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

**Meeting Date**: **January 10, 2023**

## Attendance via Zoom:

Manna Wong (Trustee, Ward 20),Anne Keary (Community Co-Chair),Sarah Urquhart (OISE Doctoral Student), Susan Bakshi (Parent),Esther Collier (Community Member),Barbara Falby (For Our Grandchildren Parent),Hilary Inwood (OISE),Alysse Kennedy (Natural Curiosity),Linda Naccarato (Community Member),Sunday Harrison (Green Thumbs Growing Kids),Bob Spencer (Beach Community Energy Co-op),Dan Maclean (Trustee, Ward 2),Matias de Dovitiis (Trustee, Ward 4),Michelle Aarts (Trustee, Ward 16),Maria Bazilevskaya (Parent), Valerie Endicott (Community Member).

**Also present were:** Richard Christie (TDSB), Maurice Buonastella (TDSB),Kristen Evers (TDSB), Mary Kokinakis (TDSB), Pam Miller (TDSB),Mahnaz Mirkhond-Chegini (TDSB),Gigi Shanks (TDSB),David Hawker-Budlovsky (TDSB),Jenn Vetter (TDSB), Kelly Crosthwaite (TDSB)

**Regrets:** Andrea Stephens (Parent)

| **ITEM** | **DISCUSSION** | **RECOMMENDATIONS / MOTIONS** |
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| Call to Order / Quorum | * Meeting called to order at 6:36 p.m. |  |
| Land Acknowledgment | * Land Acknowledgement |  |
| Approval of Agenda | * Agenda approved |  |
| Approval of November 1, 2022 minutes | * Minutes approved, without comments |  |
| Introductions | * Co-Chairs and Participants |  |
| 2022 Climate Action Report Update | * Staff provided an update on select action items from the TDSB 2022 Climate Action report, zooming in on parts of the report pertaining to energy. School energy profiles demo was provided. Information was shared on a deep building energy retrofit feasibility study currently underway at Withrow Ave JPS, one of 32 SEF (School Effectiveness Framework) schools. * There was discussion around the need for making the connection between operational and academic change and ensuring all internal staff educational opportunities are leveraged. * Suggestion made to spread more awareness of climate crisis and sustainable activities currently underway through simplified communications – connecting with teachers via memo to principals. * Agreement from group that there needs to be a mind-shift when it comes to like-for-like equipment replacements. Committee members pointed to a need to be more aggressive in advocating for more deep retrofit analysis in the future. * Update provided on environmental art murals and new environmental education resources. * School opportunity to participate in [Green Doors Open](https://ontario-sea.org/GEDO) was shared by Anne Keary. * Anne also shared that parent response to the Climate Action Report she presented to the Priorities and Planning Committee (PPC) was extremely positive. |  |
| Youth Climate Action Grants | * Deadline extended to January 31, 2023 * Anne Keary suggested reaching out to recipients from last year to showcase their projects and share any advice to other students. * Groups of schools are encouraged to work on collaborative initiatives, for example Bob Spencer suggested schools participate together in the next Ecofair Toronto <https://ecofairtoronto.org/> |  |
| Member Updates / Announcements | * There was a discussion at the end of the meeting about the need to reach and involve more diverse communities. |  |
| Next Meeting Date | * February 7, 2023 – 6:30 pm via Zoom conferencing |  |
| **Adjournment** | * January 10, 2023 – 8:04 pm |  |