

Bells Corners Public School Council Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday February 6th, 2024, 6:33pm (Online)

Present: Sadhana Lad, Marianne Tilton, Elysa Esposito, Troy Baker, Amy Cameron, Meaghan Mullen, Stacey Price, Kaylee Jobin

Absent: Tracy Donnelle, Katie Dumont, Destinee Quick, Paisley Fleming, Sandra Pedersen, Zia Hannan

Meeting called to order by Troy at 6:33pm

Approval of Agenda and Previous Minutes

Moved: Amy Cameron

Seconded: Stacey Price

Principal's Report - Sadhana Lad

. February 2024: School Council Meeting

January is a wonderful month to get back to learning and well being goals for students. January marks a month of where educators and Admin observe how students have progressed with their learning goals and self regulation goals. Our team of educators this month have been collaborating for lunch and learns, which is a form of professional developm where educators are taking the time during their lunch to work on adding to their programming for students. We are focusing on literacy initiatives and math engagement for students and collectively from Kindergarten to grade 6 we are working on number talks where students have opportunities to problem solve as a group and share their thinking in a format that encourages the use of mathematical language, consolidation of mathematical thinking and concepts learned in class. Our goal as a school is to see an overall improvement in the math problem solving in all strands of math, especially number sense.

We welcomed the Get Real presenters where students learned identity and how to be kind and respectful. BCPS also welcomed Rabbi Brian and Dr. Aisha who discussed stereotypes, judgements/assumptions that we make based on appearances and how harmful that can be for students. Both presentations were reflective and one student wrote a reflection expressing that if we make judgements, then we are missing out on an opportunity to get to know someone great. Both presentations are vetted by the OCDSB and it is a commitment and responsibility to create inclusive learning spaces for all students and uphold human rights was our main goal for our students. An important step was to create an inclusive environment where all identities are valued and welcomed.

Our educators Mr. Chapman, Mrs. Cairns and Mr. Butterworth coached both the bordenball teams and took students to a tournament. Students enjoyed the experience. Thanks to our drivers and even our educators who drove students to be able to participate in the learning.

Last week also marked our annual achievement assembly where classes shared their learning achievements for the month and it was spectacular! Students led the discussions and performed in some situations to share their learning. Student leaders shared anti-bullying initiatives, and student created expectations for fair play outside during recess, especially around the creation of snow forts. Our BCPS students are developing their leadership skills and taking opportunities to demonstrate their resilience and perseverance in the many opportunities provided in the classroom and through various initiatives.

Chess Tournament - small tournament at Manordale, 6 junior students, end of March

Feb 28th - pink shirt day

Feb - black history month - daily announcements, activities in classrooms

A few updates

Parking in our BCPS parking lot at 3:45pm is slowly starting to improve. A few strategies is talking to individual parents to remind them to park in a parking spot or in the community. Letters have been handed out and also emails have been sent out to families. With the operation of our third bus, we will be able to minimize the traffic flow and ensure safety of the students.

Report Cards will be sent home this month on February 14th. Please take time and discuss the progress and next steps for your student in their learning journey. It is also important to keep in mind that where students are at this time in their learning is midway through the year and there are still many opportunities to see growth. Achievement looks different for all students.

Educator's Report February 2024 from Marianne Tilton

- Luv2Groove has been booked for April 30th to May 3rd. It will be 4 days of workshops (5 sessions per day, 30 minutes for kinders and 45 minutes for grades 1 and up). She will honor last year's cost: \$1800 +HST. (For the record, this year's rate would be \$2160)
- Educators are reviewing report cards, which will be released to families February 14th. While there are no interviews, educators welcome parents to reach out to them if they want to discuss their child's progress.
- Ms. Clarke is collecting outgrown pants in sizes from 4t to 14 youth for the emergency clothing supply. They can be in play condition. Easy to pull on and off (leggings, jogging pants, etc) are better than items like jeans with buttons but we will take anything.

Treasurer's Report - Paisley Fleming

Current Balance as of 3 Feb 2024: \$27, 337.53

Per statement dated 20 Jan 2024:

Closing Balance as of 20 Jan 2024: \$ 26,775.57

Outstanding cheques as of 6 Feb 2024: \$ 1,194.77

Cash on hand: Nil

Approximate balance available: **\$ 4, 150** (unassigned funds)

- \$992.16 was provided to staff for classroom supplies to date, leaving \$507.84 available in the allotted funds if any additional staff wishes to submit receipts.
- \$1800.00 has been added to promised funds as a placeholder for Love to Groove, amount will be adjusted once final total provided
- The yoga mats for the school wish list have been purchased completing everything on the list, for a total of \$1477.35 (includes amount of \$281.50 spent last year). There is \$265.89 still available.
- \$250.00 remains allotted for Butterfly garden, set aside last year
- \$200.00 is also allotted for lice treatment in case that's needed

Items for future planning:

- A new council Treasurer will be needed for next year

OSASC Report - Meaghan Mullen

OCASC Meeting – Jan 18, 2024 - RECAP

I attended the OCASC Meeting representing BCPS. Here are a few takeaways from that meeting.

1. OCASC Facebook group. There is a facebook group which allows members of OSDSB based school councils to collaborate and ask questions. Since the meeting, I have joined the group and have found a wealth of information on recent Pro Grant applications and other school council related topics. The facebook group name is – OCASC
2. The meeting is set up to allow a 20 minute forum each for elementary, intermediate and secondary school council members to discuss questions and highlight pressing concerns. During the elementary time, a discussion on traffic concerns and how other schools approached similar concerns was discussed. It was a great discussion and I found this could be really helpful in creating connections, highlighting effective strategies and alleviate some pain points that we may share with other schools.

3. Ottawa Childrens Festival – Three representatives from the Ottawa Childrens Festival were in attendance to present their event for possible field trips. <https://ottawachildrensfestival.ca/>
Here is some information I gathered from their presentation:
 - Festival runs May 10-14, 2024
 - The schedule has been better adapted to transportation struggles this year based on some feedback received from previous festivals
 - Caters to all ages of children
 - Cost per child single ticket show is \$12. Their headline event this year is a circus show. The cost for this show is \$14.
 - Chaperone tickets are free (1 chaperone per 10 children)
 - Board approval suggestion, linking back to the English, French or Arts curriculum
 - They are willing to present directly to the individual school council meetings
 - Performances are available in English and French
 - Performances are at two locations – Lebreton Flats and Arts Court
 - Organizers are planning to create some linked lesson plans to compliment the field trip
4. OCDSB Parent Conference – A parent presented their experience attending the 2023 OCDSB Parent Conference held in November 2023. This parent said it was a great experience and recommends others attend, if feasible. Main meeting has a keynote speaker and there are several breakout sessions that cover topics like AI technology and mental health. It's a great opportunity to create community connections and learn more about local non-profits and resources in the community.

Matters for Discussion

- ★ PRO Grant - Troy on behalf of Sandra
 - Sandra had a phone call with Mike from Lakeview last week to chat about the workshop in April. Here are their notes:
 - Date confirmed is April 16 (Tues). Time will be 6:30 - 8pm; Lakeview has EDP until 6pm
 - We have \$200 for refreshments
 - i. We should reach out to Freschco and Timmy's to ask for donations
 - We need to have people register so that we can ensure we have enough space. Lakeview gym only holds 210 people sitting.
 - i. We talked about a google form and Mike is going to look into how those work - do the answers go into a master list?
 - The registration form will let us know if any children will be coming so we can have volunteers and will let us know if we need translators.
 - For the form, we thought the following would be good to include: Name, School, Email, Child care needed (and number of children), Translation needed (in what language), Transportation needed.
 - Sandra will reach out to Bell High to ask for volunteers as well
 - Volunteers and translators provided (See next Matter for Discussion below)
- ★ MLO Amal and supporting the parent presentation in April - Elysa
 - Amal offering to be available. Amal can translate to other languages as well as reach out to other MLO

- Troy is looking into bus vouchers for families for families Amal serves (to be able to attend the PRO Grant workshop in April)
- ★ OSASC - Meaghan attended OSASC in January and will attend again this month. Her report follows the Treasurer's Report.
- ★ Movie Night -
 - Date May 10th
 - District has Guidelines
 - i. Sadhana and Elsa will look into this and keep us posted. ****NOTE****
Sadhana shared a document with council post-meeting.
 - ii. To be discussed further at next meeting
- ★ Book Fair Scheduled April 23rd-25th
 - Carole on it
 - Already planned
 - Volunteers needed
 - Some have already expressed interest

Announcements (next meeting)

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 5th 2024 - 6:30pm (In Person/Online)

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:06pm