



## MINUTES

Bayridge Secondary School  
School Council Meeting  
February 24, 2026

### **Welcome and Introductions -**

In attendance: Corrie (Chair), Alida French (Teacher Rep), Don (Treasurer), Sheri Jones (Principal), Judy (Secretary), Meg (PIC Rep), Anne-Marie (guest), Betty, Michelle, Cathy,  
Regrets: Nemanja, Belle and Josh (Student Council Rep)

Additions / Changes to Agenda - none. Agenda approved. All in favour.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes - approved.

### **Student Council Report (Belle/Josh)-**

Off-line update from Josh Myles

Completed Events:

- Clubs carousel
- Candy Grams
- Spirit Week (Crazy Sock Day, Beach Day, Superhero Day)

Upcoming events:

- Winter Assembly was supposed to be last Friday but snow day has pushed it to this Friday, Blorange Day on Friday as well.
- Pink Shirt Day on Wednesday (Helping to promote)
- Karaoke and Games Night also on this Friday, pizza and sundae treats! Tickets available until Thursday in front foyer for students.

### **Partnership Opportunities - Anne-Marie MacDonald**

- Support for Children, Youth and families in KFL&A. Total funding is \$15 million for these programs. She is disseminating information through schools to build awareness of programs now available.

- Key projects to dates:
  - “Great start” for families - for 0-6yrs of age, housed in Kingston community health centre (KCHC). About 40 agencies are tied to this hub.
  - Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY). Evidence-based home visitation program for parents with social or economic barriers. Led by parent peers for low-income, indigenous and newcomer families with children 2-5 yr olds (just before

entering the school system). Home visits have been shown by various agencies to support parents and coach families with youngsters to be ready to enter the school system.

- Collaborative Care Initiative (CCI) - focus on families with children 6-12 yrs with complex behavioural, social or emotional needs that don't have a primary care health team. The school recommends the children to the program, and the whole family gains access to full health team support. Goal to onboard 40 families now, grow with time, expand the catchment area.

- Unnamed Youth Project (UYP) - upstream prevention program for youth aged 12-17 years of age. Goal is to foster positive youth community engagement, bolster family support systems and enhance youth voice/agency.

- One main component is Youth Advisory Circle (KFL&A); 17 youth part of the circle. The YAC has funding and will advise the city on how the money is spent from the Youth Investment Fund. The youth in the circle are from similar backgrounds as the youth that are intended to benefit from the programs and are paid for their time on the YAC. Examples of areas of contribution:

- Give input on transit, what youth need to feel safe in their neighbourhoods, and similar topics

- Also Care-giver and Youth Cafes (facilitated conversations between youth/caregiver and facilitator to talk about the really challenging things living in a house with teenagers).
    - Documentary "Seen" will be available and could be brought to the PIC or student council. Documentary developed in Australia, look to consider for later this year or next school year.
    - New and Improved ActivPass - has been modernized into an app - teens can download to their phones
      - o There are MORE activities available - such as art programs or events in their region, in addition to physical activities
      - o Will also show bus routes to get where they want to go!
      - o Available NOW, both for students and parents to also see what's going on!

### **Teacher's Report - Ms. Alida French**

Athena Lees: spring photo gallery coming up

**Brenda Scarlett:** From Global Studies –

- Grade 9 Geo Classes - planning a forest therapy field trip

- Grade 10 Civics classes - MP Mark Gerretsen will be speaking with the classes on Wed March 4 th

- Grade 12 World Issues class - may be attending the QPID Conference on Wed March 4th at Queen's University

**Cassidy Hollywood:**

- Golf tournament May 30, 2026 at Amherstview golf club - raises money for the food share program at BSS. Open to anyone - students, parents, staff. \$125 per person to participate.

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

### **1. Student Learning & Achievement**

Semester 1 report cards have been distributed, and Semester 2 is now underway. Early reports will be sent home the week prior to March Break. Parent/Guardian Night is scheduled for March 25, with booking opening on SchoolDay on March 10 in the afternoon. Course selection for the 2026-2027 school year is largely complete. This year, Student Services piloted a new model that involved meeting with students by grade during the school day, followed by optional evening sessions for parents and guardians. Engagement and feedback were very positive, and we thank our Student Services staff for their work. We are happy to hear any feedback from families as we reflect on this process. The OSSLT Spring write will take place on April 16. Will capture students wanting to do a rewrite, or students who weren't able or ready to write in the Fall. EQAO is also offering a series of free webinars for parents and guardians throughout March, focused on reading, writing, and the OSSLT, with strategies to support learning at home.

### **2. School Life & Student Well-Being**

February has been a busy and meaningful month in our school community. We continue to recognize Black History Month, with learning and reflection taking place across classrooms, daily announcements, music, and displays (sign and display board). Our student Equity Reconcili-Action club has been involved in these initiatives. Student Council hosted a second-semester Club Carousel, and our Winter Assembly, postponed due to weather, will take place this Friday. Karaoke and Games Night is also happening this Friday evening. We hosted a Health Canada "Know More" Opioids Awareness Display, supporting education and awareness around substance use and safety. Could accommodate two classes per period, so chose to focus on PHE classes across the day. Virtual resources already used in classes, but this in-person display helped bring the information to students in a different way.

Pink Shirt Day is tomorrow.

One last photo opportunity with Edge on March 24th.

### **3. Programs & Opportunities for Students**

Students continue to engage in a wide range of learning and leadership opportunities, including:

- Beading workshops in our NAC classes this week.

- Participation in the Beaver Computing Challenge last week.

- University of Waterloo Math Contests tomorrow.

- A field trip to St. Lawrence College Accessibility Services this Friday.

On March 2, LDSB is hosting a virtual presentation, "From Dachau and Back to Life," featuring Holocaust survivor Elly Gotz. His firsthand account supports curriculum learning related to the Holocaust, the impact of discrimination, and the importance of standing up to hate. Teachers have the opportunity to access this virtual presentation.

Summer 2026 Travel for Credit Civics/Careers course for students currently in grades 8-9, travel is to the Martimes, information session on February 26

Upcoming cultural and community events, including Braiding Sweetgrass for Young Adults at Queen's University on March 12, and the City of Kingston's exhibit A History Exposed (Black History Month)

Athletics Council - 3-3 basketball tournament coming up

Golf tournament as fundraiser for our Food Sharing project occurring again this year.

Rotary-supported youth leadership opportunities (RYLA and Adventure in Indigenous Understanding)

SLAP! (Student Laptop Access Program) for families needing access to technology

#### **4. Student Well-Being & Family Supports**

Student well-being remains a strong focus. We are sharing a range of supports with families, including:

- A free personal safety and self-defence workshop for girls+ in Grades 11, 12, and post-secondary students on March 18
- A free webinar series from School Mental Health Ontario (March-June) addressing anxiety, body image, vaping, and balanced device use
- Ongoing community supports such as LGBT Youth Line, Maltby Centre workshops and group programming, HYPE Tutoring, and resources from Southeast Public Health. Southeast Public Health is sharing a March newsletter insert on helping children develop a healthy relationship with food and continues to provide monthly resources supporting student health and well-being. As has been shared over the last couple of newsletters, Southeast Public Health has issued a community alert regarding the unpredictability of the unregulated drug supply and is encouraging harm-reduction practices, including access to naloxone kits and supervised consumption services. Families are encouraged to review and share this information as appropriate.

SWIS supports for newcomer families

#### **Chair Report - Corrie Allingham**

- fundraiser opportunity to be discussed at next meeting
- Opportunities for parents to become more engaged in the community - *Local Voices for Learning Kingston and Area* - flyer passed around.

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

**PIC Rep Report - Meg Redmond -** sent update for last four meetings via email

**SLAP! Initiative update -** deferred.

“Reboot” name of organization that takes the laptops for donation and sends them out through SLAP!

**New Business –**

- Golf - May 30 Amherstview - benefit towards food sharing program
- Staff Appreciation Breakfast - planning at Apr 21 meeting

**Other items:**

Query if there is an option for Council to apply for a BINGO for fundraising.

Indigenous Rep - open position, no report.

**Next Meetings booked:**

Tuesday April 21st at 6:30

Tuesday May 19th at 6:00

Meeting adjourned