



OCASC September 2019 Meeting Minutes

communications@ocasc.ca www.facebook.com/groups/ocasc/ <http://ocasc.ca> 133

Greenbank Road
Ottawa, ON
K2H 6L3

Date: 26 September 2019
Location: Fisher Park School (Library), 250 Holland Avenue
Time: 7:00pm to 9:00 pm

Attendance

- Total attendance (24)
- Number of school reps attending (31)
- Total schools represented (30)

Member schools attending (8): total member schools (8) quorum (33%) = 3

Broadview Avenue PS: Susana Matos
Brookfield HS: Dawn Williams
Farley Mowat PS: Marc Feliciano
Fielding Drive PS: Dawn Willams

Glashan PS: Claudia Ortiz
Lisa Greaves (Treasurer)
John Young ES: Aaron Driscoll (alt)
Manor Park PS: Safina Dewshi
Mary Honeywell ES: Natacha Sergerie

Non-member Schools attending (16)

Alta Vista PS: Nancy Dean (Membership)
Agincourt Road PS: Michelle Barry
Bayview PS: Rosy Young
(Recording Secretary)
Castlefrank ES: Crystal Blais
Elgin Street PS: Malaka Hendela (Co-Chair)
Elmdale PS: Caroline Hutton
Forest Valley ES: Michael Beeson
Glebe Cl: Corrina Vester
Henry Larsen ES: Melody Currie
Jockvale ES: Phil McKee

John McCrae SS: Wendy Firth
Lady Eveline Alt.: Michael Chan
Longfields-Davidson Heights SS: Lisa Brennan
Bharani Desai
Merivale High School: Zhong An
Mutchmor PS: Alexandria Sjoman
Severn Avenue PS: Mark Warriner
Sir Wilfrid Laurier SS: JP Grimes
Stonecrest ES: Patricia McKeage
South March: Christine Moulaison
Trillium ES: JP Grimes

Guests and non-school reps (1)

Engy Masieh (OCDSB Policy Analyst)

The Ottawa-Carleton Assembly of School Councils (OCASC) is an umbrella organization for school councils and parents in the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) to share information and facilitate communication within the OCDSB communities to enhance the education of all its students. Learn more here: <https://ocasc.ca/about-ocasc-2/about-ocasc/>



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1. Call to order

The Co-Chair (Christine Moulaison) called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm and welcomed members and guests.

2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Agenda: Approved as presented. Motion: Elmdale; Second: Lady Evelyn

May Minutes: Approved as presented. Motion: John Young; Second: Glashan

3. Discussion of Secondary School Committee Meetings

- Liaison Officer has not reached out to Secondary School reps yet. (Membership) Will get in touch with the Liaison Officer to ask about initiating the Secondary School Committee.
- Christine (Co-Chair) requested that all schools make interests known so that all representatives can get the full benefit of participating in OCASC.

4. Year Ahead Discussion and Round Table

- Muchmore: Online Security, Anti-Bullying, Advocacy role with the Ministry re. Consultations
- Henry Larsen: Red Cross offers Anti – Bullying workshops
- Woodroffe: Are menstrual products available to be distributed for free in schools? Ideas/Suggestions of sources for products (Muchmore will provide resources and suggestions from experience)
- Lady Evelyn: Suggestions for photo sharing app, lobby OCDSB to use/train staff on one app instead of multiple in use at same school
- Alta Vista: Parental engagement, best practices, tips. Board info on software suggestions for volunteer management, school cash online etc.
- Agincourt: IEPs, how they work, more info about the process, how to get the most out of them, how parents can help to have a better experience?
- Stonecrest: Follow up on knowledge sharing library on tab. Stonecrest has some material to support pilot for info sharing.
- Manor Park: Council transitions, issues w/ board and overcrowding council is a place to inform parents. Currently big issues about green space and conflict with neighbors. Recommended by John Young to talk to Trustee or Superintendent for support with conflict resolution.
- Muchmore: Would like Board to talk about teacher contract roll over and impacts.
- Henry Larsen: Having difficulty setting up Facebook page. Chair response: Councils directed to Board Council link on Website.
- Castlefrank: More info on IEPs please
- Alta Vista: Board to provide more info secondary school requirements for online learning. Types of courses, timeline for roll out, assistance with student schedule planning.
- Lady Evelyn: OCDSB to provide info on new direction for math instruction
- John Young: Info about funding for upkeep of play structures. Need SB direction



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on principles of what is Board v. Council funded.

- This was a broad discussion about what Board should pay for and what is the responsibility of the council fundraising.
- Muchmore: Treasurer and Money management conversation, tips, best practices
- Fielding Drive: Fundraising issues, income disparity in school community. Council not currently able to meet the needs of the gap in funding.
- **Chair Response (Malaka):** OCASC has had previous discussions, options include board driven pooling and redistribution, or pairing. Or, schools' partner for events, causes and campaigns to share resources and revenue. Also suggested that zone councils can meet with same trustee to work out plans. Major point that fundraisers for schools other than home school should be clearly communicated.
- Elmdale: Have an excess of funds, accept requests from other schools for support for specific projects.
- Rockcliffe Park: Also has funds to share, same process as Elmdale to request.

5. Upcoming events

- **Random Hacks of Kindness:** Ottawa – 25 to 27 October 2019
Random Hacks of Kindness is a hackathon for social good that brings together volunteer developers and tech-savvy do-gooders to work with charities, community groups and social enterprises. <https://rhok.ca/>
- **OCDSB 2019 Parent Conference and School Council Training Day**
Saturday, November 9th, 2019, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Longfields-Davidson Heights Secondary School, 149 Berrigan Dr, Nepean, ON K2J 5C6
All parents are welcome to join us for a day of learning and collaboration. Our keynote speaker is Dr. Laura Markham, founder of Aha! Parenting.
Further information, including details on workshops and registration, will be posted here shortly: https://ocdsb.ca/parent_services/parent_conference
- **Parent Involvement Committee (PIC)**
Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) supports, encourages and enhances parent engagement at the District level. PIC provides parents with the opportunity to voice their concerns, ideas, and challenges while promoting further parent involvement through events such as the OCDSB Speaker Series, annual Parent Conference, publications and more.
133 Greenbank Rd. the Wed before OCASC meetings, next meeting Oct. 16, 2019, all are welcome to bring voices of individual interests or of councils.

5a. Committee of the Whole (COW) Update:

- Trustees debate topics, Christine (co-chair) represents OCASC meetings held at 133 Greenbank also posted on YouTube. Individuals cannot ask questions. Delegations are registered at outset of the meeting. Can delegate on any topic that falls within the mandate of the board. Delegates have 2-4 min to present, OCASC can help to prepare.
- Sir Wilfrid Laurier: would like some education for council members on opportunity and process for delegation at COW.



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- Longfields: Request for COW topic, council consultations for board changes, school closures and relocations. Parent councils of current changes have not had notice for meetings or consultations (maybe 2 days)
- **Chair Response:** Board is mandated to support transitions through changes and relocations. Councils should ensure that they are balanced in transparency and advocacy. Councils represent whole school not particular interests.

5b. Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Update:

- Ottawa Catholic School Board students who have behavioural, communication, intellectual, physical, or multiple exceptionalities may require special education services or special education programs to enable them to attend school and to benefit fully from their school experience. Such students may be formally identified as exceptional pupils. The OCDSB's Special Education and Advisory Committee (SEAC) makes recommendations to the Board in respect of any matter affecting the establishment, development and delivery of special education programs and services for exceptional pupils.
- First meeting was 9 September 2019, they were working on special education plans and board resources for parents related to IEPs. Goal is to help parents to understand the process.
- OCASC SEAC rep is Manor Park OCASC rep (Safina Dewshi),
- **Vote for Alternate: Proposed Muchmore OCASC rep (Alexandria Sjoman)**
Motion: Merivale; Seconded Trillium, All in favour.

6. Other Business

Pro-Grants: Keep an eye on the Ministry of Education website for the launch or the grants for this year. These are to support parent engagement projects. Funds up to \$1500 per Council.

7. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm

Next meeting: Thursday, 17 October 2019