



OCASC March 2018 Meeting Minutes

chair@ocasc.ca www.facebook.com/groups/ocasc/ <http://ocasc.ca>

133 Greenbank Road
K2H 6L3

Date: 22 March 2018
Location: Fisher Park School (Library), 250 Holland Avenue
Time: 7:00pm to 9:00 pm

Attendance

- Total attendance (30)
- Number of school reps attending (27)
- Total schools represented (36)

Member schools attending (11): total member schools (29) quorum (33%) = 10

Adrienne Clarkson Elementary School: Kristen MacIntosh
Alta Vista Public School: Nancy Dean (Membership Secretary)
Bayview Public School: Bonnie Oaks Charron
Bridlewood Community Elementary School: Shoshana Keller
Cedarview Middle School: Cindy Frazer
Glebe Collegiate Institute: Gerry Nera
Jockvale Elementary School: Phil McKee
John McCrae Secondary School: Lainie Taylor-Ryan
John Young Elementary School: Kim Hope
Mutchmor Public School: Lisa Greaves
Woodroffe High School: Karen Walker

Non-member Schools attending (16)

Bell High School: David McCormack
Briargreen Public School: Donna Owen
Elgin Street Public School: Malaka Hendela (Co-Chair)
Emily Carr Middle School: Robert Hawgood
Glashan Public School: Joan Jiang
Hopewell Avenue Public School: Alex Randall
Katimavik Elementary School: Ian Urbach
Lisgar Collegiate Institute: Robin Lim
Longfields-Davidson Heights Secondary School: Michael Nied
Mary Honeywell Elementary School: Martin Nieves
Rockcliffe Park Public School: Janelle Sauvageau
Sir Robert Borden High School: Dave Wright
South Carleton High School: Kiera Delegate
Steve MacLean Public School: Genevieve Heerte
Trillium Elementary School: JP Grimes

Guests and non-school reps (5)

Trustee: Lynn Scott; Arts Advisory Committee: Ingrid Dabringer; Community member: Rob Campbell; and Arts Express: Danelle McManus



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1. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Agenda: Approved as presented. Motion: Cedarview; Second: Longfield-Davidson Heights
February Minutes: Approved as presented. Motion: Rockcliffe; Second: Castlefrank

2. Ingrid Dabringer - Advisory Committee on the Arts

- Link to Presentation: <http://acaottawa.ca/ocasc-presentation-arts-recognition-awards-nominations-request-for-arts-reps-32018/>
- Request to have an Arts rep on each school council. A person who will advocate and promote the arts in the school.
- Arts Recognition Awards
 - Awards Goals
 - Promote the arts and reward dedication
 - Build a grassroots base to help with advocacy for the arts in education
 - Increase the use of the arts in public school education
 - Request that each school nominate at least one person.
 - Nomination deadline: Sunday May 5, 2018
 - Nomination form: <https://goo.gl/forms/vEapsG5aHI6dUtkf1>
 - Four teacher (two elementary/two secondary), four student, one life-time achievement, two volunteer, one administrative award
 - Can use a Facebook page or Instagram to provide support for nomination
 - Feedback is welcome on nomination process and documentation
 - One nomination per email address and anyone can nominate.
 - Can save application.
 - An event related to a nomination doesn't have to have happened yet
 - Teacher who integrates arts into everyday learning is something that a teacher could be nominated for. Teachers who organize events is another.
 - Juried selection of winners. Jury is made up of members of the community.

3. Danelle Smith, Arts Express - www.ArtsExpress.ca

- Provide various types of arts programming in the schools (elementary only). They are excited and passionate about what they do.
- A Social Enterprise, for profit. They hire people with an arts based background (some are teachers). Subsidize some programs.
- Arts programming offered:
 - Extracurricular programming (lunch time and after school programs)
 - Literacy Storytelling Series (offered during the school day)
 - Co-Curricular Workshops and Prescribed Learning Outcomes
 - Offered during the school day, often paid for by school councils
 - TSAM (Tackling Anxiety and Stress through Arts and Mindfulness)
 - Often paid with PRO grants
 - Day program for students, and evening event for parents
 - Can customize for the amount of PRO grant
 - Managing Meanness by Cultivating Kindness



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- Camps
 - Most are in Alta Vista area
- Most programs are for one or two classes of students. Programs are customized for school and budget.
- Some French options.
- 4. SEAC Update**
 - Last SEAC meeting was March 7th.
 - Section 23 Programs
 - Section 23 programs and services are therapeutic, educational programs provided to students in care and/or treatment, custody, and correctional facilities.
 - Tiered Interventions
 - Memo in response to a motion from Trustees and SEAC.
 - It is an evidence-based approach which increases the intensity of instructional supports in response to an individual student's rate and level of learning. The tiers refer to the degree of the intervention.
 - Gifted Advisory Group
 - Another meeting March 22. Some disagreement. Feeling that they all need to be onboard together. Committed to working together. Nothing concrete yet.
 - Department Update
 - Tuesday April 3 is Autism Awareness Day. Many events planned. Each school will receive Autism awareness kit.
 - No update on Consultation on transition to Geographic Model for Secondary Gifted.
- 5. School Council Banking**
 - [Report 18-032, Approval of a Consultation Plan on Recommended Changes to P.133.FIN, Management of School Council Funds](#)
 - Staff's position is that all school councils should be banking with the school. Not interested in consulting on other options.
 - CFO Carson maintained in his answers to questions at the March 20th COW meeting, that they had no intention of discussing other options (other than banking with the school) during consultation.
 - OCASC discussed school council banking at two OCASC meetings this school year. In the report there was no mitigation of concerns raised at previous OCASC meetings.
 - OCASC has not been asked to participate in the consultation, assumed that OCASC would participate.
 - OCASC has a spot for a four-minute delegation at the March 27th Board meeting. Deadline for four-minute delegations has passed. Can still speak for two minutes by signing up before the meeting. Board meeting is the final vote on proceeding with the consultation plan.
 - Questions/issues that were raised at the March 20th COW meeting:
 - Who will be consulted?
 - Additional work for staff
 - Timeframe for consultation



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- As proposed, August 2020 would be final date that councils would have to transition to banking with the school.
- The report lacks details on safeguards and which school staff would be handling banking activities.
- How will money be handled for events after school hours? Will school staff be around to handle the money?
- Does money go into school account or separate account?
 - It seems like a new bank account would be opened.
 - There would be a cheque requisition form to get a cheque, would have to be signed by principal and school council representative. Would have to fill out a form for deposits.
 - Requests for monthly reports and balances would have to go through the school.
- Board could have an open process for procuring bank services.
- There is less office staff now than 2013 (the last time school council banking was discussed).
- Rockcliffe Park PS—Had a fraud incident in 2012. After that they changed to bank with the school. At a later time, the principal said it was too much work and asked the school council to take the banking back. They no longer bank with the school.
- Other school councils have been asked to take banking back.
- At the COW meeting, CFO Carson was clear that the issue is about reputation risk.
- COW Vote—four Trustees in favour, three opposed, and four abstentions.
- OCASC wants to hear about any issues with Trustees harassing school council members.
- Leslie Park (a school of 120 kids)—Banked with the school after a fraud incident. The office administrator wanted to limit the school council to two cheques per year. Negotiated to one per month. Parents were fronting money to work around the cheque limitation.
- School Councils raise approximately \$8M per year.
- How can the board not consult with parents about this change?
- Does the board have to approve change? Yes
 - Recommendation from staff is not going to change.
 - Right now consultation plan will consult on implementation only.
 - At this point Trustees are being asked to approve the consultation plan.
 - Board could change consultation plan. Would require a motion at upcoming board meeting.
 - Approval would happen after consultation. Planned for COW on June 5 and Board on June 25. This is poor timing as school councils are winding down at this point.
- Final decisions are made at Board meetings. COW meetings are for discussion and debate. Same people at Board and COW meetings, except non-voting members are not present at Board meetings.
- Less than 30 schools bank with the board now.
- Will councils be forced to use Board's tendered list or acquisition cards? Leslie Park was restricted to Board approved list of vendors when they banked with the school.
- Some parents are unhappy with the proposed change and will walk away from school



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council fundraising.

- School councils may turn into School Associations. Board would have then have no oversight.
- Glebe is opposed. Views it as independence issue and wants to maintain its independence. Think that existing policy is strong enough.
- Consensus that OCASC has concerns about the process. OCASC is not being heard, not getting reasonable answers to questions.
- Concern about money that councils have already raised for projects (e.g. play structures).
- Why not incentivize schools to move to banking with schools?
- Apparently one Trustee discussed the possibility of distributing school council funds equitably to schools.
- Office staff change - how will the transitions be handled?
- Some councils have good relationships with principals. Some don't. Things change when principals/school councils change.
- Consultation plan is lacks details. The plan is to consult on implementation details, not on options for school council banking.
- Options:
 - Don't do consultation
 - If they go ahead with consultation, then re-frame the consultation. Consult on how to make school council banking work better. Consultation on a full range of options and over a longer period of time.
 - If consultation goes ahead, then clarify timelines and expectation of parties.
- OCASC and parents don't have to consult with the board on this issue. This is an option. If OCASC chooses not to participate in consultation, it may not matter since OCASC was given the opportunity.
- Two school councils (high schools) in favour if appropriate Service Level Agreements are in place to support council's needs.
- Another high school - No fundraising. All fundraising is done by students.
- Seems to be a different view from secondary and elementary schools.
- Have staff explored other options? CFO Carson said this is about optics. Want the board to look good in eyes of public. Not exploring other options.
- Maybe there isn't a one size fits all approach. Should be explored during consultation.
- Don't want resources used on more staff to handle money. The province isn't going to give the Board more money. Money would be better spent on supporting students.
- There is a problem with the process that got us to this point.
- Existing rules are not being enforced.
- Office staff (mostly women) are heart of the school and already overburdened and underpaid.
- Will school councils be charged a service fee for banking for the school?

Next meeting: Thursday, 19 April 2018