

OCASC Assembly Meeting Minutes

Sharing Information • Facilitating Communication • Representing Our Membership

Date: December 15, 2011
Location: Fisher Park, 250 Holland Avenue
Time: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Carrie Eaton - Adrienne Clarkson ES (ACES)	Lillian Thomsen - Glebe CI
Sarah-Lynn MacDonald – Agincourt PS	Louise Crawford - Hawthorne PS
Ellen Dickson – Barrhaven PS	Bobby Chawla - Hilson Avenue PS
Riley Brockington – Bayview PS	Alex Ribeiro – Jack Donohue PS
Susan Klimchuk - Berrigan ES	David Bird – Jack Donohue PS
Vic Nishi - Canterbury HS	Susanne Bowen - John Young ES
Nadine Clarke - Canterbury HS	Mo Tait – Lakeview PS
Brona Little – Castlefrank ES	Cathy Babyak - Manordale PS
Chrystal Brown – Castor Valley ES	Chris Ellis - Queen Mary PS
Ellen Dickson – Cedarview MS	Cindy Burnside - Sawmill Creek ES
Raymonde Barbeau – Clifford Bowey PS	Chris Bridgen – South March PS
Romaine Derhak – Clifford Bowey PS	Enang Akan - Stephen Leacock PS
Craig Tiberi – Dunlop PS	Sharon Carruthers Joseph - Westwind
John Higgins - Elgin Street PS	
Chari Marple - First Avenue Public School	
Elisabeth McCudden - Forest Valley ES	

Total Attendance = 29

Acronyms used in notes:

- OCASC = Ottawa Carleton Assembly of School Councils
- SSC = OCASC secondary Schools Committee
- SEAC = *Special Education Advisory Committee*
- PIC = Parent Involvement Committee
- IPRC = *Individual Placement and Review Committee*
- EQAO = *Education Quality Assurance Office*
- OSN = Ontario Student Number
- PA Days = Professional Activity Days (formerly PD Days D= Development)
- ARC = Accommodation Review Committee

Meeting called to order: 7:08 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

- No changes, agenda approved as is

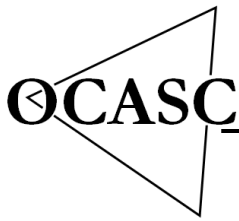
Approval of Minutes

- Typos to be passed on to secretary
- Minutes approved

Chalk It Up

Riley, Bayview – All Day Kindergarten

- Concerned about the roll-out of all-day Kindergarten in years 4 and 5 to schools that are full
- He has been asking questions since April with no answers yet
- Year 3 of all day Kindergarten will be Sept 2012
- Plans for year 4 are already receiving push-back from Ministry about the cost



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- By the time year 5 comes along (Sept 2014), likely there will be no budget left
- Superintendent of Facilities has recommended that parents and schools should be proactive
- Put all day Kindergarten on the council agenda, invite superintendent and trustee to meetings, get ahead of it.
- Jack Donohue – suggests getting in touch with Cathy Riggs of the Kanata North ARC about getting things done
- John Young – Kanata South ARC had major community consultation and involvement
- Elgin – Centretown had a recent ARC too, solution to build 11 new classrooms

Alex, Jack Donohue – Bullying

- Forming a No Parent Left Behind Committee, want communication and assistance from the school about bullying, all grades especially 6-8
- Parents want help dealing with it and advice from school, Principal has not been very open to it
- Elgin – they had a paid speaker on internet safety and cyber bullying
- Paula – Ottawa Police Service is looking to launch a program on cyber-bullying, social media and sexting. Details to come, possibly Feb.
- Castor Valley – parents there tried to start something similar, principal said not necessary
- Cedarview – kids are not supposed to on Facebook if younger than 13

Chrystal, Castor Valley – Smudge Fundaes

- Smudge Fundaes is a provider of anti-bullying programs
- Castor Valley would like some other schools to partner with them to bring “Bullies Be Gone” presentations, cost is \$700 each for three schools, \$650 for 4, \$600 for 5 or more
- Contact Jan Danby, jdانبymcdonald@hotmail.com
- www.smudgefundaes.com
- Jack Donohue – Western Ottawa Community Resource Centre does a similar program for free, contact Angela LaRusso

From Your Executive

Chair's Report – Carrie Eaton

- Thanks to all the committee reps, get your purple handbook from Carrie
- As of Nov. 30, new bill, Acceptance Schools Act

Education Committee – Chris Ellis

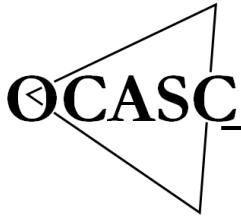
- See attached report from Chris

Calendar Committee – Suzanne

- No changes, last version is going forward
- It has been suggested that of the PA days next year, one be devoted to numeracy and one to mental health
- Barrhaven – is there a breakdown of what the PA days are for? Yes. It's on the calendar, on the OSCDB web site.

Business Services Committee – Lillian Thomsen

- Two reports released, 1) facilities, school by school; 2) provincial rating of bus transportation, OSTA rated moderate-poor. Reports on board's web site.
- Trustees don't have authority over bussing, it is an arm's length arrangement
- Jack Donohue – buses are being stopped between school and day care centres.



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- Bayview – can we get an update on the district-wide report on amalgamation of busing between boards?
- Sawmill Creek – public pays for buses, Catholic board does not
- Elgin St. – encourage parents to participate if consultations are held, it can make a difference
- SSC – inequity is long-standing

Guest Speaker – Darrin Hughson – E-Learning and Homework Help

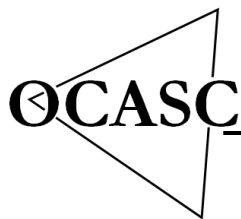
- Homework Help is a web site offering free tutoring for grades 7-10
- Available to every public board in Ontario
- Site contains demonstration videos, interactive tutorials, recorded lessons, and live tutors (qualified Ontario teachers) 5:30-9:30 pm Sun-Thurs
- Complete lessons available in case the student has missed school
- Student can save sessions in a virtual locker
- Main focus is on math right now, some other subjects available but not much yet
- Students can sign up from home, need OSN (from report card) and birth date
- Choose a user ID that is NOT their name, stay anonymous
- Berrigan – huge value from the fact that lessons are given by teachers who speak the same terminology as they do at school
- John Young – “blown away”, it’s like being in the future! She will give the information to the grade six teachers so they can encourage outgoing sixes to use it next year.
- Paula – send her the links, she will include it in her email

- E-learning – Ontario Education Resource Bank
- Great tool, especially for independent learners
- Safe, comfortable, can be a little overwhelming, explore a little and check it out first
- All the e-learning courses offered in Ontario are deconstructed and available
- Also – teachers can publish their own lessons too
- Curriculum material from grade 7 up, but teacher’s own material can be from any grade.

Next OCASC Meeting:

- Thursday, January 19, 7:00 – 9:00, Fisher Park School, 250 Holland
- Secondary Schools Committee – Thursday, February 9, 7:30 to 9:30, Fisher Park School, 250 Holland Avenue (no January meeting)

Adjournment: 8:47 p.m.



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Education Committee Report / Summary / Highlights, from Chris Ellis

1. Request for Additional Program Offering at Bell High School

Bell HS already offers two Latin and two Vocal Music courses. This request would add an additional course for both subjects. This would then make what is known as a course package and would have implications in regards to the transfer policy. Neighbouring schools principals had been consulted. This was passed by Committee members and will be moving forward to Board.

Link [Report 11-214, Request for Additional Program Offerings at Bell High School](#)

2. Consultation on Special Education Classes, Programs and Services for 2012-2013

This was to inform about a consultation on a number of changes to Special Education Programs.

Schools that are named in [Report 11-201, Consultation on Special Education Classes, Programs & Services for 2012-2013](#) Henry Munro Middle School, Glashan, Hawthorne, Trillium, and Ottawa Technical Secondary School.

Below are the proposed dates. Because of holidays and tight time lines if school councils wish to give input they will need to move on this.

b) Parents of students potentially affected by changes notified by mail on 16 December 2011.

c) Community Consultation will be held on 19 January 2012 at Confederation Education Centre from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and again from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

d) Information Report will be presented to SEAC on 25 January 2012.

e) Information Report with final system class decision will be presented to SEAC on 22 February 2012.

f) Information Report with final system class decision will be presented to Education Committee on 19 March 2012.

3. Trustee Kavanagh brought forward a motion to set up a pilot program for a non-academic credit for students who consistently do regular or daily physical activity outside of school hours. Much discussion around how this would work. It was deferred to allow staff to explore options for implementing the pilot and they will bring this back to the next Education Committee. There was general support for the initiative.

4. District staff going to be striking a Numeracy Committee. More details to follow.

5. Follow-Up regarding Instrumental Music at the Intermediate Level in Elementary Schools

This report included the result of survey which asked parents "Were it to be offered, would your child be interested in taking an instrumental band music program at his/her school in grade 7 and 8?" It also states that 44 of 50 intermediate schools use the band format to deliver the music curriculum. There was discussion around funding challenges and sustainability issues. Board allocated money to invest in instruments. School fees not able to cover some of these costs. Staff commented that purchase of instruments from school council raised funds was possible.

Full reports can be found using the link [Education Committee meeting December 13, 2011](#)
<http://www.ocdsb.ca/Lists/Board%20Meeting%20Calendar/DispForm.aspx?ID=281>

If you have any questions please contact Chris Ellis using the email address education@ocasc.ca