

BSS School Council Meeting Minutes

October 30, 2024

Attendance

In-person Attendees: Corrie, Judy, Michelle, Anne Marie, Alida French, Jennifer King, Don Polk (new member)

Online: Melanie, Nemanja, Aisha (sp?)

Missing: student reps - Alida will update on behalf of them

Following Agenda published by Corrie:

Welcome and Introductions: around the room and on-line participants

Additions/ changes:

- Guest presentation on food sharing program is cancelled - Tina Smith (rep) absent
- PIC meeting update (Jennifer attended)

Agenda approved by: Jennifer and Michelle

Student Council update: presented by Alida French (Abby and Andrew absent)

- Food Drive - in school food drive from Oct 1-9 and community food drive on Oct 9, raised almost 3000 pounds of food!!!
- Jellybean Jar - for person who guessed the closest to how many jellybeans are in the jar (given tokens for people who donated food)
- Fall Assembly happened last week - recognized school sports, activities and clubs
- Haunted hallway for Halloween Oct 31
- Upcoming: Nov 29 - fall semi-formal planned

Teacher's Report: presented by Alida French

- **Brenda Scarlett**

- Grade 10 YPI projects - students are researching and visiting charities for their YPI projects - this year will be our 17th year of participation.

- Grade 9 Geo Classes - Forest Therapy Field Trip to Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area in October
- Grade 11/12 Working with Infants, Children and Adolescents Classes - enjoying weekly placement at BPS
- **Science Dept**
 - Grade 12 Earth and Space - Field trip to Ellis Observatory and Miller Museum - Oct 24th
- **Greg Cusson**
 - School clothing orders are due by the end of the school day Friday Nov 1
- **Julie Cameron**



100% OF THE PROCEEDS
SUPPORT BAYRIDGE SECONDARY
STUDENTS' GREECE TRIP!

FAMILY & FRIENDS PHOTO SHOOT

Join us for a beautiful fall-themed
photography session
with Garrett Elliott

- Date: Saturday, November 16th
- Time: 10-minute sessions
- Cost: \$50 per session
- Includes: 5 high-resolution
images available for download

**BOOK
HERE!**

For any questions, please email celiapiper@gmail.com

- **Kendra Brennan**
 - Arts Students have had lots of opportunities for connections beyond the classroom so far this school year.
 - Bayridge hosted Canadian Musicians Emma Cook and Sean Cotton for a concert and workshop in the music room last Friday.

- Students taking Musical Theatre, Vocal Music and Drama went to a production of Jesus Christ Super at the Gananoque Playhouse and stayed for a talkback workshop with the actors and production team after the show.
- Monday Nov 4, music students head to the Isabel Bader for a free concert by Toronto's Trash Panda Brass Band. The event is sponsored by Queen's Music.
- Music students are also currently busy prepping for Next month's coffee house with Arts Council with a Sweater Weather theme.
- Brand new news.... The music program will be receiving a technology grant of approximately \$1000 to subsidize all music students learning Theory and Composition via an online program called "Breezin' Thru Theory" The program offers students the opportunity to have differentiated instruction in a fun and engaging way with games and leaderboards. It provides instant feedback for students and also wonderful enrichment opportunities in composition. We are excited to have been selected and can't wait to get started in this innovative program.

Principal's Report:

- Junior and senior boys' football teams playing a night game in Sydenham
- Both boys VB teams have made it to sem-finals against Regi and Holy Cross
- OSSLT - Nov 19
- PA day - Nov 22
- Report cards sent home - 3rd week NOV
- "Screenagers" launch to classes - Nov 25 period 3 for everyone
 - School council bought last year; 50 min video will be shared in classrooms Monday Nov 25. There will be follow-up discussions with students. Hoping to have student leaders to run the discussions (vs teachers)
- Stage - in disrepair. Facilities will be doing a repair, hoping for more major upgrade in future.
- Tina Smith (food sharing EA) - not here tonight, but suggest that we should invite her to the next meeting. Building a collab with Smoke & Barrel for review of BSS food share programs

Chair report

- Corrie is working on the report from last year's council

Treasurer report - currently have \$180

- For info: Last yr spent on 2 x \$100 graduation awards, put money towards food sharing, had gotten a \$500 grant that was used last year.

Old business

- Open positions - treasurer and vice chair.
 - Don Polk takes treasurer position (Involves emailing Holly for the budget report couple days before the SC meeting and sharing the details at the meeting)
 - Vice chair remains open position

New business

- **Feedback on Early Report Letters** - Anne Marie; early reports after 5 wks of instruction. Messages were delivered via email. There were three comments students received (all good, good, need parent to come in). All grade 9 and 10 students and Grade 11 and 12 students having difficulties received a report. Senior students not having difficulties - no requirement for teachers to provide Early Report Letters.
 - if two students in a home, can't tell what student report was for. Need more clarification on what "good" means? Does this mean not excellent? - does student need more support?? In future - define the categories better.
 - Positive: like the electronic format! Vs. paper sent home
 - Maybe have a "no concerns at this time" or "good to schedule to a teacher/parent meeting" checkbox on the Early Report
 - More feedback: the emails didn't all come on the same day - oddly scattered over several days (teachers were given a window to deliver feedback, so this was likely to be expected by the school, but perhaps not by the parents)
- **Fundscrip**
 - Was available last year, didn't work out well (raised ~\$10)
 - People make an account, buy gift cards and a % goes back to the school
 - The launch was in January last year. Better if launch in November or pre-christmas
 - Suggest more advertising and electronic push. Will need to be reactivated (Jennifer to follow up)
- **Volunteer hours**

- Electronic form for submission possible?? It is for the school board level to determine what BSS may be able to do. Action: Anne Marie will take to the board for discussion
- **School council - what do we want to see more of?**
 - Last year - general tour. Anything more specific this year? Ex. last year showed SC “the POND” - a safe space in the school for groups to use
 - Suggestions
 - media development/commercial for different programs that are electronically available to share with parents/public to learn about BSS.
 - international students to give talks on their experiences. Also to discuss how BSS students could go on exchange somewhere else. Rotary club (Don is a member) has an international exchange program. 2025/26 international exchanges application period is RIGHT NOW. Rotary clubs need to have students selected by Nov 15. There are several training programs for students and parents that start in January. Could we have a talk on this/ info session? Also a graduation Bursary by Rotary club (\$1000) (would need to apply for this). In the spring there will be a session on all opportunities from Rotary and timelines. Short term - Heather Stewart in student services can facilitate a connection if a student is interested right now. Also available online.
- **PIC update (Jennifer)**
 - Looking for more members for the LGBTQ2S+ parent group
 - Public health update - vaping
 - Vape detectors - on trial in one high school locally. Detectors also for overcrowding in washrooms (is a heat sensor) - the detectors only go off in an administrator’s office
 - Gr 9 Activ passes have been sent out
 - Cell phone and vape posters have been made - 4 key messages
 - Looking for how the PIC can help disseminate messages
 - More EA’s needed - scope and level of support that they offer and individual support plans.
 - HR crisis to KEEP staff, specifically EAs. hard to keep a roster of back-fills that are consistent for the students/staff needing the support
 - Attendance campaign - parents should add a notation when they can. The attendance secretary **does** monitor these comments and if needed initiates action to the family/student.

- **Meet the Teacher night** - bell working well to keep timing at 5 min a session, but there are families that took more than their 5 minutes. Is there a way to give respect to the families that need more time but to keep the 5 minutes on schedule?
 - Suggestion: push the message that if parents need more than 5 min, book an off-line mtg with the teacher as opposed to coming to the parent night.

Next Meetings

- Meet 6- 7pm. Thursday November 28, 2024. Last meeting of the year.
- New year 2025- Tuesday Feb 11 6:30-7:30
- Tuesday April 8 6:30-7:30
- Tuesday May 27 6:30-7:30

Minutes - send the completed minutes to Anne Marie. Will make a Teams Room
The minutes to be included on the invitation for the next meeting.

Action Items

- Send completed minutes to Anne Marie at least one week prior to next meeting (Judy)
- Establish a MS Teams room for School council. Minutes and agendas to be posted there (Anne Marie)
- Discuss options for an electronic volunteer-tracking system for students at next School Board council meeting (Anne Marie)
- Invite Tina Smith to present on food share program at next/ future SC meeting (Anne Marie)
- Contact Holly for financial report on SC prior to next meeting (Don)