

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

28-Feb-2023

ATTENDANCE

Anne Marie McDonald – **Principal**

Alida French – **Teacher Representative**

Maeve Cotton – **Student Council Representative**

Emily Abassi - **Student Council Representative**

Corrie Allingham – **Chairperson** (Switching to Chris Ecclestone for March 2023)

Amy Webb – **Secretary**

Michelle Savic – **Treasurer** (online)

Melanie Darling

Online: Chris and Tracey Ecclestone, Judith Brown (Trustee), Nameja Savic

WELCOME AND GUEST: TRUSTEE JUDITH BROWN

The attendees introduced themselves, roles and student status.

Trustee JudithBrown:

- Area of City of Kingston: Loyalist-Cataraqui, Collins, Bayridge & Meadowbrook-Strathcona Districts. Which includes the following schools: Bayridge Public School, Bayridge Secondary School, Cataraqui Elementary School, Collins Bay Public School, W.J. Holsgrove Public School, Lancaster Drive Public School, & Lord Strathcona Public School.
- BA degree from Queens, Buffalo State Teaching degree, International teacher
- Awards Committee, Parent Involvement Committee
Expulsion Hearing Committee/Disciplinary Hearing Committee Pool
- Support for the Food Sharing Project, is an alternate for the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee, and participates with the Umoja Black Advisory Committee.

- Limestone board is a leader in the education system
- Proud to team with St. Lawrence and women in the trades
- Inclusion is key – making sure all students are included

Role definition:

- Leadership role, school compliance with law, ministry of education laws, programs and services remain diverse to the communities
- Effective school board, with 3 year strategic plan, focusing on student achievement and well being. Works as a team and role model. Makes informed decisions, with help from board staff. Excellent communication with partners and constituents. Accountable for performance. Ensures local politicians understand local needs.
- There is a recognition that there is a lack of housing (affordable) in Kingston
- Development and monitoring of the multi-year strategic plan, green – good, yellow – working on it, red – needs to be addressed
- Track and monitor the performance of Director
- Actively supports and participates with the Board's Equity Plan & Committees for diversity:
 - Staff Affinity Networks
 - Umoja Black Advisory Committee

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA

No changes or additions to the Agenda were put forward.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There was a general agreement to approve the agenda

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING – 13 Dec 2022

There was a general agreement to approve the minutes from our last meeting which took place on December 13, 2022.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT – MAEVE COTTON & EMILY ABASSI

- Next Friday March 10 is a Recognition Assembly
- March 31st is the next Semi-formal, 6-10 pm
- Community events blood donor drive will be held soon, stay tuned for more information
- Eco team planning Earth Week April 17-21
- Spirit Week Next week:
 - Monday - Self expression
 - Tuesday – Formal

- Wednesday – Pajamas
- Thursday – Denim
- Friday – Blorange
- Congratulations to Maeve Cotton on being awarded the Queens Chancellor's Scholarship!

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – CORRIE ALLINGHAM

TRANSFERRING TO CHRIS ECCLESTONE

No report filed.

Attended Grade 8 Night, Miss McConnell and team showed lots of energy, tours were well organized, students came away with a positive outlook for next year. Congratulations!

TEACHER'S REPORT – ALIDA FRENCH

Misc:

- Winter sports done, spring sports starting soon
- Report cards last week
- Assembly next week
- Work posted on snow days

From Brenda Scarlett

- Grade 12 Earth and Space Class and Environmental SHSM students have a day at Queen's U at Miller Museum, Ellis Observatory and Art McDonald
- Astrophysics Visitor Centre on March 8th.
- Grade 9 Geography classes raised \$450 at a bake sale for Turkey-Syria Earthquake Relief Efforts
- Grade 10 Civics/Careers Classes will be embarking on YPI Project where a local social service charity will win a \$5000 donation from this project.
- Grade 9 to 12 students have been offered an opportunity to attend the QPID Youth Conference on March 30th. Topic is on Sustainable Agriculture.

From Jaime Swaine

- Close to 100 of our Grade 9, 10 and 11 students wrote the University of Waterloo math contests last week. We hope to have results back in a couple of weeks.
- Mathlete practices are gearing up - we meet Tuesdays after school and Fridays at lunch and are getting ready for Senior Math League, which will take place on

- March 31 We are hoping to take a group of senior students to a Math Problem Solving Day where students will get to work with professors from the University of Waterloo to get ready for the Euclid competition that will be written in April.

From Sean Allen:

- Bingo volunteers needed – contact Sean Allen if interested Winter sports wrapped up, spring starting soon

Report Cards last week

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - ANNE MARIE MCDONALD

Most of the way through Black history and futures month, this year it was based on celebration type events. The Equity Team ensured different themes each week showcased joy & appreciation. The campaigns have focused on education and awareness, specifically education around micro-aggressions & reverse racism. A highly passionate team, they are now meeting twice weekly. Campaigns will continue each month with a different focus. Currently they are writing a grant for LGBT2+.

In support of this there will be a community presentation this weekend, open to staff & students will feature Elanmin Abdelmahmoud, a former Bayridge student, and author of “Son of Elsewhere” with the Limestone teaching committee from 11-12 on Sunday March 5, 2023.

The school will have physical upgrades this year, draft plan for the fall – outdoor classroom, pathways directly from the school to the outdoor space, fully accessible. School Community Program and Eco Team received grants to create a green space for learning, Pavers, Pergola, raised gardens with seating. Right outside the cafeteria doors. Summer work will be the roof and windows.

Calendar of events:

- Early reports – March 22 (grade 9, 10 & 11 of concern)
- Parent Guardian Night – April 5, 6-8 pm
- Mid-term reports – April 28
- Evening of the Arts – May 31st
- Exams starting – June 22
- Graduation – June 29, 4-6 pm (Learning Centre 12:30 pm)

School Council Award – will we do this again? Add to the next agenda to discuss. Typically the committee will determine if awards will be presented by representatives in person. Four tickets will be available for each family. The ceremony will be live streamed also.

Laptops were distributed to grade 9 students for home and school use. They will be returned in the summer for upgrades and refurbishes. This is currently a pilot project. The intent is that next year grades 9 & 10 will receive the devices. The hope is to provide equal access to learning tools. The Teacher Librarian will be running some workshops on apps and programs to help the students become comfortable with the devices.

Special Education Review is underway, students with an IEP or access to special resources and supports will be invited to complete an online survey to provide feedback on what is working well. Students and teachers will be able to see real-time feedback to help focus on priorities, support and funding.

Course selection has started. Student Services have provided a lot of detail and helping students on course selection. Paper copies have been completed. Will be added to MyBlueprint for families to review. Students were given a pathway planning tool. Students need to verify the final version in MyBluePrint.

Ms. Stacey Robb, Vice-Principal at BSS, has recently retired. Ms. Vicki McConnell will serve as acting Vice-Principal from now until June. There will be some additional retirements across the Board through the year (aware of 2 VP, 2 Principal – Secondary level). We will have a new person in September, with the potential of a May announcement.

OLD BUSINESS

Family documentary night – panel and Q&A, explored a partnership with Frontenac SS, they chose a different opportunity. It appears we have now missed the opportunity to apply for a PRO Grant. There was a brief discussion to aim for the 2023 – 2024 year and add in the feeder schools. It was decided to look at where the financials are first. Michelle will connect with Hollie Stewart prior to March meeting and update us on the status.

NEW BUSINESS

Teacher Appreciation Day -add to next month's meeting.

NEXT MEETING: April 18, 2023 at 6:30pm (BSS Library and via MS Teams)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.