

# OCASC Assembly Meeting Minutes

*Sharing Information • Facilitating Communication • Representing Our Membership*

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

**Attendance:**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Carrie Eaton - Adrienne Clarkson ES       | Carm Janneteau – Manotick PS               |
| Marti Falcone - Adrienne Clarkson ES      | Anne Teutsch - Merivale HS                 |
| Sarah-Lynn MacDonald - Agincourt Road PS  | Aaron Daley - North Gower-Marlborough PS   |
| Susan Klimchuk - Berrigan ES              | Lisa Hagedorn - Pleasant Park PS           |
| Andrea Haas - Bridlewood Community ES     | Chris Ellis - Rideau HS                    |
| Angelina Munaretto - Broadview PS         | Jocelyne Koepke – Riverview AS             |
| Ellen Lamarre - Canterbury HS             | Joel Berger - Rockcliffe Park PS           |
| Alka Moorjani - Castor Valley ES          | Gennifer Stainforth - Sawmill Creek ES     |
| Romaine Derhak - Clifford Bowey PS        | Chris Bridgen - South March PS             |
| Bjorn Rutten – Devonshire Community PS    | Jared Langdon - Steve MacLean PS           |
| Craig Tiberi - Dunlop PS                  | Brenda Verch - WO Mitchell ES              |
| Chari Marple - First Avenue Public School | Tara Finlay - Woodroffe PS                 |
| Paul Warner - Glen Cairn PS               |  |
| Rob Cosh - Glen Ogilvie PS                | Paula Marble - OCDSB                       |
| Louise Crawford - Hawthorne PS            | Nadine Clarke - Secondary School Committee |
| Mona Pare - Hilson Avenue PS              | Melanie Buchanan – OCDSB                   |
| David Bird – Jack Donohue PS              | Jessica Cunha – Metroland / EMC            |
| Brenda Verch - John Young ES              |  |
| Cathy Babyak - Manordale PS               |  |

Total Attendance = 34

**Acronyms used in notes:**

- OCASC = Ottawa Carleton Assembly of School Councils
- SSC = OCASC secondary Schools Committee
- CCEE = Community Council on Ethnocultural Equity
- SEAC = Special Education Advisory Committee
- PIC = Parent Involvement Committee
- IEP = Individual Education Plan
- SIP = School Improvement Plan
- IPRC = Individual Placement and Review Committee
- EQAO = Education Quality Assurance Office
- ECE – Early Childhood Educator
- DEC = Director’s Executive Council

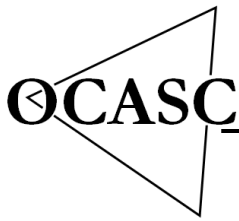
**Meeting called to order:** 7:06 p.m.

**Approval of Agenda**

- Add item 6b – Nominating Committee, in From your Executive
- Approved with change as above

**Approval of Minutes**

- Minutes approved with no changes



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## **Chalk It Up:**

### Sarah, Agincourt – All Natural Playground

- Contact Info – [sarahlynn30@hotmail.com](mailto:sarahlynn30@hotmail.com)
- Has anyone ever had an all natural playground?
- Agincourt is going to redo their playground in next three to five years
- Rockcliffe – Board has said no wood on playgrounds
- Hawthorne – all natural playground at Heron/Walkley – not a school
- Rockcliffe – will take longer than you think
- Devonshire has recently had a new playground installed
- Pleasant Park is also doing this, but is about 1 ½ years ahead, can share information

### Nadine, Canterbury – PRO Grant Presentation

- PRO Grant Presentation – May 8, 7 to 9 pm
  - Hot Jobs, Critical Skills
  - Info is on OCASC website and will be on OCDSB website

### Marti, Adrienne Clarkson – Restroom Issues

- Restroom breaks for classroom – children need a buddy to go during class time
  - Not allowed to leave classroom during nutrition break
  - Creates various problems for children
- Manotick – two students are allowed out at same time, but buddy system not required
- Hilson - teacher assigns buddy
- Woodroffe - teachers each set own policy
- Pleasant Park – would be interesting to know if parents prefer children to give up recess time or instructional time

### Andrea, Bridlewood – Online Pizza Forms

- Looking for person who brought it up once before – online pizza forms and Paypal payments, to get information from
  - Steve MacLean does online pizza forms and Paypal
  - Woodroffe uses Paypal

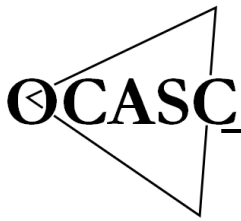
### Jessica, EMC Community Newspapers – School Council Fundraising

- Contact Info – [Jessica.cunha@metroland.com](mailto:Jessica.cunha@metroland.com)
- Looking for parents who are willing to talk about their experiences with fundraising – what they do, what for
- Looking across Eastern Ontario
- Will be comparing numbers

### Carm, Manotick – Financial Accountability for School Councils

- Clifford Bowey – treasurer's report at every meeting and audited every year
- South March - two signatures on cheques, monthly treasurer's report
- Paula, OCDSB – Board is trying to figure out best way to support school councils, to give them flexibility they need, but restrictions that protect everyone also
- Sawmill Creek – with volunteers, you get the willing, but not necessarily the able
  - Can OCASC or some other organization help with this

### Romaine, Clifford Bowie – Core Vocab Boards



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- Demonstration of vocab boards that are used by students at Clifford Bowie
- 85% of 104 students have no word skills
- Those who speak, those with limited speech skills, and those with no speech are all taught to use vocab boards
- Vocab boards are being converted to iPads and other computers
- Fundraising efforts – looking to raise \$30,000 for special room for students
  - Open House on May 7 from 9 am to noon
  - Bake sale on May 12 at Canadian Tire on Bank Street
  - Great Glebe Garage Sale

## Mona, Hilson – Outdoor Classroom

- Grant application for money for outdoor classroom
  - [www.majesta.com](http://www.majesta.com)
  - School has made it into the finals list, and needs to have lots of people voting on line for them
  - North Gower – perhaps be able to get publicity on CBC radio in the afternoon
  - Broadview – parents should go back to school councils to have parents at other schools vote
  - Competition is across Canada
  - Paula, OCDSB – will send it out with her weekly e-mail to 2000 people
  - Woodroffe – many schools are wanting to put in new playgrounds – we should all work together

## Paul, Glen Ogilvie – French Immersion in Kindergarten

- Why is kindergarten only 50% French when in grade 1 it is fully French?
- Info forthcoming on report from Full Day Kindergarten Committee

## Lisa, Pleasant Park – Teacher as acting Principal; communication from teacher to parent

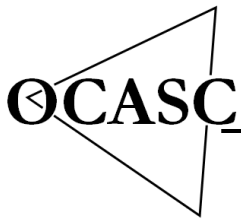
- Seems to be a lot less communication with home in grade 4 compared to grade 3
- Glen Cairne – teacher won't send assignments home, so parents never know the marks
- Teacher as acting principal – that teacher misses a lot of classes – how do schools handle it for the class

## Joel, Rockcliffe – Financial Situation

- April 10 public statement - approximately \$70,000 appears to be missing from the school council funds
- Message of learning to all – learn from Rockcliffe's experience – communicate well with parents, have two signatures on cheques, get everything in order when things are good
- Money was daycare fees, pizza payments, milk money, all going into and out of account
- Rideau – even photocopy of monthly bank account statement tells you how much money you have
- Canterbury – at a previous school, had two bank accounts for different activities
  - Accountability should shift from council up towards Ministry

## **Presentation – Aboriginal Self-Identification Policy – Melanie Buchanan, Principal of Leadership Development**

- Ottawa has highest Inuit population in world, next to Nunavut
- OCDSB runs a kindergarten programme at Ottawa Inuit Centre
- 21 schools in OCDSB who have Inuit children
- Do not know which schools have First Nations or Metis children
- Funding for Aboriginal education is from Ministry,
  - based on number of students as compared to other parts of Ontario



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- also based on number of students taking Aboriginal Studies course
- from each of 21 schools, had principal or VP, spec teacher and regular teacher at Ottawa Inuit Centre for PD on working with Inuit children
  - created teacher network for this group to share teaching ideas, to build capacity
- want to make sure textbooks are up to date and reflect aboriginals in Canada now, not in past
- intent to value the First Nations people in community and to meet their unique needs
- promoting cultural proficiency for teachers around working with First Nations children and communities
- for many children, mothers have committed suicide, children move from up north to Ottawa to live with a family
- children are coming from a culture where learning is kinesthetic
- statistics regarding high school graduation are very low for aboriginal children in Ottawa
- of 72 school boards in Ontario, OCDSB is one of only 4 that do not have an Aboriginal Self-Identification Policy in place
- currently in consultation phase on policy, after which it will go again to senior staff, committees and Board
- would like everyone to sign form to indicate they have been part of the consultation meeting
- If policy passes, in September would change registration for school so that aboriginal children can (through their parents) self-identify at the time of registration
- reporting will not identify individual students
- some aboriginal groups are in favour of the policy, others are against it – very controversial within the Aboriginal community
- this is not about supports for individual students, but support for programming for the group of students
- feedback can be sent in on an ongoing basis to [melanie.buchanan@ocdsb.ca](mailto:melanie.buchanan@ocdsb.ca)
- there is a link on OCDSB website to give feedback, but only until 4 pm on Friday, April 20
- Q – does policy need to pass to get funding for PD for teachers?
  - A: Ministry looks at census data for funding

## **Chair's Report**

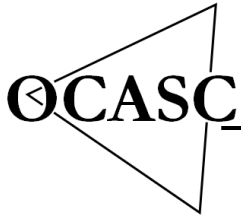
- Encourage people to send Paula information by Thursday at noon to go out on Friday with weekly e-mail
- School Council "How To" workshop – tentative date for a Saturday in October
  - Would be for everyone on school councils
  - Will be a collaborative project with OCDSB
  - Breakout groups, keynote speaker will be included
- Carrie and Anne are going to PIC Symposium in Toronto on Friday and Saturday

## **From Your Executive**

### Marti – Full Day Kindergarten Steering Committee – Marti Falconi

- Most recent meeting was April 11
- Motion passed at recent Board meeting to have an Advisory Committee
- Focus group will be formed on Full Day Kindergarten
- Let Marti know if you have anything that you want her to bring up at meetings
- OCDSB is looking to hire ECEs, especially French speaking ones
- Need to develop terms of reference for the Advisory Committee
- contact info - [Martifalconi@rogers.com](mailto:Martifalconi@rogers.com)

### PIC – Anne Teutsch



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- New committee was appointed at the meeting on April 17
- New committee will take over as of June 1

## Education Committee – Chris Ellis

- Report attached to minutes

## Nomination Committee

- Need three person committee to recruit people for executive
- Will run election at the AGM in May
- Chris Bridgen, South March has already agreed to be on the nominating committee
- Chris Ellis, Rideau has volunteered
- Craig Tiberi, Dunlop has volunteered
- Nominating Committee approved by Assembly

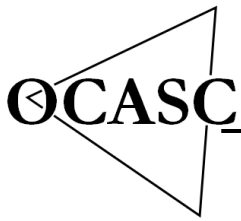
## Super Chalk It Up

- Since we have run out of time, we will cover questions at the next meeting

## Next OCASC Meetings:

- Thursday May 17, 7:00 – 9:00, Fisher Park School, 250 Holland
  - Will be Annual General Meeting
- Secondary Schools – Thursday, May 10, 7:30 to 9:30, Fisher Park School, 250 Holland Avenue

**Adjournment:** 9:05 p.m.



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Education Committee April 17, 2012 report to OCASC by Chris Ellis

[Michael Wilson, Co-Chair, Advisory Committee on the Arts re Roles of the Arts in OCDSB Strategic Plan](#) presented a report which contained the following recommendations.

1. The OCDSB should examine how effective opportunities in all of the arts, to all of our students, in all of our schools can be ensured.
2. The OCDSB should examine how best to ensure that all regular classroom teachers, Grades 1 – 6, can provide meaningful instruction in all of the arts or the arts as a whole.
3. The ACA recommends re-examination of how best to use the “networking” model and instructional coaches, in the provision of the most effective possible in-service education in the arts for all Grade 1 – 6 teachers.
4. The ACA recommends that all separate arts subjects, taught in Grades 7 – 12, are taught by OCT qualified teachers.

The full report is at

<http://www.ocdsb.ca/calendar/AGENDA%20DOCS/2012%20DOCS/APRIL%202012/Education%20Committee%2017%20April%202012/04a%20Delegation%20Wilson%20Advisory%20Committee%20on%20Arts.pdf>

[Report 12-076, Revisions to P.044.CUR Supervised Alternative Learning for Excused Pupils Committee \(SALEP\)](#)

SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING IS APPLICABLE TO STUDENTS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 14 AND 18. THE PURPOSE OF SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING IS TO PROVIDE PUPILS WHO HAVE SIGNIFICANT DIFFICULTIES WITH REGULAR ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL WITH AN ALTERNATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE AND INDIVIDUALIZED PLAN TO ENABLE THE PUPIL TO PROGRESS TOWARDS OBTAINING AN ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR ACHIEVING HIS OR HER OTHER EDUCATION AND LIFE GOALS.

## **Changes to P.044.GOV, – Supervised Alternative Learning for Excused Pupils (*Now SAL*)**

10. The proposed revisions to the policy reflect the new regulation, bringing our district to compliance. Also, the policy will establish the principles for the Board of Trustees to support student achievement, retention and graduation rates. Subsequently, the development of a procedure will provide specific direction and support for staff in implementing SAL programs and direction and support for the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee (SALC) on the requirements and processes of the committee.

Currently, the district’s committee for SALEP uses the process for a very limited number of students, approximately half a dozen per year.

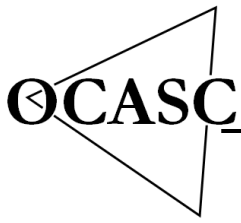
11. The key changes to the policy includes:

- Renaming the policy P.044CUR Supervised Alternative Learning. This change corresponds with the movement of the policy to the curriculum area.

A definitions section was added.

General policy principles about the Board of Trustees and District supporting student attendance, retention, and achievement.

A purpose statement about SAL which is linked to the success and well-being of the student.



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The updated requirements for the SAL referral and application process.

The reflection of the overall changes in the regulation including the new regulation number (374/10) and new terms such as Student Success lead, and Student Success teacher.

## [Recommendations of the OCDSB Special Education Policy Ad Hoc Committee](#)

A significant portion of the meeting was taken up reviewing this report. There were a number of questions directed to and answered by the authors of this report, Trustee Funicello, Trustee Campbell, and Trustee FitzGerald. Staff indicated that a response to the recommendations would be forthcoming. They will get back to trustees regarding when that report might be expected. This would be a significant policy change from the current special education policy if the recommendations are accepted. The report can be found at <http://www.ocdsb.ca/calendar/AGENDA%20DOCS/2012%20DOCS/APRIL%202012/Education%20Committee%2017%20April%202012/10%20Recommendations%20of%20SEPAHC.pdf>

## [Report 12-078, Update regarding English as a Second Language Initiatives in the OCDSB](#)

was a lengthy report but has some very interesting information on how the District is addressing the needs of students were in English as a second language. The report can be found at <http://www.ocdsb.ca/calendar/AGENDA%20DOCS/2012%20DOCS/APRIL%202012/Education%20Committee%2017%20April%202012/11%20Report%2012-078%20Update%20on%20ESL%20Initiatives%20in%20OCDSB.pdf>

## [Report 12-075, OCDSB Environmental Education Steering Committee Update](#)

Among other items the following are from this report

- OCDSB schools have participated in the following system-wide events in support of National/International Environmental Education initiatives, including: Waste Free lunch, Sweater Day, Walk to School Day, Water Bottle Free Day and Earth Hour. Additionally, our district continues to support the School Travel Planning program which has the goal of creating greater supports for students walking to school. The EESC has continued its support for the implementation of the provincial EcoSchools program. As a result of the support of both the Curriculum and EcoSchools sub-committees, our district has experienced an increase in participation in the EcoSchools certification process from 23 schools becoming certified in the Spring of 2011 (year one of the program) to a total 73 schools working towards certification this spring.

The report can be found at

<http://www.ocdsb.ca/calendar/AGENDA%20DOCS/2012%20DOCS/APRIL%202012/Education%20Committee%2017%20April%202012/12%20Report%2012-075%20Environmental%20Education.pdf>