

Colonel By Secondary School - School Council

Tuesday January 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Attendance:

*Sumeetu Aggerwal	X	Valerie Duplessis	X	Sarma Merdian	X
Loukmane Arzim		*Sue Fu	X	*Hanan Muharram	
*Marc Beaudoin	X	Ruth Gallant – Community Rep	X	Denise Nap	X
Neil Berro		*Lei Gong - Treasurer	X	Annie Nguyen – Student Rep	X
*Carla Bonora – Co-Chair	X	Hounaida Abi Haidar		*Sladana Popadich	X
*Amanda Bradford-Janke - Secretary	X	Kimberly Harris – Teacher Rep		Neil Rahman – Student Rep	X
*Rebecca Bromwich	X	Lewis Harthun – IB	X	Steven Spidell – Principal	X
*Elsy Chakkalakal	X	*Fahmi Ismaiel	X	Mainz Tong	
*Lucie Clermont	X	Ana Carolina Kolozvari		Jancey Wallace – Teacher Rep	X
*Hui Cong – Co-Chair	X	Isabelle Lalbin	X	*Candice Wishnousky	
Latifa Denna	X	Norine McKee – CB	X	My-Yen Yu	X
Maxwell Dondo	X			<i>19 Members-at-large</i>	
				*14 Voting members	

1. Welcome and Introduction – Carla

- Thank you to Colonel By staff for their support
- Welcome Trustee Sandra Schwartz

2. Approve of Agenda – Hui

First: Carla Bonora

Second: My-Yen Yu

- December meeting minutes to be approved at February meeting

3. Reports

Principal Report- Principal Spidell

1. School Operations

a. COVID-19 update

- i. 5 student cases to date; 0 staff cases
- ii. remote learning January 4-29, 2021
- iii. student and staff well-being

b. Operations 2020-2021

- i. Octomester 5 begins February 1 (in-person)
- ii. Report Card #2 - Feb 10, 2021
- iii. Student Transfer Applications: Feb 1-16, 2021
- iv. PRO Grants 2020-2021 (communications coming)

2. Budget

- a. 2020-2021 budget received Jan 8th: \$111,470 (56% expended)
- b. 2020-2021 staff replacement budget: \$87,904
- c. Grants received: Breakfast Program (\$34,841); Funding School Courses (\$21,504); Student Success (\$10,200)
- d. Grants TBD: French Cultural Funding, Outdoor Education, Renewed Math Strategy

3. Program and Learning

- a. Ontario university applications: due Jan 15, 2021

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- b. Ontario colleges: equal consideration date is Feb 1, 2021
- c. Technology needs: 107 Chromebooks distributed to students
- d. IB Exams Spring 2021
- e. IB Diploma Program Admissions for September 2021

4. District and Ministry Updates

- a. Announcement from Minister of Education expected January 20
 - 5 student cases to date – 2 deemed at school while potentially contagious, high risk contact tracing done, no in school spread, all cases clear
 - No known cases with CB staff
 - OCDSB decided that remote learning will continue for week of January 25 – return on February 1st will start new octomester – may change depending on what Minister of Education announces on January 20th
 - Focused on student and staff wellbeing in addition to academic wellbeing – students have been made aware of supports available to them
 - Report cards issued February 10 – midterm marks for all courses for the school year
 - Student transfer applications open February 1 – advocating for 15 spots for transfers due to right-sizing of IB program with opening of Merivale IB program
 - Pro-grants – looks like the program has been approved for this school year – won't be the same process as in the past but will still be an application
 - School operating budget 2020/21 - \$110,000 – smaller than last year but reduced due to some central expenses due to COVID-19 – previous year carryover currently being held by board
 - IB exams still a go for this year- this will depend on local public health rules for Ottawa – getting update from IB board about Northern hemisphere schools
 - IB application for September admission on track for March offers of admission

Visit and Q&A with Trustee Sandra Schwartz

- Thank you to school staff and administration for hard work over for transition to online learning and delivering quality education
- What does a Trustee do? First got involved on school council. Set policies for local Boards based on Ministry direction, approve budgets, voice for constituents at the board level – liaison for parents to navigate the education system
- Don't deal with day-to-day operations of schools but do advocate for the needs of the schools (e.g., capital expenditures)
- Don't get involved with issues with teachers
- Develop strategic plan in collaboration with senior staff for 4 years in office, ensure policies are referencing strategic plan
 - Current strategic plan focuses on culture
- Only staff person hired by Trustees is Director of Education (CEO of school board) Director then hires all other staff

Q&A:

School photos and commencement ceremonies – not decisions made by Trustees these are decisions made by public health and senior staff

Pro-grant – Can we organize own speakers' series or do we have to go through Board list? Board would like school councils to choose from the list provided by Board but can council can suggest speakers to be added to the list – memo with more information coming in next couple of weeks

Are they preparations for kids that feel they aren't ready after grade 12 year? Encourage students to speak with guidance counselors to discuss best options for success

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Virtual school in September 2021 is being discussed as an option due to uncertainty with COVID-19 pandemic

Is there a process for Delph tests? On indefinite hold, team at Board office working on creative ideas on alternative

Are there contingency plans for IB exams? In the event not able to run IB exams internal assessments and other school year assessments to be used to give student grades

Can IB courses be taken over? Not likely an option due to course pathways and exam schedule, encouraged to reach out to guidance counselor to discuss best options

Mental health message to parents/students today from Dr. Etches to support families, cougar vision running piece around mental health, some courses have mental health built into curriculum

One course/day vs two courses/day – parent and students seem to be split down the middle with preference for learning - not decided by school or Board of Trustees it is a senior staff decision

Staff Report – Ms. Jancey Wallace

- Message from Guidance: Course selection presentations will happen on Jan 29th period 1 during period 1. School messenger to go out with details about google question and answer sessions.
- CB's Debate Club is hosting a Novice Debate tournament on Saturday, January 30th. Over 45 teams have registered so far from the Ottawa area including many middle school students. The Debate Exec, lead by co-presidents Joy Liu and Alex Mintz, have organized every part of the tournament, even down to the Pokémon theme.
- Vicky Ungariuddanie (Grade 9) will represent Canadian High School girls during TEMBO's celebration of International Women's Day. She will have the chance to talk with a student from Tanzania about what it is like to be a student in both countries. Nancy Arbogast, a retired CB teacher, and Anne Bigham have facilitated this opportunity.

Admin and Support Staff Report -- Ms. Norine

- Office currently closed but working from home
- Continue to monitor school voicemail
- New registrations for 2021/2022 within CB boundary can register online

Student Representatives Report -- Neil and Annie

- Valentine's questionnaire match making – form available on CB website
- Online challenges – January theme is magic tricks – chance to win prized and points for grade
- Fun Friday – first Friday of every month, theme was crazy hat day – win points for battle of the grades
- Running Kahoot!'s
- CB clubs continue to do well and making impact on community
 - Bayreach's goal is to build connections between students and local communities, to provide support, and to bring awareness to communities in need. Our most notable initiatives include Seniors Stay Social, Valentines Care Packages, and Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario Storytime.
 - Seniors Stay Social helps combat the effects of COVID-19 by helping seniors maintain strong social connections while in isolation by connecting them with high school students across Ottawa through video/phone calls. This program facilitates intergenerational connections and a learning experience for all. So far, more than 100 students have participated.
 - In the current economic climate amidst the pandemic, many employees have been laid off as businesses struggle to remain open. Bayreach hopes to provide some relief through our Valentine's Care Packages. Working with Cornerstone Housing for Women, we plan to provide care packages with basic toiletries and winter essentials for women who cannot afford them.

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- Since it is more difficult for people to visit children in the hospital due to COVID-19, we plan to provide weekly videos of high school students reading to children in isolation at the Children Hospital of Eastern Ontario. We hope to boost their morale and give them something to look forward to each week.

Treasurer's Report and Monthly Statement - Lei/Sumeetu

- \$1,198.35 December 2020 statement
- \$500 parent engagement funding
- Still have some parent donations to be processed
- \$99.04 gift cards for CB staff appreciation

OCASC report – My-Yen

- January meeting is next week

4. Matters for discussion

- **Parent survey preparation – Isabelle**
 - Survey to go out to parents this week to gather information about what topics parents would like to see speakers/workshops on
 - Suggested topics pandemic related
 - Have we considered joint school sessions since space is not an issue with virtual sessions this year?
 - Google form could be used for more flexibility in question type

5. Closing

- Next meeting: Tuesday, **February 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.**
- Meeting is adjourned at 8:39 pm
- Minutes prepared by: Amanda Bradford-Janke, Secretary