan - Younger kids will not benefit from the Gaga Pit – Lets split the funds and provide something for the younger kids.

- 8.5. Ryan - Could we use the casino funds for a playset?
- 8.5.1. Linda – we really need to get another bus – although younger kids do not benefit from it due to regulations
  - 8.5.2. Linda – We would really like to purchase a bus – field trips and sports but cannot use it for community pickups. Is there a % of usage so we can get it to use the community pickups.
  - 8.5.3. We have our next casino next year and need to figure out how to use the funds if we are not able to use it for a bus
- 8.6. Krystal Churcher - Director – Can look at some funding to get a structure
- 8.7. ACTION: Linda to follow-up with Krystal**
- 8.8. Linda - Just created an outdoor classroom – GPI did the outdoor classroom – it can be taken to the new school. Needs to be certified.
- 8.9. We need to raise \$10k to update the gaga pit
- 8.10. 278 kids right now – that would be fundraising \$70/family to raise enough for both Gaga Pit and Playset
- 8.11. Karl – What is the motivation behind updating the gaga pit? Is option 3 modular – can you take it apart?
- 8.12. Andrew – if it is easy to assemble, would it be easy to disassemble and move
- 8.13. ACTION: Andrew to follow-up to see if the Gaga pit can be disassembled**
- 8.14. Ryan – kids come home dirty, safety is key but need to consider what would the younger kids like?
- 8.15. Karl – How much time do the younger kids spend outside?
- 8.15.1. Linda – 2 times outside
  - 8.15.2. Ryan – if we use GPI again – maybe they will make a deal to update the gaga pit and playground –
  - 8.15.3. Linda – the company GPI has a child in Kindergarten
  - 8.15.4. ACTION – Andrew to contact GPI for a quote and to discuss both Gaga Pit and Playset
  - 8.15.5. Reesa – Could there be a perk to fundraising i.e. get a free uniform? Gift card towards uniform
- 8.16. Karl – Coming in as a parent – would like to understand more about fundraising. Need to make it clear to other families
- 8.16.1. Why is the bus not part of the tuition and why is it part of TAPA?
  - 8.16.2. School runs as a non-profit. TAPA comes in and helps with some of the costs
  - 8.16.3. Linda – private schools get very little funding \$3k/child – larger schoolboards get \$16k/child. Costs to lease the school and cover all maintenance costs
    - 8.16.3.1. Just had vandalism - \$15k, 3 catalytic converters stolen, gas taken out of the bus
    - 8.16.3.2. Looking into a security system
    - 8.16.3.3. Got a good grant that paid for the outdoor school and the French program for K-4
    - 8.16.3.4. Portables – 1 million – 800k for the portables and 250k to transfer them.

- 8.17. Scott – previously at Strathcona-Tweedsmuir – fundraising was huge – paid for a whole wing of the school \$25 Million raised
- 8.18. Ryan - Tuition – 100% goes towards the school
- 8.19. Ryan – TAPA Purchased Chromebooks last year for every classroom
- 8.20. TAPA's goal is “How do we help the school with the kids experience?”
- 8.21. Ryan – there hasn't been much of a turnout to the meetings – need the feedback from other families. In past years it has not been much turnout
- 8.22. Struggles with Tapa awareness and engagement
- 8.23. Reesa - Can we post the information somewhere online?

8.23.1. Facebook/Instagram/Dojo

8.23.2. Can we add a section to the bottom of the weekly emails?

**8.23.3. ACTION: Scott to email update to Linda to incorporate into weekly emails**

8.23.4. Lindsay Williams – manages Facebook/Instagram

**8.23.4.1. ACTION – Linda to talk to Lindsay – can send Linda the updates to coordinate with Lindsay**

8.23.5. Linda – a lot of involvement with the t-shirt fundraiser as opposed to the apples as it was for a cause

8.23.6. Terry fox – there was different levels of “prizes” for the fundraising.

**8.24. ACTION - Erin to get mailchimp updated to send out next fundraiser note by end of week.**

**8.25. ACTION – Linda to have Karen email Erin any add/remove/updates to the contacts**

## 9. Andrew to speak on Parent Social at Launch Pad

- 9.1. Fall fair event – looking into as a social
- 9.2. Start engaging parents and students early in the year to create the community environment
- 9.3. Teachers just went out for an event at Launch Pad and had a great time.
- 9.4. Goal to get parents out for an hour or two
  - 9.4.1. \$60/hr/suite
  - 9.4.2. If 36 register – 6 suites – 1hr of golf, 1hr social at the bar
  - 9.4.3. Subsidize partial from tapa – don't have to golf to enjoy yourself
  - 9.4.4. Tapa pays for the suite and parents can supply their own drink/food
  - 9.4.5. The idea is to bring people together – if we bring together 100 people – only \$2300
  - 9.4.6. Vote on Andrew taking the next step
    - 9.4.6.1. Ryan approved
    - 9.4.6.2. Scott seconded

**9.4.7. ACTION: Andrew to take the next steps**

## 10. Scott to propose a Halloween Fall Fair – Fri, Oct. 27th

- 10.1. Candice Almong – 2 children – gr 5 and 3.
- 10.2. Bobbing for apples, 3 legged race, parents versus kids

10.3. Can pair with food bank donation – classes can make something that stands up/design and have a prize for the winning class

10.4. Do we have \$2000 towards the fall fair?

10.4.1. Ryan – it is getting tight funds

10.4.2. Gaga pit and play structure it is \$12k

10.4.3. After apples we will have \$13k

10.4.4. Read-a-thon which is the best fundraiser later in the year

10.5. Reesa – can we just do something at the school instead of the golf?

10.6. Linda – would have to stagger the timing if it is indoor as the school cannot host all families

10.7. Linda – outdoor – can host a lot more

10.8. All in favour for fall fair – tailgate is very well attended

10.8.1. Approved by all

10.9. Setup tapa table near the hot dogs – Tapa hosts and will do the cooking.

## **11. Erin any issues with Mail Chimp**

11.1. Will use Mail Chimp for TAPA communication

11.2. Erin will load all emails

11.3. No issues

## **12. Scott to discuss Oct 24th information session to take place at Cardel Theatre**

12.1. The purpose is to provide an update on the new facility

12.2. Find connections to help with the new facility – not ask for donations

12.3. Linda - Shauna is working very hard - \$30 million secured, needs another \$30 million.

12.3.1. The grading is happening in Alpine Park

12.3.2. If we can start digging by spring – school will be ready in 3 years.

12.3.3. Don't want to go into the school with 700 students, get in with 300 – school will hold up to 750 kids (grow over 5-7 years) but to grow slowly to keep that community feel – it is all about the children. If you grow too big too fast you could lose that sense of community. Class sizes will not change. There will be a lot more classrooms -

12.4. Ryan - Shauna has to show the business plan – growing slow so we don't have to increase tuition.

## **13. TAPA Banner**

13.1. Approval to have a banner made for this event \$150.00 6 ft by 3 ft-what do we want it to say

13.2. Scott to show potential design

13.3. Scott's family member has a business to create the banner

13.4. Motion forward

13.4.1. Ryan approved

13.4.2. Erin and Reesa seconded

**14. Propose appointing Barb Plika as AGLC Chair for Tanbridge**

- 14.1. Read Email from Barb Plicka
- 14.2. Son Kolter is in G6 – transferred last January
- 14.3. Previous school was the casino coordinator for 2 years
- 14.4. Nominate as the casino chair
  - 14.4.1. Ryan approved
  - 14.4.2. Erin seconded
- 14.5. How does the funding work? Because we are outside of Calgary we get assigned a casino and only get pooled the money from that school.
- 14.6. Application was put in right away after our last casino
- 14.7. We should have a slotting email – Mrs. Thoben spoke with Kelly and left a binder at the school somewhere
- 14.8. Scott has the license
- 14.9. ACTION: Barb to speak to AGLC about using Funds for new bus and getting letter that secures our next date**

**15. Christmas Cookies for the teachers when should we do this and send out for volunteers**

- 15.1. Ryan’s family will do the gluten free cookies
- 15.2. Scott – Idea came from Strathcona – each family bake cookies and kids do a Christmas cart for the teachers
- 15.3. More to discuss next meeting.

**16. Class room parent volunteers for this year**

- 16.1. Is it something we need to do or did we not receive much feedback from them?
- 16.2. Ryan – usually the teachers asks for a classroom coordinator
- 16.3. Last year TAPA asked if there were any parents that would like to step up. Designated volunteer to assist the teacher with coordinating volunteers
- 16.4. Linda – in the past have done a chilli cook off – grouping the grades – can have a parent volunteer from TAPA
  - 16.4.1. Super successful – everyone really enjoyed it
  - 16.4.2. Trophy for the class that had the best chilli.
  - 16.4.3. Chilli cook off could be the kick off for the readathon
- 16.5. Careful of over engaging

**17. Next Meeting Date Nov 8 th 6pm @ Tanbridge**

- 17.1. All Agreed

**18. Adjourn**

- 18.1. Andrew and Karl 7:07pm
- 18.2. 7:36pm adjourned