

# Ottawa Carleton Assembly of School Councils

## Meeting of November 20, 2008

Met at Board Office, following “volunteer appreciation” reception

### Members in Attendance

52 total

A. Lorne Cassidy ES – Kim Clausen	Agincourt Road PS – Norah Vollmer
Huntley Centennial PS – Dianne Bramble	Bell HS- Juliet Hamilton
North Gower/Marlborough PS – Sandra Acacia	Bells Corners PS – Laurie Matthews
Rideau Valley MS – Sue Carswell	Alta Vista PS – Lillian Thomsen
South Carleton HS – Sue Carswell, Elaine Morgan	Canterbury HS – Robert Weist, Dine Bachett, Nadine Clarke,
Stittsville PS – Rhonda Drakes-Blais	Manor Park – Kathy Bell
Stonecrest ES- Philip Matthews	Pleasant Park PS – Nancy Schenk, Heather McAfee
Bridlewood Community ES – Anne Bowes	Adrienne Clarkeson ES – Lisa Bloom
Castlefrank ES – Richard Perkins	Castor Valley ES – Laurel Perry-Haph, Natasha Rebb-Burrows, Heather Wilson, Ginny Steele
Glen Cairn PS Mike Hickey	Sawmill Creak ES – Cindy Burnside
Jack Donohue PS- Alex Ribeiro	Steve MacLean PS – Lara Malashenko
John Young – Patricia Sand, Gwen Foss	Fallingbrook Community ES – Irene Lupin
Katimavik ES – Nihan Kavaslar, Lisa Jol	Trillium ES – Tammy Martin
Roch Carrier ES – Anne Bowes	Viscount Alexander PS – Michael Barnes, Rachael McKinley
Roland Michener PS – Sheila Smellie	Elmdale PS – Rob Frater
W.O. Mitchell ES – Brenda Verch	Hilson Ave PS – Tarin Richards
Barrhaven PS – Donna Blackburn	Lisgar C.I. – Stephen Wong, Kate Preston Thomas, Beth Doubt
Berrigan ES – Susan Klimchuk	Brookfield HS – Dr Paekash Naidu
Greenbank MS- Paula Shaver	Colonel By SS- Eileen Jessop
Knoxdale PS – Paula Shaver	Forest Valley ES – Janet Patch
Merivale HS – Anne Teutsch	Glen Ogilvie PS – Trina Whitehurst
Mary Honeywell ES – John Tucker	Gloucester HS – Donna Hughes
D. Roy Kennedy PS – Gloria Naylor, Terrena Bennett	Henry Larsen ES- Jodie Vanane
Severn Ave. PS- Joanne Newton	Henry Munro MS – Donna Hughes
Woodroffe PS – Maria Di Rosa	
Woodroffe HS – Chris King	

### Chalk It Up

1. Schools in Bloom  
Ginny Steele **Castor Valley** [vsteele@rogers.com](mailto:vsteele@rogers.com)

Her vision is for a flower bed for every school. Has been in contact with horticulturalist from NCC and asked for 20,000 tulip bulbs. Ed Lawrence offered to be honorary patron of this program. Need people on board before February to make it a successful program.

2. Assessment and Evaluation policy  
Elaine Morgan **South Carleton** [elainemorgan@rogers.com](mailto:elainemorgan@rogers.com)  
See board policies:  
[http://www.ocdsb.ca/PDF%20files/Policies\\_and\\_Procedures/Policies/P%20083%20CUR%20Stud%20Eval.pdf](http://www.ocdsb.ca/PDF%20files/Policies_and_Procedures/Policies/P%20083%20CUR%20Stud%20Eval.pdf)  
[http://www.ocdsb.ca/PDF%20files/Policies\\_and\\_Procedures/Procedures/PR%20584%20CUR%20Std%20eval%20sec.pdf](http://www.ocdsb.ca/PDF%20files/Policies_and_Procedures/Procedures/PR%20584%20CUR%20Std%20eval%20sec.pdf)  
Teachers can't give zeros for plagiarism or poor work or not handing in assignments. How do schools handle students not getting things handed in on time? Are other councils discussing this? Some parents are not hearing about mark problems until it is too late. Discussion on various strategies used by schools to help overcome possible problems with students not handing work in on time.
3. Hot lunches  
Philip Matthews **Stonecrest Public School** [philip\\_matthews@magma.ca](mailto:philip_matthews@magma.ca)  
What are schools doing to provide hot lunches? Stonecrest is currently doing pizzas. Do other schools contract out ordering and money collection?  
Many suggestions given – see the forums at see [www.ocasc.ca](http://www.ocasc.ca). “Mommy’s Yummies” an option: contact Andrei at [myfood@rogers.com](mailto:myfood@rogers.com), (613) 882-8739.
4. “SMART Board” interactive whiteboards  
Heather McAfee Nancy Schenk **Pleasant Park** [hmcafee0123@rogers.com](mailto:hmcafee0123@rogers.com)  
See <http://www2.smarttech.com/st/en-US/Products/SMART+Boards/>  
Questions about possible grants for or donations of this equipment, and how teachers could use them. School board may not offer tech support for this.
5. School crossing safety  
Heather McAfee **Pleasant Park** [hmcafee0123@rogers.com](mailto:hmcafee0123@rogers.com)  
Cannot use students as patrols due to safety concerns. Instead, contact the city:  
[http://www.ottawapolice.ca/en/serving\\_ottawa/support\\_units/traffic\\_complaints.cfm](http://www.ottawapolice.ca/en/serving_ottawa/support_units/traffic_complaints.cfm)
6. WHACK the Flu  
Michael Barnes [michael.barnes@sympatico.ca](mailto:michael.barnes@sympatico.ca)  
Children are the most efficient transmitters of the flu – this is a public health issue. We should teach children how to stay healthier and how to stop transmitting disease.  
The WHACK acronym is used for its appeal to children and stands for:  
W: Wash your hands often;  
H: Home is where you stay when you are sick;  
A: Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth;

C: Cover your coughs and sneezes;

K: Keep your distance from people who are coughing or sneezing.

## **From the Chair**

- Seeking volunteers for a budget task force - contact Anne Teutsch
- Seeking volunteers for OCASC membership secretary – contact Anne
  
- Trustee Getty’s “rescind” motion and special education motions were passed by the Board
- Seems to be consensus among OCASC volunteers that the Board needs an overarching policy on Spec Ed, and a need to maintain Trustees’ input on special education class locations – will follow up on this
  
- Insurance for school councils – deadline Nov. 28 see link on OCASC website
  
- Juliet Hamilton – co chair of secondary schools, now retired from OCASC – spearheaded the OCASC visioning process
  
- Beth Doubt – reminded people about the consultations going on for secondary gifted centre – contact [SGCReview@ocdsb.ca](mailto:SGCReview@ocdsb.ca). (note consultations on Dec. 9 and 11 about changes for the next school year)
  
- Susan Klimchuk – education committee meeting – some members expressed concerns about the Board’s transfer policy, but trustees defeated a motion to undertake consultations on this topic. Councils need to think about goals/values underlying transfer decisions as part of an effort to get a new policy for 2010-2011.

## **OCASC Committee Reps**

- OCASC committees list:
  - Advisory Committee on the Arts - Lillian Thomson, alt. Trina Whitehurst
  - Budget - Madeline Stewart, alt. Kate Preston-Thomas
  - Business Services - vacant
  - CAYARAC (Children And Youth At Risk Advisory Committee) - Donna Blackburn
  - CCEE (Community Council for Ethnocultural Equity) - vacant
  - Calendar Committee - vacant
  - Chairs Committee – Anne Teutsch, Carrie Eaton
  - Education - Susan Klimchuk
  - Human Resources – vacant
  - Parent Involvement Committee - Anne Teutsch, Carrie Eaton
  - SEAC – Beth Doubt, Joan Hill-Keast
  - Secondary School Program Review - Anne Teutsch

- Trades and Technology Steering Committee - Anne Teutsch

## **Guest Speakers**

- Trustee Lynn Scott – Chair of the Board
  - OCASC is a unique board-wide voice for schools across the district, and encourages collaborative board-wide decision making with parent involvement
  - Inputs directly into the board’s decision making process to share a collective view of school councils
  - Trustees pay attention to the concerns, but it is rare to satisfy all stakeholders
  - OCASC’s ideas are a “clearing house” for school councils – including day to day running of schools, fundraising, improving the quality of school life
  - Provides a pool of informed parents who can perform valuable “translation services” from “board speak” to “parent speak”
  - Leads to richer understanding of the district’s “jigsaw”
  - Trustees appreciate working together with OCASC for our kids
- Lyall Thompson – new Director of Education
  - Background: from Alberta, in education his entire career; was as a teacher (variety of grades, principal/vice-principal)
  - How he sees his role: the Board has strategic plan, his job is to implement it.
  - Emphasis on parental involvement: the more parents are involved, the greater the chances of student success; children will pick up your values and beliefs by what you do – not so much what you say
  - Offered to come to another meeting if there is sufficient interest.