

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

December 7 2021

ATTENDANCE

Melanie Darling – Vice-Chair
Amy Webb
Anne Marie McDonald - Principal
Alida French – Teacher Representative
Corrie Allingham
Chris Ecclestone – Chair
Michelle Vandermeer
Tracey Ecclestone – Secretary
Jordan Shurr
Shelley Morley

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

No additions were brought forward.

Motion to Approve Agenda – Tracey Ecclestone. Seconded by Melanie. Motion carried.
Agenda approved as to content with no modifications.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING November 2 2021

Motion to Approve Minutes of School Council Meeting November 2 2021 – Amy Webb.
Seconded by Alida French. Motion carried.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT – Alida French on Behalf of Wyatt Falcao and Emily Legge, Student Council Representatives

Next week is going to be a super exciting festive week, starting on Monday December 13 with Flannel Day – make sure to wear your coziest flannel. Tuesday is Bring Anything But a Backpack Day – instead of a backpack, carry your school stuff in anything that will hold it: a suitcase, laundry basket, wagon, stock pot, guitar case...get creative! Next is a perennial favourite – PJ Day. Thursday is Festive Sweater Day, so

show off your holiday sweaters. And finally, we finish the week with Frosty Friday – wear a festive holiday outfit or blue and white.

Assembly Part 2 Video shown last Friday – celebration and recognition of all the great things going on at BSS.

Blorange Day November 19.

Student-led Initiatives

Teddy Bear Campaign at Kingston General Hospital
#Fillthehouse and #warmthhomeless (various local charities). We are collecting donations of warm clothing. There will be a collection box set up in the front foyer and students can also bring their warm clothing donations to their home rooms.
Donations for temperature-controlling blankets (KGH NICU), postcards for seniors (KCHC)

Check out our Student Council Instagram account to stay up to date on initiatives.

TEACHER'S REPORT – Alida French

Almost \$400.00 donated to Terry Fox from our school Terry Fox Run – Shannon Niemi.

The BSS Computer Specialist Program is done running the Beaver Computing Contest for both elementary schools around Kingston AND for Bayridge SS grades 9/10s too. We ran contests at Bayridge Public School, Truedell Public School, Lancaster Drive Public School, R.G. Sinclair Public School, Cataraqui Woods Public School, Calvin Park Public School and J.R. Henderson P.S. Now, we look to start some new clubs in our school including Minecraft Club, Virtual Battle Bots Club, Cybersecurity Team, Broadcasting Club (to live stream the gym) and hopefully soon a formalized partnership with Queen's University that will include things like a Young Women in Technology Club lead by people from Queen's, and more to come! Submitted by Jon Swaine.

Update From The Math Department

We have about 40 students competing at the Senior Math League on Friday, December 10. Our mathletes have been preparing for their first competition in two years at lunchtime practices run in cafeteria twice a week throughout November and December. Submitted by Jaime Swaine.

Livestreaming of BSS gym sports starting tonight! Link here:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0Pdy90RmqjNzomh4_02u7A

Second sports season underway – girls volleyball, boys basketball, girls and boys hockey, etc.

Lots of clubs on the go – lunch and after-school meetings (check morning announcements for details!)

Intramurals take place at lunch for students looking to be active inside on their lunch hour (today was BUMP!)

Italy trip 2023 is filling up – only one spot left!

Athletic Council is running wellness activities until Winter Break

EcoTeam is selling ecofriendly wrapping paper, bags and reusable metal straws at lunch in front of the main office!

Jack.org (positive mental health) chapter starting at BSS

Virtual Holiday Show preparations underway.

Tuesday, December 14 is Quadmester 2 midterm point; Quad 2 ends February 2 and Quadmester 4 or Semester 2 begins February 3.

Dual

REPORT FROM CHAIR – Chris Ecclestone

Nothing new from the Chair to report for this meeting.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Anne Marie McDonald

Timetable for next semester, we don't yet know what it will look like.

Parents have received an email survey to fill out to get an idea of what we would like the next semester to look like. Parents were asked to submit their preference of either a regular semester system, a quadmester system or an octomester system. Students also completed the survey in their classrooms with help from their teachers. Deadline is

December 7 and survey results will be compiled on December 8. Senior Staff to report back to Principals on December 13 with the results of the survey.

SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE

Our school community includes several families in need of assistance. CoVid has exacerbated the stress that many families were already experiencing prior to CoVid. The demographic data compiled for families of students at Bayridge indicate that 10% of our families are classified as low income. Therefore for a school with a population of 500 students 50 would be considered to be low income.

Staff are putting together food hampers for families in need. Staff will be bringing in donations of food to include in the food hampers.

Grocery Store Gift Card Campaign: Teachers can sponsor a family or purchase a grocery store gift card for a family in need.

Clothing Campaign: Some families are in need of winter clothing including winter coats and boots. This year the school is able to provide winter outerwear to students in need, and students in need can contact the school.

Free Books Canada Campaign: Free book campaign to encourage students to read. Students can browse through books for all ages and abilities and can grab a book for free. 600 new books are being given to the school for distribution and will be on display for students to select from. The goal is to increase literacy and overall student academic success. Students can choose books for themselves to give them something to do over the holidays or to give as gifts to siblings and other family members. Most books are geared towards teens and young adults however there will also be some books for early readers that students can choose to give to younger siblings as gifts.

Math/French – Some gaps occurring due to the pandemic and the switch from in person learning to online learning, particularly in the areas of Math and French. Many grade nine students fell behind in Grades 7/8 in the subjects of Math and French with the start of CoVid and the switch to remote learning and we need to try to fill these gaps academically. LDSB is considering implementing additional student success support as well as summer programs to allow students to get caught up to where they need to be. Other plans include one on one and small group tutoring for students who need help in math.

CoVid cases are increasing in schools, particularly in elementary schools where many students are still not vaccinated.

Cases within the Bayridge community: Bayridge Learning Centre received a letter to self-isolate. Positive case in their home in an elementary school aged child, BSS student stayed home and self-isolated. Parent called school right away. One staff person at Bayridge has tested positive due to close contact with own child at home who tested positive. Staff person took a rapid test right away. Staff person had not been at BSS in a week, had already been self-isolating.

Cafeteria: No current plan to open cafeteria for students. The cafeteria may open during Quadmester 2 but will more likely open in Quadmester 4.

Lockers: All students who wanted a locker now have one. Staff are asking students to not congregate at their lockers and instead move along to avoid groups of students mixing together. The return of lockers is changing the landscape of the school so that it looks more “normal” again.

PCR Tests and Rapid Testing: The school will be getting Rapid Test Kits on December 8. Rapid test kits will be sent home with students during the last week of school before the holiday break. Every student will receive a Rapid Test Kit which includes five tests. Vice-Principal will organize and staff will be going around to all classrooms distributing the green boxes for students to take home over the holidays. All students should take a rapid test the day prior to returning to school and bring results with them upon returning to school on January 4 2022. Students will not be obligated to share test results but will be encouraged to do so. Ideally students should test every five days during the Christmas break.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Virtual Computer Science Information Session for parents of Grade 8 students attending our feeder schools on Wednesday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Swaine will be explaining why our program is the best in LDSB and as well as highlighting some aspects of the Computer Science Specialist program such as Cybersecurity, Coding, Programming, Autobots and Minecraft.

Mr. Swaine is also working on a collaborative partnership with the School of Computing Science at Queen’s University.

Grade 8 Parent Night on Thursday, January 13 2022 for parents of all incoming grade 9 students who are currently in Grade 8.

NEW BUSINESS

Date For Next Meeting – Tuesday, January 11 2022. Motion by Shelley, Seconded by Corrie. Date agreed upon by all present and motion Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.