



OCASC January 2021 Meeting Minutes

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

133 Greenbank Road
Ottawa, ON
K2H 6L3

Date: January 21, 2021

Location: Zoom

Time: 7:00pm to 9:00 pm

Attendance :

Schools In Attendance : ()

OCASC Reps In Attendance: ()

Additional participants (Schools to be identified) ():

Guests and non-school reps ()

ATTENDANCE TO BE UPDATED

1. **Call to order** - Called to order by Nancy Dean (Ridgemont, Communications) 7:05PM

2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Move to approve agenda: Nancy (Ridgemont) Rosy (Bayview) Approval: Unanimous

Move to approve Minutes: Blake (Broadview), second Laura (OCV) Approval: Unanimous

3. Scientists in Schools- Carole Mothersill (PRESENTATION-See attached)

Q: How do the kits get delivered for virtual classes? A: Coordinated with teachers.

Q: Family night virtually 3000 participants? A: Contact Scientist in Schools— see if its possible, sounds fun to try

Q: What ages are programs designed for? A: K-8?

Q: How much is it for the family nights? Tailored to School community,

Comment: SPS only issue is central collection point. Very excellent program. Really high-quality program.

Q: Cost for one class? 220\$ A: Charity so no tax this is a subsidized price.

Q: Can it be via google meet? Instead of Teams? A: Yes whatever works best for school community

Q: More info where to find for clubs and parties? A: will be posted in chat

Q: Languages offered? A: English and French so far



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Q: Is there a chance for programs for older children? A: Planning has gone into the target age group, but will take question back re. HS learners

Q: Has Scientist in Schools approached the board to be a part of the PRO grant options?

A: Engy (OCDSB) will reach out to Carole to see if that can be coordinated

(Presentation will be sent to Nancy and it will be distributed to OCASC membership and participants along with Caroles contact information.)

4. From your executive (including COW, SEAC, PIC, EDP, Arts Advisory, Equity Advisory, Calendar Committee Updates)

Committee Of the Whole – Christine (South March) Main discussion was that the board is going to look at installing machines for menstrual products in both male and female washrooms. Discussion about environmentally friendly and cost effectiveness. Grades 4-12 teachers will give instruction on proper disposal of products.

Special Education Action Committee – Safina (Manor Park) Board will be providing learning support for students with special education needs. A package for all educators who have students who are exceptional within their classes to provide personalized and appropriate support. Resource will be evergreen, to continually update. Will be a soft launch in Feb 2021 for field testing, formal launch in Sept 2021. Will improve resources for all teachers. Only for teachers, parents won't see it.

Budget discussion- Learning Support Services regularly ask schools through Principals or Superintendents whether they have enough funding or support. Principals say to parents – this is all we have. Message is that Board has resources so need should be filtered up. Parents should continue to advocate if students are not receiving the needed support.

Parent Involvement Committee: Malaka (Elgin St, OCASC Co-Chair) 5 new parent members starting new 2-year terms. OCASC has 2 spots that we appoint people to on that committee. The others are appointed by the board. Based on outcome of the January meeting, most procedural items were resolved. At this meeting, there was a discussion about how representatives from OCASC are appointed for 2 or longer year terms. OCASC members are on equal footing to apply for Chair appointment process. Martyn (Stittsville) was the successful candidate for PIC Chair. Dianna Mills is the co-chair also really a strong Candidate. New participants are representing OCASC and communities who have not sat at the table before. It's an excellent renewal for the committee. The agenda planned for next meeting is based on the Board launched Human Rights review project from a cross board perspective the Board have approached OCASC.

We will have a discussion in February about the project. The attachments will be included



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with the Minutes from this meeting. (see attachments)

With the Parent Reaching Out grant money, the Board is setting up a centralized virtual Speaker Nights roster of potential speakers. Schools can either individually or in partnership apply to participate in the identified programs. Board is supporting the reporting requirements to help councils with the burden of reporting.

Martyn (Stittsville, PIC Co-Chair) Hoping to bring more involvement from parents in the PIC activities. Normal engagement has been through councils, but some schools don't have councils or parents are not engaged there. Martyn promised that future meetings will not all be based around bylaws and rules, those discussions will go to subcommittees. Martyn is still a rep for OCASC as well as the chair.

Suggestions: Nancy (Ridgemont) virtual engagement at the Parent Involvement Committee Meetings needs some attention. Participation as stands with Webinar feature, does not allow the parent guest to be part of the discussion (only through written chat). The ability to come and present a delegation at this meeting is not clear or easy to understand. Martyn will ensure this is taken to the committee. Engy (OCDSB) Webinars can include up to 350 participants. Decision was made that committee members will be the only participants to speak. Other participants can participate by chat? Martyn (SPS) will take question back about why this new format chosen? Formerly all participants could join in the table if required.

Malaka would like to blend the meetings a bit more. Inviting more of the parent committee members to attend the OCASC meetings too.

Extended Day Program report: Blake (Broadview) Meeting is next Wednesday so he will bring updates to next OCASC meeting. Blake sharing email in the chat for any questions they would like sent to the committee.

Arts Advisory Update: Nancy (Ridgemont, Chair of Arts Advisory Committee), more members always welcome. Meet once a month, listed on Board calendar. Looking at how arts are supported through the board, asking all council to have an Arts Representative and working on an arts roadmap, post pandemic. If any participants are interested in being a part of that reach out to Nancy at nancysolange@practicemakingart.ca please.

Equity Advisory Committee- OCASC does not currently have a representative on that committee so we don't have an update on that at the OCASC meeting regularly. (Volunteers would be appreciated if anyone is interested, speak with Malaka or Christine (OCASC Co-Chairs))



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Breakout sessions/ Group Discussion:

Safina (Manor Park) Safina recently spoke with Trustee Campbell, talking about equity boardwide. A policy discussion with OCASC, may gain support for how to bring this forward. An e.g. Councils fund items like readers that schools without councils wouldn't have. Malaka (Co-Chair) OCASC can reframe the user needs instead of a policy review. Start with clarification of Ministry Guidelines policy and plans first. We can do some fact finding through councils about what fundraising is supporting. Wendy and Justine are the two Trustees who focus on this issue. Malaka suggested a sub-table at OCASC to discuss this topic how to frame the problem and begin to approach a solution. Martyn, Christine, and Malaka will engage the trustees responsible for how to workplan this problem. Between the board, the ministry and councils, what can be fundraised for, what boards should be buying, what parents should be buying.

ACTION: OCASC will run a survey to ask councils about the fundraising and spending activities at different schools.

Nancy (Ridgemont) could run a special meeting of OCASC to comment on lived experience regarding funding and fundraising.

Membership/Secretary update Rosy (Bayview/Fielding PS) Attendance has been a challenge to track this year due to many zoom participants, either signing up and not attending or, leaving and returning so tracking is more complicated than in person. Attendance lists will be finalized shortly and will be complete from Sept to Feb.

Due to OCASC fees not being charged this year, many have not completed the membership form. It's important for the forms to be filled out by all participating schools so OCASC can have a current contact list.

ACTION: ALL councils to complete membership form if they have not already done so <https://forms.gle/bBmkCD2wFknSmnwW9>

There have been multiple requests for an OCASC contact list. The email addresses that we have for many participants are personal email addresses. The hope is that the use of the registration form will encourage the use of council email addresses and these can be used for a contact list. Participants can always reach out to one another through the Facebook Group.

Action: Rosemary will have A draft/ redacted/contact list will be shared at the Feb meeting and discussion can happen then about whether it can be shared or not based on the information that we have available for most councils. If councils need support using their council email addresses and web addresses OCASC can request a presentation at one of our meetings for a walk through.



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Nancy (Ridgemont, Communications) use of School Council Tab on school's website. Websites how to use, how to get info onto websites and tabs etc. May get a Board rep in for March meeting to help. Analytics report is also available.

To access the School Council pages you need to :

- Log out of any existing Google accounts
- Login to the Google account for example: sc-ridgemonths@ocdsb.ca
- Navigate to the [School Council page](#)
- Click on the Login link next to the Search box
- Select the "Sign in with Google" option.

For documentation on logging in and editing the website please see our training site at websitesupport@ocdsb.ca.

For support you can email website.support@ocdsb.ca

OCDSB Update – Engy (OCDSB) Human Rights presentation is in a draft form. Tools will be sent all together to PIC and can also be shared with OCASC as well. Malaka comment, OCASC won't be able to consult with councils in time for our next OCASC meeting. We want to make sure the discussion here will be valuable.

ACTION: Engy (OCDSB) shared some documents in to the chat. (See attached)

5. Suggestions for group discussions or break out groups or special in-depth meetings can be sent to communications@ocasc.ca or on Facebook group.
 - a. Secondary Schools
 - b. Fundraising
 - c. Other?

6. Adjournment of Meeting.....9:08pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, Feb 25, 2021

Membership: Please complete Membership form at <https://forms.gle/tgF8hDQHGymnjkc6>