

# OCASC Assembly Meeting Minutes

*Sharing Information • Facilitating Communication • Representing Our Membership*

**Date:** January 19, 2012  
**Location:** Fisher Park School, 250 Holland Avenue, Library  
**Time:** 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

**Attendance:**

Carrie Eaton - Adrienne Clarkson ES  
Sarah-Lynn MacDonald - Agincourt Road PS  
Susan Klimchuk - Berrigan ES  
Andrea Haas - Bridlewood Community ES  
Ellen Lamarre - Canterbury HS  
Joanna Rzewuski - Colonel By SS  
Craig Tiberi - Dunlop PS  
Donna Williams - Earl of March SS  
Megan Richardson - Elmdale PS  
Chari Marple - First Avenue Public School  
Lillian Thomsen - Glebe CI  
Paul Warner - Glen Cairn PS  
Rob Cosh - Glen Ogilvie PS  
Mona Pare - Hilson Avenue PS  
Cindy Frazer - Jockvale ES  
Susanne Bowen - John Young ES  
Susan Harvey - Katimavik ES  
Mo Tait - Lakeview PS  
Dwight Thompson - Longfields-Davidson Heights SS  
Cathy Babyak - Manordale PS  
Carm Janneteau - Manotick PS  
Kim Glass - Maple Ridge ES  
Bonnie Milne - Meadowlands PS

Anne Teutsch - Merivale HS  
Aaron Daley - North Gower-Marlborough PS  
Chris Ellis - Ottawa Tech SS, Rideau HS, Queen Mary PS  
Jocelyne Koepke - Riverview AS  
Joel Berger - Rockcliffe Park PS  
Karen Desjardins - Sir Winston Churchill PS  
Jared Langdon - Steve MacLean PS  
Enange Akan - Stephen Leacock PS  
Wayne Garnons-Williams - Stephen Leacock PS  
Tara Finlay - Woodroffe PS  
Beth Doubt - SEAC Rep, Woodroffe Ave PS  
Paula Marble - OCDSB  
Pascale Messier (Ottawa Public Health)  
Laurie Dojeji (Champlian Cardiovascular Prevention Network)

School Representatives in attendance = 34  
Schools Represented = 34  
Others in attendance = 3  
Total in attendance = 37

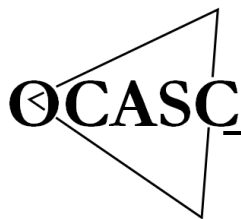
**Acronyms used in notes:**

- OCASC = Ottawa Carleton Assembly of School Councils
- SSC = OCASC secondary Schools Committee
- SPPC = Strategic Planning and Priorities Committee (an OCDSB standing committee)
- SEAC = Special Education Advisory Committee
- PIC = Parent Involvement Committee
- IEP = Individual Education Plan
- CHEO = Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario
- PPM 150 = Policy/Program Memorandum #150 (Ministry of Education memorandum on school food and beverage policy)

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

**Approval of Agenda**

- Agenda approved as is



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## Approval of Minutes of December 2011 meeting

- In Definitions: ARC = Accommodation Review Committee
- Minutes approved

## Chalk It Up:

### Beth Doubt, Special Education – IEP Presentation

- OCASC Special Education presentation on IEPs coming up
  - January 26 at 7:00 p.m. at Woodroffe High School
  - Woodroffe – near transitway near Lincoln Heights
- Steve Maclean - What percentage of students have an IEP?
  - A: Approximately 20% of students are considered Special education students; very complicated procedure for formally counting numbers
- Canterbury – what percentage of students with IEP require a spec. ed. trained teacher?
  - A: most delivered by teacher in regular classroom – approximately 70 to 80%
- Secretary's note: follow up from Beth after researching answers to questions from the floor – as of Oct, 2011, there were 12808 special education students in OCDSB, or approximately 17% of the students in the Board; there are 2366 seats available in specialized classes, with 2194 students leaving 172 vacancies; 83% of special education students are in the regular classroom.

### Paul, Glencairn – School Survey

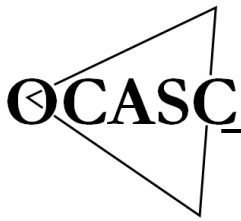
- Survey previously conducted among OCASC attendees about how school councils communicated, what time at council meetings was spent on, how many people attend meetings, etc. etc.
- There doesn't seem to be any correlation between answers from various schools
- Maple Ridge - Who did the survey go out to?
  - A: was distributed at OCASC meeting in November
- **Action Item – Carrie to distribute results from Paul to membership**

### Donna, Earl of March SS- One-issue meetings

- Parents at council meeting get stuck on one subject, eg. not happy with math classes/marks/etc.; how do other school councils deal with this?
- Glen Ogilvie – council devolved from very effective group to very ineffective, but is now back on track; turned out to be lack of understanding between groups; set up forum outside council to give people chance to say their piece; redefined role of council to the group; suggest focusing on role of school council; also suggest having time stamps on agenda items
- Glebe - suggest that the one issue be taken off line with a subcommittee possibly, and that groups work with admin and department heads if necessary

### Jared, Steve Maclean PS – 3 questions from council Fundraising Best Ideas

- Looking for best fundraising ideas
  - Lamontagne chocolates and other items, eg. jewelrey trinkets, etc. – good company to work with,
  - Woodroffe – Spring Fling each year
- How to measure success?
  - Woodroffe PS - look at community building, amount of money coming in, to measure success



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## Carrie, Adrienne Clarkson ES – Movie Nights

- Contact Info – chair@ocasc.ca
- Looking for advice on doing a movie night
  - One issue – parents leaving kids and using it as babysitting
  - Riverview – insurance and permission needs to be considered
  - John Young – would like to see information about movie nights on OCASC website
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## Chair's Report

### Chair – Carrie Eaton

- Website – previous web master no longer handling it for us; exec members looking after it now
  - Want to get more info on website of frequently brought up Chalk It Up items
- People for Education Survey is out now - due end of March; please check it out and bring it to your councils to do
- Full Day Kindergarten – there has been concern about funding for last years of roll out; looking for approval from membership to write a letter about concerns
  - Are people interested in having someone come to speak about the extended care programme for elementary programmes ?
    - Business Services Rep – will have lots to say about this
    - Will ask the question again after – yes there is interest, at end of meeting
- Beth Doubt is willing to be alternate rep for SEAC; Beth represents Woodroffe PS; Ratified by membership

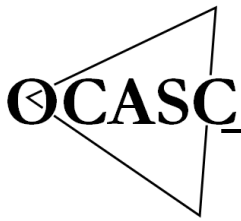
### OCDSB Liaison - Paul Marble

- Information sessions as part of partnership with CHEO –
  - Feb 6 – session is on ages 1 to 5 years
    - Breakout sessions with various specialists at these sessions – very good specific information
  - April 16 – about ages 9 to 13 – puberty, maturing, developing, friendships, etc.
  - [Paula.marble@ocdsb.ca](mailto:Paula.marble@ocdsb.ca)
- February 15 – session with Ottawa Police - sexting, cyberbullying, etc.
- February 16 – at Woodroffe HS with speaker Leonard Sax
  - his books include *Gender Matters*
  - will talk about Facebook and video games
- all sessions are free of charge; no need to pre-register
- if you have speakers coming to your school, let Paula know about it so she can send it out to people with her weekly e-mail

## From Your Executive

### Business Services – Lillian Thomsen

- motion brought forward last week to have one area be optional for Hillcrest and Canterbury – hope is to equalize numbers a bit between the two schools
- merger of Kars and Rideau Valley has been talked about for a while and is moving forward nicely
- motion brought forward by Mark Fisher calling for Early Learning Advisory Committee
  - this appears to be a complicated issue – regarding whether new advisory committees can be created by the Board of Trustees
- Q: North Gower–Marlborough – what is reluctance to form this committee?



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- A: Some trustees feel that trustee group has a tendency to micromanage staff

## Education Committee – Chris Ellis

- Meeting was cancelled because of the weather
- In April a motion was passed to have open ended discussions with public about how to enhance arts education in the OCDSB
- Imagination, innovation and creativity report – high level discussion that will inform how board moves forward in years to come – tied in to Board Improvement Plan
- Reports are available online on OCDSB website

## PIC – Anne Teutsch

- Jan meeting – only one person sent response to invitation for comments on the Bylaws; bylaws will be re-visited after approximately a year of operation to revise as appropriate;
  - Focus of meeting was on setting up rubric and flyer and invitation to parents to apply for position on the committee
- Feb meeting – finalizing the application, setting dates and preparing for new committee will be the focus of the Feb 2 meeting
- Q: will there be an application form?
- parents might want to know how members will be chosen
  - A: will bring this comment to February meeting

## **Continued after guest presentations**

### SPPC – Susan Klimchuk

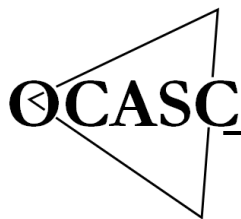
- Trustee Seward brought forward motion about transfer policy changes – wanting more transparency in how it is implemented
  - Wants to create an appendix with examples of actual situations where transfers have been approved
  - Alternate suggestion at meeting – parent guide – idea was liked by many trustees
  - Problem with appendix with examples is that each situation is unique with regards to the person, the leaving school, the receiving school – therefore could create a false hope or could dash hopes
  - Decision to create parent guide – faster to happen than policy change and can be ready for 2012 transfer application window
    - Will be available on Board website when it is completed
  - Sir Winston Churchill – if a transfer is applied for how much emphasis is on the student and how much is on other factors?
    - A: can't answer that question; each and every situation is different
  - Jockvale – for schools that are overfull, with portables, are parents aware that they can apply for a transfer to a less full school? Has OCDSB thought about letting parents know about this for those schools?
    - A: District likely does not want to promote this as a policy as it is not a good fit with the policy of community schools

### OCASC Finances – Carrie

- OCASC has money in the bank and we are looking for ideas of how it might be spent
- This is the start of a conversation, members are invited to think about it for discussion at a later time

## **Presentation – Healthy Schools – Pascale Messier and Laurie Dojeji**

- Guest speakers - Laurie from Champlain Declaration: Healthy Schools 2020 – housed at Heart Institute
  - Pascale – Ottawa Public Health

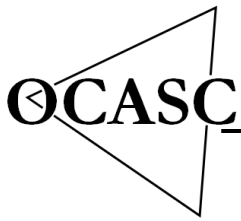


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- Want to share ideas with people about moving towards healthy schools (foods and activity) and complying with PPM 150
- Working collectively with 8 school boards
- Three focus areas currently – (i) Healthy catered lunches, (ii) healthy fundraising, (iii) healthy rewards in the classroom
- Want to provide parents with tips on how to help move forward
- Healthy school environment – what is it?
  - Eating healthy promotes good behaviour and better learning
  - If both healthy and non-healthy foods are provided, children need to make a choice, and usually choose the less healthy option
  - Ministry policies – no trans-fat policy, school food and beverage policy – PPM 150
- PPM 150
  - Applies to all food sold in school during entire school day
  - Does not apply to non-school rentals of school buildings during the evening
  - Policy applies to outside school hours if it is a school activity
  - Foods fall into “sell most”, “sell less” or “do not sell” categories
  - Online information is available to answer questions about food products
  - Guidelines are being prepared for teachers to help them bring the information into the classroom as part of the curriculum
  - Nutrition Resource Centre – through Ministry of Education website
    - Parents can speak to public health nurse connected to your school
  - Eat Right Ontario – excellent resource for nutrition advice – not just on PPM 150
  - Prior to PPM 150 – pizza was the number one sale at schools, then hotdogs, hamburgers, drinks, potato chips
  - Hot lunch program – keep in mind what to look for –
    - 3 of 4 food groups at each meal; for children, one should always be a milk product since children are growing and need the vitamin D and calcium
    - Keep food as wholesome as possible
    - Give children a chance to try foods in their natural state – eg. not deep fried
    - High sodium products – processed meats
    - Deep fried versus baked
    - Battered foods
    - Fruit drinks that are not 100% juice
    - Grain products – use whole grain as much as possible
- Healthy fundraising
  - Common sale items for fundraising – pizza, chocolates, barbecue items
  - We want to keep within the spirit of the policy and have a consistent message to children
  - Want to take the healthy message outside of the school and back to the home
  - Some outside the box ideas for fundraising
    - Bike-a-thon, dance-a-thon, bazaar, frozen berries
- Healthy Classroom rewards
  - There are many times when there is something special in the classroom, so they add up to many “one little treat”s; common food items are candy, chocolate and pizza



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- Alternatives include a special privilege, stickers, erasers, hacky sack ball, Frisbee, outdoor play time, gym activity
- Berrigan – what is “sell more” versus “sell less” etc.?
  - Each food group has items that are tagged as “sell most” or “sell less” or “do not sell”
    - 80% of food items sold must be in “sell most” categories
  - If five items are being sold, 4 must be “sell most” and one can be “sell less”
  - If one ingredient in the food item is “sell less” then the entire item is “sell less” eg. pizza with everything good except pepperoni
- If you choose food that is closer to what it looked like when it was grown, you are going to be on the right track
- Katimavik – high school kids just walk down the street to the store.
  - A: yes, but at least they are walking!
- Katimavik – who monitors it?
  - A: principals are supposed to monitor it, and school boards have signed off that they are compliant with the regulations
- Jockvale – this applies only for foods sold, not for items sent in with student, from home, correct? And there are 10 special food days?
  - A: correct, but parents are encouraged to follow the guidelines all the time; some school boards have not allowed the special days at all
- Elmdale – initially there was a lot of talk about exceptions and loop holes etc. We need to realize the rules are good and we need to change our way of thinking
  - A: trying to embrace the spirit of the policy not just the letter of it
- Quote: If you think you're too small to make a difference you've never been in bed with a mosquito!

## **Next OCASC Meeting:**

- Thursday February 16, 7:00 – 9:00, Fisher Park School, 250 Holland Avenue
- Secondary Schools – Thursday, February 9, 7:30 to 9:30, Fisher Park School, 250 Holland Avenue

**Adjournment:** 9:00 p.m.