



MINUTES  
Bayridge Secondary School  
School Council Meeting  
Nov 24th 2025

Welcome and Introductions -

In attendance: Corrie (Chair), Meg (PIC Rep), Hayley, Michelle, Alida French (Teacher Rep), Josh (Student Council Rep), Don (Treasurer), Sheri Jones (Principal), Jennifer, Betty, special guests Gabriel and Heidi Bergeron. ASL Interpreter provided by the Board. Regrets: Judy (Secretary)

Additions / Changes to Agenda - moved SLAP! Presentation to follow Student Council report. All in favour.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes - deferred until minutes are available as Judy was not able to attend.

Student Council Report - Josh

- Many events and initiatives have been undertaken so far this year. The food drive was held in October. Many student volunteers participated and the event was very successful. The biggest haul of food in recorded food drive history.
- The fall assembly was also held in October where students heard about clubs and activities going on in school. A House challenge competition was held.
- Student Council and Connection Crew hosted a Halloween movie night. The haunted hallway was also a great success.
- The remembrance Day assembly.
- In-house challenge with the eco-team on November 22 to promote more recycling. Recycling practises have not been good at the SS and we are trying to make improvements and increase engagement.
- The semi formal will be held on November 28. The theme is frozen in time. The culinary service prepares the meal. We have saved money by organizing a student, DJ and renting equipment for \$200. Previously it would cost \$800 to hire a professional DJ. There will be a Mocktail bar and sodas for sale. And water will be free of charge.
- The coffee house will be held December 3, which will include music and comedy. This is put on by the arts council.
- A holiday show is planned in December and.
- The Teddy Bear campaign, which has run for several years will return this year. In the past the school has raised \$2000 to support paediatric healthcare.

Special Guests Gabriel and Heidi Bergeron.

- Gabriel presented the SLAP! Initiative that he has been working on for the past few years. SLAP! stands for student laptop access program. Gabe has partnered with REBOOT Canada, which is a nonprofit organization in Toronto that receives corporate computers for refurbishment and sells the computers at a low cost of \$320 for premium laptop.
- Gabe has created a website where students can apply online. The project was launched at Bayridge Secondary School however, the need has far exceeded the supply.
- This program will be expanded to all schools in the LDSB. Gabe is working with associate Director Michael Blackburn, and a representative from every school has been given a package of materials.
- Help is needed to spread the word and to fund raise to be able to meet the needs of all the students who apply to the program.
- At present, there are 45 applicants; nine have received laptops and 36 are still on the wait list. With the program expanding throughout the board the need will grow significantly.

Teacher's Report - Ms. Alida French

- **Athena Lees:**
  - - Drawings & Art can still come in until Nov. 28
- **Heather Stewart:**
  - - Best way to reach parents about international trip
- **Brenda Scarlett:**
  - - YPI presentations finished in the Civics classes this month. We will have two class finalists to be sent to the overall finals in May.
  - - Grade 11 Forces of Nature - Field Trip Tuesday to Miller Hall - Geology Museum at Queen's University
- **Misc:**
  - - Remembrance Day assembly – Cusson, Brennan and Fabilil

## **Principal's Report - Sheri Jones**

### **Academic Program:**

We have passed the halfway point of the semester. Mid-term Report cards were distributed to students last Friday. Families are encouraged to review these with their students and discuss progress together. This is a valuable opportunity to celebrate successes and identify areas for growth.

When we return from the Holiday break, we'll be a few short weeks before exams begin. The exam schedule was shared in the Newsletter. We are running the same model as

we did in the second semester last year: One exam per day, in the morning, which provides extra time and no conflicts. Ms. Donnan is working on putting together the culminating activity schedule and we will provide copies of both for students. Inclement weather policy: exams bumped a day. Avoid booking vacations: students need to be available during the exam period in event of exams needing to be bumped forward.

Staffing for second semester has begun. Teachers and room numbers will be shared much closer to the start of second semester.

### **Student Activities and Achievement:**

Our school continues to be a vibrant place with many activities. I am proud of our students and staff who dedicate time beyond the regular school day to engage in extracurricular opportunities.

- **OSSLT:** Grade 10 Students participated in the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, an important milestone for graduation.
- **Professional Development Day:** This month, we hosted a PD day for elementary teachers. Special thanks to our secondary teachers who presented at the secondary day at LCVI, as well as to caretakers and staff who prepared classrooms.
- **Student Census Survey:** Voluntary and confidential for Grades 4–12, running November 24–28. Designed to support equity and inclusion, hear from voices we might not otherwise hear from.
- **Food Sharing Project documentary:** Plan to have BSS students featured in a documentary on the Food Sharing Project.

#### · **Upcoming:**

- o Semi-Formal this Friday
- o Elementary Arts Workshops: A chance for younger students to experience BSS Arts programs
- o “Level Up!” Skilled Trades event on December 2nd and 3rd
- o Human Rights Symposium in December
- o Holiday Show

### **3. Reminders**

- **Yearbook:** Last year, some students were upset that they weren't included in the yearbook; however, their FOI indicated they weren't permitted to be. This is the reason we sent home information to ensure this is correct to prevent this from occurring this year.
- **Grad Comments/Photos:** Grade 12s are asked to submit quotes, comments, and baby photos. Postsecondary plans can be updated later if not yet confirmed.

Chair Report - Corrie Allingham - nothing to report

Treasurer Report - Don Polk: Balances in Council accounts are unchanged: \$200 and \$384

PIC Rep Report - Meg Redmond

- Meg shared several updates from the previous 2 PIC meetings. Full minutes can be found here:
- <https://www.limestone.on.ca/parent-involvement-committee>

Indigenous Rep - open position, no report.

New Business - Identified need to develop and share a Land Acknowledgement, can access support from the Board if needed.

Next Meetings booked. Some prefer 6:00 and some prefer 6:30. Mondays or Tuesdays are best.

Tuesday January 20th at 6:30pm

Tuesday February 24th at 6:00

Tuesday April 21st at 6:30

Tuesday May 19th at 6:00

Meeting adjourned.

# The Nightmare Before Christmas Coffee House

Previous attachment

Wednesday,  
December 3rd  
@ 7:00pm

Canteen  
items will  
be available



Don't forget to  
check out the  
student artwork  
on display



Entrance  
by donation  
to support the  
Music department



achment



# DRAWING GALLERY

THE ARTS COUNCIL PRESENTS THE DRAWING GALLERY DISPLAY AT THE **NOVEMBER 13 COFFEE HOUSE**. THE THEME FOR THE DRAWINGS IS **OPEN**.



**SUBMIT YOUR DRAWINGS TO MS. LEES  
IN THE ART ROOM (139) BY  
NOVEMBER 11.**

ART COUNCIL



BAYRIDGE SECONDARY SCHOOL