

## OTTAWA-CARLETON ASSEMBLY OF SCHOOL COUNCILS

Meeting of Thursday, May 19, 2011  
Fisher Park PS Library

### ATTENDANCE:

#### Member schools

Adrienne Clarkson ES – Sanjiva  
Sondagar, Carrie Eaton  
Berrigan ES – Susan Klimchuk  
Bridlewood Community ES – Lynn  
Paterson  
Canterbury HS and SSC\* – Nadine  
Clarke  
Castlefrank ES – Brona Little  
Castor Valley ES – Heather Wilson  
Elgin Street PS – John Higgins  
Fallingbrook Comm. ES – Peter  
Kokkovas  
First Avenue PS – Kristen Underwood

Total Membership: 75

Glebe CI – Lillian Thomsen  
Glen Ogilvie PS – Christina McNiven  
Hilson Avenue PS – Bobby Chawla  
Manordale PS – Cathy Babyak  
Manotick PS – Michaela Stuart  
Merivale HS – Anne Teutsch  
Rideau HS – Chris Ellis  
Robert Bateman PS – Leona King  
Rockcliffe Park PS – Joel Berger  
Sawmill Creek ES – Gennifer Stainforth  
Sir Winston Churchill PS – Karen  
Desjardins  
South March PS – Chris Bridgen

### Guests and other persons in attendance:

Beth Doubt (SEAC), Juliet Hamilton (OCASC Recording Secretary), Paula Hall (OCDSB), Loren Klimchuk, Karen Uvanile, Chris MacLeod (Salamander Theatre)  
(\* SSC = OCASC Secondary Schools Committee)

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:10 p.m., Anne Teutsch in the chair.

### AGENDA: Approved with no changes:

Approval of Agenda  
Approval of Minutes of April 28, 2011  
Chair's Report  
Chalk-It-Up  
From Your Executive  
    Budget Group  
    PIC  
    Committee Rep Updates  
OCDSB Strategic Plan Update – Paula Hall  
Annual General Meeting (reported separately)

### MINUTES of April 28, 2011: Approved with one typo correction:

- Chalk-It-Up > Implementation of Full Day Kindergarten > Comments > Glebe CI > How to deal with subsidized daycare spaces has not been discussed.

### CHAIR'S REPORT – Anne Teutsch

- Everything will be covered in PIC report and AGM Chair's Report.

## **CHALK-IT-UP**

### **ARC Reviews (ARC = Accommodation Review Committee)**

First Avenue PS – Kristen Underwood ([kristen.underwood@gmail.com](mailto:kristen.underwood@gmail.com))

- School is involved in a review of space, not a formal ARC. Not sure why; want to hear what is good/bad about ARC.
  - Rideau HS – Was involved in the Rideau-Gloucester-Colonel By ARC. There is legislation and policy around an ARC that compels the Board to provide information they might otherwise not. However, you still need to work at getting the information you need, and there can be constraints imposed by the ARC as well.
  - Glebe CI (speaking as Business Services rep) – Full-day Kindergarten implementations are going to be more and more difficult, so you need to think about its impact.
  - Bridlewood Community ES – Kanata in an ARC process now. There are huge issues that need to be addressed.

### **Lunch Monitor Handbook**

Castor Valley ES – Heather Wilson ([wilsonheather@rogers.com](mailto:wilsonheather@rogers.com))

- Grade 6 students provide lunch monitoring for Grades 1-3. Wondering if anyone has created a handbook to give guidance to these students?
  - Glebe CI – Remember Alta Vista did after some issues occurred. Suggest you contact their rep.
  - Hilson Avenue PS – Sounds like a great idea; could cover issues such as food allergies.
    - CVES – Public Health nurse has been a wonderful resource.
  - Rockcliffe Park PS – There is a need for certain protocols to be spelled out – had an issue with a student choking in a portable.

### **Libraries Matter Report – P4E (People for Education)**

Castor Valley ES – Heather Wilson ([wilsonheather@rogers.com](mailto:wilsonheather@rogers.com))

- Has anyone had a chance to read the report? What was your reaction? Is very concerned about lack of resources – hear of other Boards doing amazing things with library technicians. Feel it's something we should be looking into.
  - Anne – Heard about it on the news, but only teacher-librarians were mentioned, not library techs. Need to read the report and see. But agree that it's something to look into.
  - Rockcliffe Park PS – Have a library tech. But since a teacher is required to supervise student volunteers, it means students can't help out in the library.
  - Berrigan ES – A library technician costs 1/3 the salary of a teacher-librarian, so with budget issues they may be funded for a teacher-librarian but get a library tech.
  - CVES – Tried to correlate library staffing with student achievement. Decisions like this seem so shortsighted. There also seem to be huge discrepancies across the province. The report is very depressing.

- Glebe CI – Read part of the report. If it is happening in our Board it hasn't come out yet. Need visioning exercise to consider what school libraries will look like in five years.
- Anne – Need to research what the situation is in our Board. Is there anyone interested in getting involved in this?
  - Positive responses from
    - Castlefrank ES – Brona Little
    - Berrigan ES – Susan Klimchuk
    - Rockcliffe Park PS – Joel Berger
    - Hilson Avenue PS – Bobby Chawla

### **Parent-run Kiss & Ride**

Robert Bateman PS – Leona King ([leoqb77@yahoo.ca](mailto:leoqb77@yahoo.ca))

- Has anyone had a successful parent-run Kiss & Ride? Previous principal ran it morning and afternoon, but new principal only willing to do so in afternoon and wants parents to handle the morning one. Right now it's chaos. Need someone with authority directing traffic.
  - No schools present indicated they had parent-run ones.
  - Berrigan ES – Does it involve staff helping kids out of cars – opening doors, undoing seatbelts, etc? A: Yes.
  - Anne – Let us know if you get something working.

### **School Supply List**

Glen Ogilvie PS – Christina McNiven ([christina@mcniven.ca](mailto:christina@mcniven.ca))

- School supply lists for 2011-2012 for Grades K-3 and 4-6 were sent to school principals this week. Principal showed it to council. Lists seem very minimal. Have other councils seen them?
  - Castor Valley ES – Saw it last week. Seems like there will be huge operational issues with the list. What happens when supplies run out?
  - Paula Hall – Have been dealing with the school supply lists for the last six months. Province warned us there would be new guidelines. Felt the lists were extreme and wondered whether those supplies were all the parents' responsibility. Trying to rationalize what parents supply (personal use items) and what the school supplies. All schools were surveyed, and a list of the common items compiled. Principals are being asked for comments. Memo that accompanied lists explained some of the details, but things are not finalized yet.
  - Anne – What's the next step?
  - Paula – Had a meeting this afternoon. Revising procedure, getting comments back, getting in contact with the Ministry for answers. There will be more communication, but not sure of the timing. Parents and councils can send questions to her ([paula.hall@ocdsb.ca](mailto:paula.hall@ocdsb.ca)) or Superintendent Jennifer Adams ([jennifer.adams@ocdsb.ca](mailto:jennifer.adams@ocdsb.ca)).
  - Sir Winston Churchill PS – Number of school supplies parents will actually need to buy depends on age of child and how much can be reused from previous years.

- Rockcliffe Park PS – Standardization is appealing. Dealing with Tools for Schools requires getting supply lists from teachers, which is very difficult. Good to have guidelines for basic needs.
- Robert Bateman PS – Have also used Tools for Schools, but there is always a need to buy extra supplies during the year. Council has decided to give teachers discretionary funds to top up whatever supplies they need. Have always provided money for school supplies for families unable to afford them.
- Rockcliffe Park PS – Council also provides teachers with discretionary funds.
- GOPS – Paula, what about field trip money? Can teachers still ask for it?  
A: Still uncertain, but presently understand that if it's an optional field trip not tied to assessment teachers can ask for money and the school is encouraged to pay for those with financial hardship.
- Anne – Paula, would it be possible to get a presentation on all this in the fall? A: Yes, everything should be settled by then. Procedure going for approval in June. The final copy was different from the draft, therefore it has taken longer to implement than had been hoped.
- Canterbury HS – After discussion on school fees and fundraising, then need a discussion on how province plans to provide the extra funding that schools were using that money for.
- Castor Valley ES – Are there new guidelines for fundraising yet? Paula: The draft version is available on the Ministry of Education website. Anticipate a final version in the fall of 2011, but can see from the draft version the direction they're going.

## **FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE**

### **Budget Group – Peter Kokkovas**

- Knew nothing about this when he got involved last year.
- Two basic conflicting needs – Boards are required by legislation to balance their budgets, but the province doesn't provide enough money. New accounting system will now require Boards to have a surplus.
- There is very little clarity available from the Ministry of Education. Flaws in the funding formula exist even after being pointed out by trustees.
- Goal of budget group is to summarize things for parents. Putting together a website has been much harder than expected. Want to provide a very broad overview that lets users drill down in any area of interest, with an easy option to email the Board and various levels of government on issues.
- New surplus requirement will create more issues. No guidelines have been provided on how to build a surplus. Important for parents and councils to ask the right questions.

### **PIC Update – Anne Teutsch**

- The Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) is still trying to recreate itself to meet the new Ministry guidelines which come into effect October 1. Need to create new bylaws.

- All PIC meetings are open to the public. Next meeting is Thursday May 20 at 11 a.m. at the Board Offices on Greenbank Road. Going to look at very early draft of bylaws, and the selection process for members.
- Rideau HS – Given the short timeline, will the draft bylaws be shown to councils? A: Not there yet.

**Business Services Committee – Lillian Thomsen**

- Meeting of May 11 included a discussion on the rollout of full day Kindergarten and the provision of before/after school daycare by third party providers. 150 people attended the meeting, which shows the great interest in this issue.
- Board staff in difficult position. The Ministry of Education hasn't thought through all the issues, such as consideration of siblings and ages.
- Asked question whether, if the Board takes over before/after school care, care will be available on school holidays, and if there will be equal access to daycare spots.
- People wondering whether Board-run program will have field-trips and extra activities such as the third party providers did. Subsidized spaces are also an issue, which is complicated in Ottawa by the fact that the city is involved in allocation but wasn't consulted early on.
- Consultation plan is available.
- June meeting will be a catch-up meeting to deal with issues sidelined by the focus on full day Kindergarten. Then committees take a break for the summer.
- Rockcliffe Park PS – One issue for third party providers is that current economic model is based on half day Kindergarten where staff could have full-day jobs. Won't exist any more.
- Will be issues around child/staff ratios and the qualifications of hired staff if Board takes over childcare.

**Diversity and Inclusivity Task Force – Chris Ellis**

- Guest speaker Heidi Langille of the Ottawa Inuit Children's Centre gave an overview of some of the challenges that parents and students from northern Canada face when they come to Ottawa.
- Diversity and Inclusivity Task Force was struck a few years ago to address equity issues. Has done that and is ready to fold itself into the Community Council on Ethnocultural Equity (CCEE), which itself was struck many years ago to address racism. Now recognize that there are many other ways people are discriminated against. Propose a rebranding as ACE – Advisory Committee on Equity.

**Education Committee – Susan Klimchuk**

- The co-chair of the Advisory Committee on the Arts (ACA) spoke in support of a motion by Trustee Shea to change the terms of reference for its members. Difficult to get good people, and presently members are limited to six consecutive terms. Want to be more fluid. Concern about finding new people, with new skills, specifically to meet recognized needs. Only point of contention was fear that removing limit removes requirement to bring in new blood. All parts of motion passed.

- Two information items were tabled: a report on changes to Kindergarten entry process; and a report on the impact of changes to French as a Second Language programs. Both are available on the Board's website.

#### **OCDSB Strategic Plan Update – Paula Hall**

- The OCDSB has developed a strategy map outlining the high-level general direction of the Board for the next four years. It gives a one-page overview of the vision, mission and key areas of focus for the district. The map and other information about the strategic plan, including how to give feedback, are available at <http://www.ocdsb.ca/Pages/SchoolfortheFuture.aspx>.
- The four main components are:
  - Vision 2015 – Intended to be an expression of where we want the organization to be at the end of the four year plan.
  - Objectives 2015 – Indicators that help to explain how we will know if we have achieved our vision at the end of the plan.
  - Mission – An expression of our values and a statement of the work that we will do to achieve the vision.
  - Four Key Priority Areas – The foundation of our mission statement, the four key priority areas are well-being, engagement, leadership and learning (W.E.L.L.).
- Still need to develop specifics on how to work on and achieve goals.
- Are looking for feedback from the community and all stakeholders on this framework. The timeline is nearing an end – hope to go to Board for approval in June.
- Please share this information with your councils.

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

- There will not be a meeting in June. Information on the meeting in September will be posted on the OCASC website and communicated via OCASC News. Thank you all for supporting OCASC this year, and have a good summer.

**Regular meeting adjourned** at 8:20 pm, followed by the Annual General Meeting.

Past minutes and more information about OCASC can be found at [www.ocasc.ca](http://www.ocasc.ca).