

## **School Council Meeting**

**November 22,2017**

### **Bayridge Secondary School**

#### **School Council Meeting Minutes**

##### **1. Welcome by Patti & Kerry**

Confirmation of Oct 18<sup>th</sup> minutes: approval motioned by: Bill Visser; seconded: Kerry Fraser

##### **2. Student Council Report: Matt Fox**

On Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>, we hosted our first recognition assembly of the year. It was different than previous years due to the absence of Athletics as they were moved to the Pep Rally. The assembly was a fantastic success with many staff and students saying it was our most inclusive and entertaining assembly in years.

There's been a few house challenges this past month and the participation is really increasing from our first challenge. Some challenges that have been successful were the water bottle flip challenge at the assembly, the pumpkin carving contest, and our flag scavenger hunt.

On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, we had our first night time semi-formal event of the year. It was Paris themed and everything ran smoothly making it an extremely successful event. We are currently in the process of planning our event coming up on December 8th. We are thinking about doing some sort of game or movie night.

The Santa Claus Parade took place last Saturday. We had over 60 students and staff participate, including our concert band. We represented Bayridge well with amazing spirit and brought home the "Best School Float" trophy again.

The Ontario Student Survey was assigned to student council from Interschool Council. This survey came from the Ontario Student Trustees' Association to gain data that will be used to support student needs at provincial level.

A Board Coffee House will be taking place on Thursday, December 7th from 6-9pm at LCVI. There will ideally be 3 acts per school and it's a \$2.00 donation to get in.

On November 13th, we celebrated World Kindness Day. We ran a house challenge that day at lunch, where each grade had a chance to write how they can show kindness, while also giving out fruit kabobs.

Grad picture sessions are taking place from November 30th to December 8th. Appointments can be booked online.

##### **Athletics Council**

Intramural sports are off to a great start with different fun sports being played every week on Thursdays!

Female Fridays have been a hit with great participation. Girls have been encouraged to come out and get active Friday's at lunch!

Wellness Wednesdays is a new program promoting healthy living. Every morning at 7:50, activities are taking place such as yoga and healthy breakfasts!

### **Arts Council**

A Black and White themed photo gallery is taking place. Students can submit their black and white themed photos to [bssphotogallery@gmail.com](mailto:bssphotogallery@gmail.com)

The Annual holiday show will be taking place on Dec.22nd with a multicultural theme. Students will be able to perform by signing up in the main office.

### **Environmental Club**

Environmental Club has been working to add new recycling stations around the school and is currently almost complete. They are currently working to promote the proper use of the stations.

Due to the Environmental Club's successful I Give A Shirt initiative last year, they were awarded a \$1000 grant for their efforts. With this grant, a student wide vote is planned for this Thursday to help decide what it should help towards. The two options will be implementing a second Water Bottle station or revamping the Bayridge Garden.

In its early stages, Enviro Club is planning on a video to promote how climate change is affecting our world today.

### **Culinary**

Bayridge and LCVI are hosting a Multicultural Celebration Day on Wednesday December 6th at 5:00pm at Bayridge Secondary School. Students from all over will represent their regions to highlight their culture and share it with the school community

## **3. Treasurers Report – Bill Visser**

School Council Budget – 2017-2018 School Year:

Operating Account Income:

- PIC Grant \$500

Expenses:

- Graduation Award \$100
- Administrative Support \$100
- Parent Involvement activities \$300

waiting of \$500 grant money from the Board (was due last spring); report received  
Approval of budget motioned by Bill Visser; seconded Patti O'Brien

## **4. IEP's and supports for student with IEP's presentation by Claudine Elvidge**

IEP's are used to address formally or informally identified concerns with student's learning looking at cognitive ability vs. academic achievement. Accommodations are recommended to appropriately move toward equity in performance. Identification in high school is an advantage for post-secondary pursuits if accommodations are needed. IEP's are reviewed at IPRC's and are held once a year with Claudine, teachers, parents, and students being invited to participate.

Examples of accommodations considered include things like copies of the notes online, chunking assignments, checking in for understanding, extra time, quiet workspace, access to a computer (SEA), use of assistive technology (speech to text, text to speech, word prediction, organization tools, etc.). Accommodations can be instructional, environmental, or assessment.

Every child in LDSB has a Google account. Through this account, they have Google drive and have access to many extensions and apps that compliment and support the student's needs. For example, Google Read and Write is available to all students to support them with their learning. It is a tool for text to speech, has ability to highlight text, and group by colour, and speech to text.

For additional information, you can contact folks below:

Learning Program Support: Claudine Elvidge

Supports for all Grades Nancy O'Brien, Tanya Moore

Guidance Counsellor: Kendra Brennan

### **5. Teacher Report: presented by Alida French**

#### **Communications (Jess Farnell)**

In search of book donations!

Do you have a pile of books that are coated in dust that you are keen to get rid of? The Bayridge English and ESL classrooms will take them off your hands. We are looking for great books to help build our classroom libraries and supplement our current batch of books and the wonderful collection that our library harbours. We have been working hard to promote a culture of reading within our school and we feel that this is another important step to get books in the hands of our students.

If you have any young adult fiction, graphic novels, adult fiction or non-fiction books that you would like to donate – please drop them off to the main office at the school and write “BSS English” on the box or send the books with our students to school.

Thanks in advance for helping us to build our classroom libraries by upcycling some great reads!

#### **Phys Ed and Experiential Education (Shannon Niemi)**

Athletic Council has been organizing:

- Wellness Wednesdays before school (Yoga, Yoga, giving fruit kebobs to BSS students on their way into school) and meditation is coming up.
- Intramurals on Thursdays
- Female Fridays at lunch in the gym.

#### **Global Studies (Brenda Scarlett)**

The Global Studies Department continues with its offerings of guest speakers, field trips and awesome opportunities. The department welcomes back Ms. Kate Sparrow to the Grade 11/12

Fashion Design courses. We are also pleased to have teacher candidates: Nicole Binnington and Nissa Sills working in the department with Associate Teachers Greg Cusson and Mike Bullett.

Guest Speakers in the Grade 11 Law program include: Mr. Jason Gennaro from the Special Investigations Unit and Staff Sgt. Sean Bambrick from Kingston Police. These engaging presentations taught students about future careers in law and certain situations one might encounter working in this field. Thank you to teacher, Greg Cusson.

The Grade 11's working with infants and young children are visiting the Kindergarten classes at Bayridge Public School each Friday morning. The Grade 12's working with school-age children and adolescents class have been busy experiencing the real world of working with young children through doing a placement in a grade 3 classroom. These experiences are both practical and worthwhile to the students. Thank you to Mr. Dave Dwane for organizing this opportunity and to BPS teachers: Jen Anderson and Louise Topping for hosting the students.

The Grade 11/12 Fashion Design class is visiting Talize thrift store on Thurs. Nov 16th and learning about the second-hand fashion industry. Students will be touring the facility and discovering how thrift stores are helping divert clothing from landfills and as a result, reducing Canada's fashion footprint. Thank you to Kate Sparrow for planning this opportunity.

The Grade 12 World Issues class creatively organized the Annual Water Bottle Awareness Workshop for over 130 Grade 9 students on Friday, Sept 22nd. An engaging and informative workshop was delivered, and 110 students received their reusable water bottles. This is the first of several action projects the world issues will be doing thus emphasizing Bayridge's commitment to environmental stewardship.

Finally, the Grade 10 Civics classes have been extremely dedicated to the Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI). This is the 11th year that Bayridge has been accepted into this program and thus at the end of this year, \$55,000 will be donated to local social service charities in Kingston. All groups have finished researching their chosen charities and are now vying for a finalist spot to win their charity the \$5000 donation. The long-awaited class presentations are occurring within the next few weeks. Thank you to Mrs. French, Ms. Allmendinger, and Mr. Bullett and the students for being involved in this program. We look forward to hearing the results soon. YPI presentations this week.

Besides local citizenship projects, the Grade 9 Geography classes will be embarking upon learning about and fundraising for a development project in India. The classes are excited about helping communities help themselves.

Finally, on Friday, Nov 3rd, all Grade 9 and 10 students as well as the World Issues class attended a talk regarding the health of the world's oceans by Canadian Science Journalist and author of *Sea Sick*, Ms. Alanna Mitchell. The conversation was both engaging and thought-provoking – one which had students thinking about the future of the planet Earth. Mr. McLagan, in his thank you emphasized the possibility of enrolling in the Specialist High Skills Major Environmental program. We currently have a small number of grade 12 students participating in this program. Thank you to City of Kingston, Jenny Pedlar, LDSB Sustainable Coordinator, Dan Hendry and Teacher, Brenda Scarlett who made this event possible.

If you have any questions, would like to become involved in some of our initiatives, or be a guest speaker please contact Brenda Scarlett at 613 389-8932 or at [scarlettb@limestone.on.ca](mailto:scarlettb@limestone.on.ca) Grade 9 Geography classes have QPID (Queen's Project on International Development) in this week for a workshop on resource development and Grade 12 world issues has QPID in next week for a Social Media Take Action workshop.

## **6. Principal Report: Heather Highet**

Strategic Plan LDSB summary is available. [www.seeyourselfinlimestone.ca](http://www.seeyourselfinlimestone.ca) shares information and provides ability to share information and feedback.

Staffing Update: EA Sue Scott is retiring tomorrow 2017-11-23 and will be replaced by a new EA - Sabine Huber. Two teachers Ms. Brown and Ms. Koob have had several subs and should soon have consistency for both teacher replacements.

Newsletter came home with report cards – we'll pilot the cashless school online payment feature for the new website. Moving toward changes to allow parents to report absences online electronically.

Having parents correct contact info is important and if you haven't done so already, please call the office to provide updated information. To report absences – call 613-389-8932 ext. 326. Hoping new website is up and running soon! All our content is ready to upload...we just need the platform.

Stick to Twitter for current updates and information for now.

Teachers for semester 2 to students in January.

Exam schedule sent home with report cards and is on our website.

## **7. Bayridge Parent Speaker Series Update**

OPIOD awareness night is scheduled for Nov 27<sup>th</sup>

Angie Clark's Strategies for Student Success scheduled for January 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **8. Topics for future School Council Presentations:**

Lisa Delaney to provide assistive technology training at the February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting – bring a device and be prepared to sign in with your child's GAPP account. Note iPads are not able to be used as they don't support the Google platform. Checking to see if we can use the computer room for the meeting.

Other possible suggestions for presentations: KEYES employment, FOCUS programs (FOCUS carousel – all set up providing information and sign up for further information – February), Marijuana legalization and affects on the teenage brain

Jan 17<sup>th</sup> meeting tentatively to include a FOCUS and course selection process presentation (30 min)

## **9. Donna Banting – PIC meeting update**

Strategic Plan update – Supervising Principal Scot Gillam reviewed what has occurred so far on the Strategic Plan and played the video that supports the roll out plan. Questions were asked about numeracy and literacy and he assured everyone that numeracy and literacy are big parts of supporting the Pillars of the Strategic Plan.

Parent Engagement Budget – Scot shared the budget and explained the funds were used for the \$500 per school allotment to support parent engagement, to support parents attending parent engagement activities, and to support other engagement opportunities like our Parent Symposium planned for this Spring. Scot referenced that there is no Pro Grant for the PIC this year, so more of these funds will be used to support the Spring Symposium. The question was asked if schools

could apply for any left-over funding. Scot suggested that ideas could be shared with their local School Councils and Principals, and good ideas would be given due consideration.

□ The Grade 5 and 9 ActivPass is up and running. The schedule can be found at [www.kingstongetsactive.ca](http://www.kingstongetsactive.ca)

□ The KFL&A Region Healthy Kids Community Challenge will fund up \$500 per school to support the current theme “Choose to boost veggies and fruit” and your school board’s administrative procedure “Creating a Healthy School Nutrition Environment”.

Parent Symposium update – Scot let everyone know that Lynn Lyons has been booked for Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018. LDK will also provide a speaker and we are hopeful of a third partner to support some Math Learning. The Symposium will take place at a local secondary school and will feature keynote speakers, break out sessions and a community agency carousel.

Co-chair election – congratulations to Nicki Gowdy who was elected as Co-chair.

The discussion then centred around bringing this concern forward to the Board. After much debate, the motion decided upon was as follows:

We find the procedure of charging for school use by Parent Involvement Committee or School Council activities to be inequitable and contrary to the goal of parent involvement and we request it be revised to align with the 3 pillars.

The next meeting was confirmed for Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018

## **10. Other**

Parent council was represented at parent teacher night and went well.

Looking for PR person for parent newsletter to be sent in addition to agenda and minutes.

Discussed if a Parent Council Facebook page could be created and if it would be a good idea for communication of events, sharing of information, and for surveys. Minor media buy for geographical catchment area approx. \$50. Kerri to confirm prices and circulate info via email.

Ideas to bring more people in to council and how best to share information with parents.

Possibilities discussed included:

Jaime Swaine is working with a student to create an update for projection in Bear Pit.

Mail chimp email address shared on Google docs?

Sending out stay connect letter to go home monthly via email or FB with link for new website?

Bill suggested community bulletin boards and cable for advertising at no cost.

Mr. Swaine has set up feeder school visits teaching code. This has been an opportunity to promote positive community contact and promoting leadership doing outreach in community at feeder schools. Inviting schools in for math competition days would be similar in benefit to the community and to us.

Band is going to feeder schools to do music concerts before the holidays.

Mr. Alexander has Gr.7 and 8 classes coming in for cooking classes.

Cooking night with parents to be considered for March.

March break Italy 2019 up to 35-40 students on culinary tour just approved.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:20 pm

Next meeting dates: January 17<sup>th</sup>, February 28<sup>th</sup>, March 28<sup>th</sup>, April 25<sup>th</sup>, May 30<sup>th</sup>