



OCASC May 2021 Meeting Minutes

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

133 Greenbank Road
Ottawa, ON
K2H 6L3

Date: May 20, 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 ()

Engy OCDSB

ATTENDANCE TO BE UPDATED

1. Call to order

Call to order from Malaka Hendela (Elgin/Co-chair) 7:08

1. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Move to approve agenda: (Broadview), Second (Forest Valley)
Move to approve Minutes: (Henry Larsen), Second (Broadview)

2. From your executive (including COW, SEAC, PIC, and EDP Committee Updates)

Christine (South March/Co-chair) School has asked whether councils have support in place for major family emergencies. Multiple situations have come up at one school. Question – whether councils have done anything to support.

Family where mother passed away. School created Meal train – to support with food, food from red apron, membership to museum of civ and money came out of School council

Martyn (Stittsville PS) – Parent injured in bus crash, council sent a roster of meals

(Get chat – good suggestions)

Parent Involvement Committee: (Malaka): Last meeting of PIC is always well before the budget release. Work plan was adopted at the last meeting. Will post on OCASC Facebook page. How will councils get informed by the discussions at PIC, one key topic of interest is the de-streaming of math.

Topic council budget report, delegates raised issues about information being misleading about council budgets. The report misrepresents the holdings of schools. Finance staff is not interested in correcting it or adding context or additional information.



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Comment: OCASC could provide a report that would counter- balance the report that has been released.

Comment: Financial reports are provided to the board that include a lot of detail. They are provided to the board every year that include what money is raised for and what it is spent on. Some schools have capital holdings for a play structure or other large item over years.

Issue: Is that board can point to inequity to justify banning fundraising. OCASC could also request a change to the most common budget categories, which aren't represented properly on the existing budget templates.

Comment: If the information in the report is incorrect about the balance for your school, if the report goes to COW, there is an opportunity for parents to delegate to speak to that report.

Committee of the Whole Christine (South March/Co-Chair): Letter for boundary review, COW merged with Board meeting for a special meeting. One school has 55 students, single track school. Parents trying to bring EFI into the school to broaden the school. Devonshire close by is over capacity in EFI. Trustee was involved. Boundary reviews have been on hold with the Province for 6 years. Christine is requesting if OCASC wants to make a motion for OCASC to send a letter to request a review of the moratorium. Cambridge is the school.

Comment: This school serves very vulnerable populations. Serves a whole community, the school impacts the whole community. Request to share the article from the Citizen. Juliet Knapton (OCV) will look for it.

Comment: The virtual schools may have an impact on classroom crowding.

Comment: Board is currently reviewing school zones according to the new city zones. Boundary review and accommodation review are different and have different triggers.

Comment: Justine Bell is Trustee. She has had a challenge to move the review forward.

Question Would letter be from individuals or as school rep.? Motion would be for a group to draft a letter. Juliet volunteers to be a part of the drafting committee.

MOTION: We will undertake advocacy as a group which may take a variety of forms eg. letters/ social media to address the moratorium on boundary reviews.

Motion: (Glebe), Second (Henry Larsen), passed with unanimous consent.

Comment: Recommend 2 fold, letter, and also OCASC fb page or twitter to comment publicly. To allow voices to be heard.

Grants for student needs have come out. Budget process will start June 1st. Meeting will be public. OCASC is invited to sit at the table. OCASC can have a special meeting to discuss.

Mental health is a priority, delegations have spoken to COW re. mental health. 2019 1.6% of the board budget, 2020-21 board stayed with 1.6%. This year the Province has said that they will give more money for mental health. This means that services could run over the summer. It's a



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known issue, funding needs to be increased.

Money for parent engagement has also been a question regarding spending and allocations.

Environmental funding has also been a question regarding spending and allocations

Question: Should OCASC advocate for more funding to be dedicated to mental health services before June 1, 2021 the day of the COW budget meeting?

Now is the time to advocate for spending if we think its important. Do we want a special purpose meeting to discuss any advocacy on these topics?

Comment: Safina (Manor Park), very interested in that subgroup. **Subgroup Names in the chat.**

ACTION: Nancy (Ridgemont/Communications) will set up a meeting special purpose meeting after the budget has been released in order to review.

The meeting will follow this the last of our OCASC meetings. The meeting will follow the release of the budget on June 1st. The special meeting will follow June 3rd. June 8th is the delegation day.

Board may be reaching out to councils in Sept. because consultations may happen early in the school year before councils have formed.

ACTION: Please notify councils that consultation will be coming out early in the new school year.

Extended Day Program (EDP) Blake(Broadview): No Report

Question: Will EDP be running this summer?

Answer: As of today, it will be running, if people are interested, sign up right away and the board will work on staffing for the summer.

Special Education Accessibility Committee Safina (Manor Park): Did not make May's meeting, no minutes yet.

Arts Committee (AC) Nancy (Ridgemont) In the last couple of weeks, the school should have received arts funding, it needs to go towards things like supplies, material costs, an artist. OCDSB has 2 arts coaches to assist teachers with planning. Should be per student money. Some schools have a different funding formula. Depending on student need. "raised schools" Have a different formula. If reps can share amounts we could figure it out.

ACTION: check in with school about how much was received and what it has gone towards. Memo should have gone to principals. Principals are to discuss with arts leads in schools and talk to staff and can determine what it would be spent on. Please share with communications@ocasc.ca



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SPECIAL NOTE: Please submit council budgets to communications@ocasc.ca

5. New Business:

Juliet (OCV) Parents for Diversity session being run for OCV and enrollment has been really low.

Nancy (Ridgemont/Communications) Will post on the OCASC Facebook group to help to support enrollment. Topic is going to be addressed at PIC.

Janice Chamberlain(Alta Vista) : Major renovations will be happening at Alta Vista, any advice would be really helpful.

Juliet: (OCV) Ottawa Chinese language school is celebrating an anniversary, looking for resources to build a year book.

Juliet (OCV): Wants to recognize pleasant park parent volunteer Carolyn Kropp for more than a decade of time to volunteer service.

ADJOURNED 8:45PM by Malaka

Annual General Meeting

OCASC AGM is an entity in development. There are a limited number of Executive positions and an active bank account. Previous years OCASC has charged a membership fee, this year the fee was waived.

Malaka (Elgin/Co-Chair) requesting a non biased person to act as chair for the voting if it needs to happen.

Blake (Broadview) volunteered to run the election portion of the meeting: Passes unanimously.

Last years minutes: October minutes Move to Pass (Maple Ridge), Second (Forest Valley)

Presentations:

Christine: Great but challenging year. Malaka: Annual report is about accomplishments, thank you for coming and for being engaged. Growth in Facebook page. Getting to know each other differently. Ran a couple of special purpose nights. Strike and pandemic have caused a refocus.

Nancy: Communications

Rosy: Secretary, and Membership, Membership has gone up by 2 schools and meeting attendance has been steadily high through the transition to virtual meetings. Membership report presented. 30% of OCDSB schools are represented by OCASC.

Lisa: Treasurer not a lot of activity due to membership fees being waived this year. Current balance of funds: \$12,674. 58.



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Malaka (Elgin/Co-Chair) Last number of years we have operated in a co-chair mode. Need to build people into positions. Will do the slate as it stands but open to suggestions if people would like to offer for vice-chair, or to propose new positions.

Blake (Broadview): Calling the slate, starting with;

Co-Chair: Self nominated for co-chair Christine (South March) Passed unanimously

Co-Chair: Self nominated, Malaka (Elgin) Passed unanimously

Secretary: Recommendation from outgoing executive to look at options for minutes. Options are rotation, or zoom transcript.*

Secretary: Self nominated Nancy (Ridgemont) Running to coordinate note taking. Passed unanimously.

*Cynthia (Maple Ridge) volunteered to help with minutes.

Treasurer: Self nominated Lisa (Glebe) Passed unanimously

Membership: Self nominated Rosy (Bayview/Fielding) Passed unanimously

Communications: Recommendation from outgoing executive, to have a communications lead play a coordination role but to have sub groups for communication. Communications team would support activities like: Emailing all of membership, Facebook updates, support to co-chairs. Sharing minutes and agendas.*

Communications: Self Nominated Nancy (Ridgemont). Passed unanimously.

*Blake (Broadview), and Susan (Forest Valley) have offered to be a part of the comms team.

Additional Notes:

ACTION: Please submit school treasurer reports along with budget can help to get a picture to communications@ocasc.ca this will help to provide a picture of what councils are prioritizing. Goal is to consolidate and look for trends and gaps to support councils across the board.

Motion to close: Blake (Broadview)

Questions can be sent to communications@ocasc.ca or on Facebook group.

Adjournment of Meeting.....9:26 pm

Membership: Please complete form at <https://forms.gle/tgF8hDQHGymnjckc6>