OCASC Assembly Meeting Minutes

Sharing Information ● **Facilitating Communication** ● **Representing Our Membership**

Date: April 17, 2014
Location: Fisher Park School, 250 Holland Avenue, Library
Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Total Attendance (43)

Member Schools (Total member schools in attendance 36/66 =55%, 38 school reps)

Adrienne Clarkson ES-Marti Falcone (Co-Chair)
Agincourt Road PS-Trish Rossiter/Jonathan
Barrhaven PS-Amy Lajoie
Berrigan ES-Susan Klimchuk (Co-Chair)
Briargreen PS-JP (Jean Paul) Larochette
Bridlewood Community ES-Stacy Krahn
Castor Valley ES-Alka Moorjani
Cedarview MS-Ellen Dickson (Treasurer)
D Roy Kennedy-Helen Quaresma
Elmdale PS-Patti Black
Emily Carr MS-Robert Hawgood
Farley Mowat PS-Mostafizur Khan
Glen Ogilvie PS-Joel MacKinnon
Hawthorne PS-Louise Crawford
Hilson Avenue PS-Barbara Bekooy
Hopewell Avenue PS-Karen Goodrich
Huntley Centennial PS-Mark Tymowski
Jockvale ES-Cindy Frazer
John Young ES-Mike Hickey

Katimavik ES-Teri MacDonald
Lakeview PS-Tracy Neufeld (Secretary), Melissa Lebel, Carrie Ross
Longfields-Davidson Heights SS-Susan Klimchuk
Manordale PS-Cathy Babyak (Membership)
Manotick PS-Sheri Edwards
Meadowlands PS-Loma Moharam
Mutchmor PS-Milana Karaganis
Riverview AS-Amelia Usher
Robert Bateman PS-Kate Teeple
Roberta Bondar PS-Kelly Dubinsky
Roch Carrier ES-Shannon Walker
Rockcliffe Park PS-Anna Zyzniewski
South March PS-Chris Bridgen
Steve MacLean PS-Thayumanavan (Raja) Rasapillai
Stonecrest ES-Jen Muise
Trillium ES-JP Grimes
Westwind PS-Carolyn James

Non-Member schools (2)
Alta Vista PS-Catherine Griffin-Papin
Clifford Bowey PS-Romaine Derhak

Guests (3)
Superintendent Stephen Sliwa, Business & Learning Technologies Manager, David Miller and Andrew Parent, Secondary Information Communication Technology (ICT) Consultant

Meeting called to order: 7:05pm

1. Welcome

Susan Klimchuk welcomed all those in attendance.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented. It was noted that Chalk-it-Up would be held after the special guest presentation.

chair@ocasc.ca

Check out our website: **ocasc.ca**
Follow us on Twitter: **@OCASC_ca**
Friend us at: **www.facebook.com/ocasc**

Fisher Park School
250 Holland Avenue

3. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of March 20, 2014 were approved with one change: John McCrae SS was misspelled on page 2 and will be corrected in the final version.

4. Technology in Schools with OCDSB Business & Learnings Technologies

Tracy Neufeld welcomed and introduced Superintendent Stephen Sliwa, Manager Dave Miller and ICT Coach Andrew Parent (Secondary) of the OCDSB Business & Learning Technologies team. She thanked them for their efforts in creating a useful Q & A document in response to questions submitted by Assembly members in advance of the meeting. Tracy also thanked Assembly member Mark Tymowski for agreeing to speak about the School Council and parent experience with regard to the OCDSB technology pilot project currently underway at Huntley Centennial PS

The team presented aspects of the OCDSB Technology Plan, Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) and Google Apps for Education initiatives and participated in a discussion on current and future technology plans. They shared rates of connectivity across schools and noted there is always approximately a 1:1 ratio between number of students and number of devices in area high schools regardless of location, language, socio-economic status etc., and the need to be genuine in preparing students for the future. In addition, Mark Tymowski presented on the positive experience of Council and parents with the technology pilot at Huntley.

Comments, Questions and Answers:

Clifford Bowey PS: Concern that special education students are unable to bring their school-based equipment and tools home, so they are forced to use different tools at home – it's a disadvantage and inconsistent.
A: This is true but at the same time, it builds capacity for the reality after the student leaves the school system.

Jockvale ES: With BYOD, concern re security of expensive equipment e.g. IPAD and expectation on parents to provide.
A: In some cases teachers are able to lock up personal equipment while not in use; suggest having a dialogue with child's school and teacher. Important to note that with BYOD the equipment is intended for the child's use – not shared with other students or taken away to give to another student. Also some schools are beginning to offer tablets that can be signed out from the library during the day.

Trillium ES: Concern related to malware and safety and security of the network environment – kids and parents need education about exposure and risks.
A: Students are unable to access the OCDSB secure network with personal device; wireless internet is available but students must login and are being monitored and sites are restricted based on age of students in school. The OCDSB employs 5 Network engineers including a security engineer who is formerly of the Waterloo police department and highly experienced.

Manotick PS: Concerned about BYOD during the period of time before school and after school
A: The reality is kids are bringing the devices anyway (with or without permission) and more will bring as the prices drop and they are more accessible (wearables etc.) Suggest that Board and

chair@ocasc.ca

Check out our website: **ocasc.ca**
Follow us on Twitter: **@OCASC_ca**
Friend us at: **www.facebook.com/ocasc**

Fisher Park School
250 Holland Avenue

parents use BYOD as an opportunity to teach safe use of technology, to manage and coach our students to use the tools available appropriately and connect to the character education curriculum.

Westwind PS: Concern that we are putting the "cart before the horse" and wonder about any digital curriculum or formal education vs. "informing" parents and kids.
A: Good question – we are on a journey – need input on what digital health and wellness looks like at various levels in our current curriculum, including appropriate use policy. Intent is that the topic is infused within our system and not an add-on.

Mutchmor PS: Question about what comes next after the introduction of technology; e.g. how does this impact curriculum and goals and objectives (for example impact on learning traditional skills such as handwriting).
A: The idea is to use the technology to enable learning and success with the curriculum. The Toronto District School Board developed a digital curriculum and the OCDSB team is watching developments closely.

Rockliffe PS: Comment re: how fast the board is pushing technology into schools; concern about too much device time in elementary classrooms and wonder if we will look back and regret the speed of adoption.

Huntley Centennial PS: Mark Tymowski described the pilot project underway at Huntley Centennial PS involving the deployment of iPads, laptops and chrome books across grades. The devices are held by teachers (securely) and provided to students for classroom use. Have noticed increased in technology-oriented homework and been impressed by the skill development as well as move toward paperless environment. Feel that as a parent, need to educate yourself; principal has been including technology on agenda and encouraging questions at school council meetings; parents seem to be proud of how children are more technologically adept and noticing many benefits. With regard to concerns about cyber-bullying, a female student was being bullied but the situation was dealt with within a day or two since the technology allowed the parents to be able to provide proof and stop the behavior immediately.

Elmdale PS: Approximately 2 years ago when school began using Google Apps for Education, interested parents found inconsistencies with grade 3 students' use and acceptable use policy; noticed document sharing internal and external and there was no resolution to the situation – teachers and principal were not aware.
A: Stephen Sliwa provided contact information and asked for the member to contact him directly. Email addresses to include in the minutes are as follows:

Andrew Parent – Andrew.parent@ocdsb.ca
Dave Miller – dave.miller@ocdsb.ca
Stephen Sliwa – Stephen.sliwa@ocdsb.ca

5. **Chalk-It-Up**

   a) Roberta Bondar: Looking for experience with school admin staff positions (P+VP) moving frequently Admin and level of consultation with Council contact: kellydubinsky@hotmail.com

chair@ocasc.ca

Check out our website: **ocasc.ca**
Follow us on Twitter: **@OCASC_ca**
Friend us at: **www.facebook.com/ocasc**

Fisher Park School
250 Holland Avenue

b) Roch Carrier: All are welcome to drop items off at upcoming e-waste fundraiser May 3 from 9:00am-3:00pm.

c) Manotick PS: Question regarding school crossing guards, how to get reassessed in terms of crossing guards.

d) Robert Bateman: Revised draft policy of extended day policy is on the OCDSB website, contact Kate Teeple with questions or comments at kteeple@gmail.com

e) ACES: Created survey to parents, interested in hearing best practices in communicating back to parents?

Lakeview PS: Pleasant Park did a great presentation on survey at School Council Training Day, suggest contacting the rep.

f) Berrigan Community Garage Sale will be held May 10 from 7am-noon. There will be 30 tables and raffles etc. The address is 199 Berrigan Drive.

g) Westwind School – using Pro Grant funds to host a mental health speaker on Thurs May 1st – all are welcome.

6. OCASC Nominating Committee

Tracy Neufeld provided an update on the work of the Nominating Committee in advance of the OCASC AGM May 15th. Members of the Assembly were encouraged to consider running for the following posts:

- Chair
- Vice-Chair
- Treasurer
- Communications Officer
- Recording Secretary
- Membership Secretary
- Liaison Officers

Interested individuals should email the nominating committee (Tracy Neufeld, Mark Tymowski and Bev Naylor) at ocasc.agm@gmail.com.

7. Chair's Report and From Your Executive

The Chair's Report and From Your Executive items were tabled to the next meeting.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:51pm.

chair@ocasc.ca

Check out our website: **ocasc.ca**
Follow us on Twitter: **@OCASC_ca**
Friend us at: **www.facebook.com/ocasc**

Fisher Park School
250 Holland Avenue