

**Minutes of the OCASC Secondary School Committee  
Thursday, May 13, 2010  
Fisher Park PS**

The objectives of the Secondary School Committee are to:

1. Increase parent knowledge of and involvement in secondary school education in Ottawa-Carleton;
2. Promote the development of school councils and parent associations to represent parents of students in each Ottawa-Carleton secondary school;
3. Sponsor and encourage research into and study of education issues and concerns in Ottawa-Carleton secondary schools;
4. Formulate recommendations regarding secondary school education in Ottawa-Carleton, and to assist in implementing such recommendations.

**Participants:**

Jean MacIsaac (Glebe), Janet Patch (Cairine Wilson), Christine Boothby (Bell), Anne Teutsch (Merivale and chairing the meeting), Kate Preston-Thomas (Lisgar), Susan Klimchuk (Education Committee Rep)

Guest Speaker: Dawn Paxton, Superintendent Learning Support Services, OCDSB

**Agenda covered at meeting:**

Introductions

Agenda and Minutes/Action items

Presentation: Special Education; a big picture perspective of the OCDSB framework for supporting student learning needs.

Chalk It Up – “What works well at your school?”

Reports: Education Committee

Trades and Technology

Elections

Other Business

**March Minutes:**

Change guest to Michel Giroux and check the list of participants.

Change all action items with the due date of 01 to 2010

Nadine to send out to group to check other items for corrections

**Chalk It Up**

February Meet the Teacher Night- how to make it more successful and get more people out.

Merivale’s Global Community Night this year.

Lisgar. It is a hit or miss in February. It is better in the fall. Option Sheet Fair is for the students only.

Cairine Wilson . Not sure

Bell. Do both the September and February session. Just started the rotational style this year.

**Presentation: Special Education; a big picture perspective of the OCDSB framework for supporting student learning needs.**

**Dawn Paxton, Superintendent Learning Support Services, OCDSB**

- Huge changes in education - should change as the world changes
- Changes for all students
- Ways of making students more engaged, rather than just listening to teacher
- Groups of subjects together
  - -science tech, engineering and math - put together, then in context
  - Future - project based work - number of different subjects involved
  - Glebe - course like that
- Facilities will change so that these projects can happen
- Will be a difference in the way language is taught - reading and communication, skype, videos, DVDs.
- Global - hooked into students from around the world
- 21st century learner work - critical thinking and problem solving, collaboration, communication, creative and innovation
- International group came together - what will we be expecting of our workers of the future
- Not enough time so far on critical thinking or creativity and innovation or being able to fail
- Will be easy to do individual time tables - so IEP's of today will be for everyone or none
  - Take some courses at grade 9 level other at 11 or university
  - Take courses when they have prerequisites
- You have skills at a certain level - some a grade 3 level others at grade 7 level
  - Timetable schools so that they can take what they need to take a whatever level they need to take
  
- Environmentalist working with a group of kids who are interested
- Cross curricular work - not much now
  - For example: second world war - talk about particular items but not bigger picture
    - How does bigger picture fit together
    - Some students will do more of science aspect, others something else
- Mentoring - businesses are interested in participating
- Why don't we let kids in HS take university level courses?
- Curriculum services is starting to look at cross curricular options
- What will happen to the very skilled, very bright kids?
- What will happen to the kids that don't venture out at all?

How does Spec Ed fit into this

- What are we doing for these students
- This year - students who cannot access Ontario curriculum at all
  - Profile for these kids - will follow them through school years
    - Date skills as they are achieved, follow progress on them
      - Ex. Riding the bus, independently ride it, take a train
    - School life skills
- Need to help parents understand guidelines for students

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- Ex. Blind student - 90% population unemployed
  - Can't see, not can't think!
  - Technology - bigger and different - changing so dramatically - kids are ahead and teachers are behind
  - Should be okay - computers can do Braille
  - Companies haven't thought about it
  - OCDSB students can now do all things
  - Helping students become more independent and find their place in society
- How to advocate on behalf of students
- Cannot tell students at end of year what they have achieved over year - pre and post testing
  - Not always academic; sometimes life skills
  - Accountability to do this
- Students stay to 21 years - then to world of work - need to help them get ready to work
- Revisions in Spec Ed over next ten years - skills of teachers will have to change dramatically
  - More than we have ever seen before
  - Not over summer but during the school year for teacher upgrades
- ELP - change the way schools look
  - Might see them attached to high schools
- Will see medical clinics in high schools
- Children's mental health - huge issue - coming into education
  - Dollars from health coming to education instead
  - Who is responsible - schools will be
- Dental
- Food at school
- Responsible to be aware of domestic violence
- Privacy - huge issue already
  - Parents not wanting school to intervene
- Need to be careful and respect regulations from other areas
- Schools as hubs
- 21st century learners - consultation coming forward this spring
  - Once trustees approve the document for consultation - invitation will go out to community
- Everything mentioned tonight is happening somewhere already
- Teachers are resistant to change - but need to move this agenda ahead
- How do we move this ahead if ministry still has curriculum requirements
  - How does evaluation go?
  - How do universities use it?
  - These are big concepts that will take a lot of time to move ahead - probably more than 10 years
    - Universities will need to move ahead - teaching training is terrible
- Future of schools - campus like - early grades, then middle grades, then high schools as pods almost
- How will it work with kids going on from high school to university - will they have what is necessary to get into the program of their choice?

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- How will we be able to afford it, since we have such financial issues already

### Books:

- 21st Century Skills - Bernie Trilling and Charles Fadel
- American School System - Diana Ravitch - Perseus Books [www.basicbooks.com](http://www.basicbooks.com)

### **Education Committee**

Number and Location of secondary gifted programs:

Motion by trustees on the recommendations:

Trustee Shea's motion to change from Lisgar to Gloucester failed. Trustee McKenzie's motion to drop section (d) which proposed adjusting the gifted boundaries carried 6 - 5.

### **Best Practices**

- Website - principal does weekly blog
  - Amazing website
- Leadership Camp - can do it every year - 250 kids
  - \$50 for weekend
- All kinds of exchanges (eg. Band) - teachers, resources, working together well
  - Minimal cost to students
- Strong LINK program - mentorship, etc.
  - Great for grade 9's
  - Credit course, teachers involved

**Next Meeting**

**September**  
**Fisher Park PS**

## Action Item Summary

ID	Actions	Assigned to	Date Raised mm.dd.yy	Target Date mm.dd.yy	Status
<b>ITEMS OPENED</b>					
A4	Send Link to the School Improvement Planning Handbook	Nadine	03.11.10		Done
A5	Send Link to the School Councils Handbook	Nadine	03.11.10		Done
A6	Send link to the updated Secondary School Gifted Program report (includes SEAC input)	Nadine	03.11.10		Done
A7	Check previous Secondary School Minutes for information about the math curriculum changes for grade 12	Nadine	03.11.10		
<b>ITEMS CLOSED</b>					
A2	Is there a policy, procedure, recommendation or decision on "Turn-Around Day" evaluation process for end of the semester exams	Nadine	02.11.10	Next meeting	Done
A3	Presentation on the new testing format for standardized math test, Grade 10 and Assessment of the test	Nadine	02.11.10	April or May meeting	Done
A1	Request/Ask for information or for volunteers from OCRI for one on one tutoring. Contact Lee-Ann Scott at <a href="mailto:lscott@ocri.ca">lscott@ocri.ca</a> or 613-828-6274 X247	All	09.10.09	Ongoing	Reminder
<b>CARRY-FORWARD actions</b>					
A1	Record locations and numbers of students enrolled in focus programs for secondary school (T&T completed)	Anne	09.11.08	11.13.08	Anne reported on the Trades and Technology. Will update after the SS Steering Team meeting
A3	What are schools doing to help students transition to post-secondary education. Consider school councils hosting sessions in which guidance counsellors	Nadine and Anne	09.11.08	11.13.08	Anne updated that the staff is interested but overloaded now. Follow up with timing later

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ID	Actions	Assigned to	Date Raised mm.dd.yy	Target Date mm.dd.yy	Status
	present options. Check and ask Board to consider preparing a booklet or web based outline for transitioning help				
A4	What is the Board position on students taking a 5 <sup>th</sup> year. What are the schools authority to allow or limit	Nadine and Anne	09.11.08	11.13.08	Answered than additional questions asked for clarification
A11 of 007-008	Check at the end of the SSC term to see if any change to Action # 6 on consultation	All SSC Reps	2007.10.11	2008.06.12	OUTSTANDING
A24 of 007-008	Action items 12 and 13: update SSC on gifted centres and mandate at SSPR. Define issues and decisions	Juliet	2008.03.06		uncertain
A06 of 007-008	Check whether consultation on program changes occur with their school council	SSC reps	2007.09.13	2007.10.11	Responses that the consultation varies across the board. Some councils are asked for input, some consultation and some no request.
A12 of 007-008	Form discussion group to focus on Secondary Gifted Centres issue.	Chairs	2007.12.13	asap	Revised
A13 of 007-008	Write, get email okays and send feedback on Secondary Gifted under SSPR mandate to Education Committee	Juliet?	2007.10.11	2008.01.22	Revised
<b>CLOSED ITEMS</b>					
A2	Record those exams which are board wide exams	Nadine and Anne	09.11.08	11.13.08	Sent 10.16.08 and again 11.13.08
A5	What options are there for students and parents to follow up the evaluation and final report for students (after the school year ends and summer starts)? What options to close the feedback loop for students at the end of the school year? Is there a Board process, policy or protocol?	Nadine and Anne	09.11.08	10.09.08	No policy or protocol
A6	What is the credit recovery option?	Nadine and Anne	09.11.08	10.09.08	Credit recovery, credit rescue and upgrading explained
A8 from A4	Can you be on school teams of you are in the 5 <sup>th</sup> year of secondary school? If you graduate after 4 years, how does your average calculated with the additional courses?	Nadine	10.09.08	11.13.08	Reported 11.13.08
A9	What new curriculum is expected	Nadine	10.09.08	11.13.08	Reported 11.13.08

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	next year which will require new textbooks? Who's going to pay; province or board?				
A11	What is the school policy on parents' choice of class timetable for siblings of the same age?	Nadine	10.09.08	11.13.08	Reported 11.13.08