

GATE Parent Association

Annual General Meeting

September 20, 2022 7:00 pm via Zoom

Executives in attendance: Traci, Alicia, Jeroen, Sunita

Members-at-large in attendance: 14 additional parents at large attended.

1. **Meeting opened at:** 7:03 pm by Traci. Traci acknowledged the land.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Moved to accept agenda by Jeroen P.; seconded by Sunita C.
3. **Approval of 2021 AGM Minutes:** moved to approve by Alicia M.; seconded by Sue M.
4. **GPA: Who we are and what we do** (Traci) - Fundraising to support GATE students in all schools (primarily casino, but also other fundraisers), Education for GATE families, Communication, Advocacy.
5. **Current Executive and Volunteer Roster** (Traci)

President: Traci Akierman

Vice-President: Alicia Mossing

Treasurer: Jereon Pieterse

Secretary: Sunita Chowdhury

Casino Chair: vacant

Social Media Administrator: Amber McSween

Parent Education Chair: Anna Robinson

General Fundraising Chair: vacant

School Site Representatives: Louis Riel – Irina Rajakumar; Queen Elizabeth - Tina Leard; Hillhurst – Kelly Poon; HWW- vacant

6. Review of 2021-2022 Activities:

- September 2021 – new executive elected
- Casino fundraiser in October 2021 (\$62,536)
- Purdys, Indigo fundraisers and other donations (almost \$3,000)
- Partnered with Stars for Scholarly Youth to match GATE students with University students
- Assistive Technology & note taking education session with Cathi Graveline

7. Year End Financials Update: (Jeroen)

The balance in the all GATE account as at May 31, 2022 totaled \$108,314.04. The balance in the Casino account was \$98,700.29 and the balance in the operating account was \$9,283.78.

Schools are gradually increasing spending to pre-COVID levels.

8. **Casino Update:** (Traci) - Casino is coming up in Q2 2023. We are looking for a casino chair to coordinate AGLC documentation, hire casino advisors, recruit and organize volunteers, and ensure the casino is fully staffed.

9. **Future of the GPA:** (Traci) – The role of the GPA has evolved in recent years and GATE enrolment has generally declined. Parent advocacy is a key tool to support GATE student learning.

10. Question and Answer Period:

Q: How can GATE parents get more information or advocate for the GATE program? A: Parents can phone or email their Trustees to share the value of congregated gifted education. 2 trustees familiar with the GATE program are Patricia Bolger (Wards 6/7) and Nancy Close (Wards 11/13)

Q: How can we get more information or express concerns re: bussing? A: Parents can contact trustees.

Q: What is the CBE rule regarding redistribution of technology, even when purchased by one school council or the GPA? A: GPA's understanding is that technology can be redistributed at the discretion of the CBE, even when purchased by a particular school council or the GPA.

Q: Are there official GATE student get togethers outside of classes? A: Attempts have been made in the past, but there are no current plans.

Q: What does GATE look like in high school? It appears that registration decreases substantially in grade 10. A: Registration and enrolment in GATE classes in high school often leads to mixed classes and a fragmented program – often the IPP plays a larger role.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.