

**COLONEL BY SECONDARY SCHOOL
SCHOOL COUNCIL 2009-10**

**DRAFT MINUTES
2009-10 SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING #2
Tuesday, October 20, 2009
7:00 pm – 8:50 pm**

Attendees: Alfred & Mira Alvares, Mandy Bailey, Mandy Brady (Recorder), Tom Brandt, Buffy Cassidy, Tina Chan, Catherine Chung How, Chaouki Dakdouki, Marlene Dobson, Janet Evans (Treasurer), Liza Godbole, Jennifer Harris, Lewis Harthun (IB Co-ord), Paul Hébert, Sandeep Hemmady, Katie Holtzhauer (Co-chair), Alice Jacobsen, Tammy Jones (OCASC Rep), Delia Kecskemeti, Nicolas Kecskemeti, Patti Keller, Gail Lyon (Principal), Jane Mahoney, Kishore Murthy, Savvidis Nikolaos, Jenny Ong, Lise Pennie, Jeanne Percival, Heather Pierscianowski (IB Rep), Evelyne Power Reid, Martine Rheaume (Staff rep), Hend Sakr, Julie Sawnier, Liz Stanich (Co-chair), Louise Stephens, Tim Tierney, Alison Weir (Communications). (38 attendees)

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

School Council Co-chair Katie Holtzhauer chaired the meeting and welcomed all attendees. It was noted that sufficient council members were present for quorum.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion (J. Evans / H. Pierscianowski) to approve the agenda was carried.

3. Approval of Minutes of September 29, 2009 meeting

The minutes of the Council's last meeting were reviewed and no changes noted.

Motion (J. Evans / B. Cassidy) to approve the CB School council minutes of September 29th, 2009 as written was carried.

4. Reports

a. Student Council Report – No Student Rep available this evening

b. Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Janet Evans presented the October Financial Report.

Opening balance:	\$4,652.86
Expenses:	\$146.33 (Sept 2 nd New Parent Night Refreshments)
(totalling \$344.69)	\$163.36 (Oct 5 th Teacher Appreciation Day)
	\$35.00 (2009-10 OCASC membership fees)
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Ending Balance:	\$4,308.17
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Motion (L. Stephens / J. Mahoney) to approve the Council's October Financial Report was carried.

c. Principal's Report – Principal Gail Lyon presented the appended report, and also gave a brief overview of Colonel By's Assessment and Evaluation Policy. (The full report is available on the school's website.) She explained the procedure for "Late Major Evaluations". If a major evaluation is not submitted on the due date and if the student has not made previous arrangements with the teacher, the following support system is in place: a) Teacher/student conference (contract introduced, new due date set); b) Parents will be contacted; c) student may be referred to a Tim Management, Organization, or Study Skills Workshop, lunch time support, or After School Assistance Program; d) if the assignment is not submitted within two cycles after the original due

date, (s)he will be referred to the student's Vice-Principal; e) if after one week the work is still not submitted, a mark of zero will be assigned.

Lewis Harthun (IB Coordinator) also provided some information on last week's Stratford Trip, which was organized last year through English class and run in conjunction with Gloucester High School. Another trip will likely be organized in Spring to run next Fall (2010).

d. Staff Report – The Staff Report was provided by Martine Rheaume, CB's new Head of Languages. Mme. Rheaume introduced herself and indicated she is new to the school but is rapidly learning the ropes. She discussed the upcoming Heads Meeting that will start to look at next year's courses, and also discussed the Board-wide phase out of French Immersion Math (this year's Grade 9 French Immersion students are the first to have their Math instruction in English).

e. IB Report – IB Coordinator Lewis Harthun provided an update on recent IB activities. CB's IB program is currently undergoing its regular 5 year review, and parents & students (current and past) are asked to provide testimony on their IB experience and how it has helped (or hindered). Please send your feedback to ibcb@ocdsb.ca, and it will be added to the upcoming report early in the new year. Currently, IB1 & IB2 students are registering for their May exams; please check the forms coming home, especially that the full legal name is provided and correct, and that the coordinator is aware of any required accommodations with plenty of lead time. IB admin fees are also being collected now; please be sure that you have paid. Volunteer sheets that accidentally missed being sent out to Grade 9 students should be sent out shortly. Extended Essays (externally marked ~4500 word essays) are due for IB2 by end of the month – if not submitted, students will receive letter stating they are on academic probation. Mr. Harthun also briefly explained the IB diploma points system: 45 points maximum total (6 subjects, max. 7 points each for a subtotal of 42, plus a maximum of 3 points for Extended Essay and Theory of Knowledge combined mark). (CB's average is 34.5 points.) IB Diploma's (from last year's Gr 12s) are in the front office; please pick up if you have not already. Wednesday November 25th will be IB Information Night for Grade 8s; lots of volunteers are needed.

f. OCASC Report – Tammy Jones provided an update on the most recent OCASC (Ottawa Carleton Assembly of School Councils) meeting. Special Ed meetings are held prior to each monthly OCASC meeting at Fisher Park PS. Canterbury HS is hosting a presentation on "*Facing Anxiety in Teens Together*" by clinical psychologist Douglas Scoular on October 28th. OCASC is also seeking input on potential PA Days in the 2010-11 school year calendar. All of these activities, including OCASC meetings, are open to the public; for further information, visit www.ocasc.ca.

5. ARC Update

a. Beacon Hill Community Association Update – Co-Chair Katie Holtzhauer introduced Tim Tierney (President of the Beacon Hill North Community Association, BHNCA) and Evelyne Power-Reid (BHNCA's representative on the ARC). Tim summarized BHNCA's AGM meeting held last week at the school, which was very well attended. Members of all 3 levels of government - MP Mauril Belanger, MPP Madeleine Meilleur, and City Councillor Michel Bellemare - were in attendance and wearing "*Colonel By Counts*" buttons, and each spoke of their support for the school and thanked everyone for their hard work on the ARC. (Additional buttons and posters are available through BHNCA.) Grade 9 student Louisa Sanne ably represented CB in inviting all to the Open Eyes Pancake Breakfast fundraiser. Evelyne Power-Reid spoke about BHNCA's plan to present to OCDSB Trustees on November 23rd. Their presentation will support the ARC recommendations, press for more vision in the Ottawa-East area (i.e. supporting schools that "work" as well as "don't work"), use a future focus (i.e. where will youth be coming from), focus on the positive, and address mis-information in the OCDSB Staff report. She recommended all interested parents attend the Nov 23rd meeting as visibility and debate is important.

b. Delegation Information – Co-Chair Katie Holtzhauer provided an update on the October 8th ARC Staff Report, which recommended closing Rideau HS and redirecting most students to Gloucester HS, with some students re-directed to Lisgar. This is a *recommendation* to Trustees; the process requires Trustees to consider the Staff Report alongside the Report provided by ARC members last June. Trustees will also hear delegations at their Nov. 23rd meeting, at which the CB School Council, Student Council, and local community groups will be presenting. Katie is promoting a consistent message, including valuing the work of the ARC, promoting meaningful dialogue, and understanding the benefits and success of Colonel By. All are encouraged to attend the November 23rd meeting, and/or present a delegation (must be registered before November 19th). There is also a public question period at the beginning of the meeting, and trustees will be reading any letters / feedback received from the public; please provide your input and cc your elected officials and ward trustee. The School Council's presentation will be given at our next meeting, in advance of being presented to Trustees.

There is also a concurrent review of the OCDSB Student Transfer Policy, revisions to which will have a significant impact on Colonel By as 60% of the non-IB students are transfers. Parents are asked to provide their feedback on this document once it has been released.

6. Principal Profile – deferred

7. New Business

a. Nominations for Top Educators – Nominations are now open on the Ontario Ministry of Education's website for this year's Premier's Awards for Teaching Excellence. There are 6 Award categories, including Teacher of the Year, Excellent Support Staff, Team of the Year, etc. Anyone can nominate any school staff member; deadline is end of January 2010.

b. Elementary curriculum – The Ontario MOE is undergoing province-wide consultation during the month of October on the Ontario elementary curriculum. Further information on the "Supporting Learning and Teaching in Ontario's Elementary Schools" Discussion Paper can be found at <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/paperconsult/index.html>.

8. Question Period

- A presentation suggestion was made: "Stand Up for Mental Health" by comic and counsellor David Granirer, which includes presentations from teens struggling with various mental health issues. This could be presented to students and separately to parents. Council members expressed interest; Gail will discuss this with Department Heads, and will look into this opportunity further with Buffey Cassidy.
- A request was made to ensure there were sufficient Programs available at the upcoming Awards Ceremony.
- A question re School Fees was raised – are those who pay subsidizing those who do not? Suggestions to encourage more parents to pay included synervice message, newsletter.
- Are IB fees tax deductible? Usually only for non-Canadian residents (i.e. foreign students)

9. Adjournment

Next meeting is Tuesday, November 17th at 7:00 pm.

Motion (J. Evans / J. Mahoney) to end the School Council Meeting #2 was carried at 8:50 pm.

Principal's Report
October 20, 2009
(Gail Lyon)

1. Professional Activity Day (Assessment & Evaluation):
 - Professional Learning Community
 - Focus on working as planning teams – to review the key curriculum expectations for each course, to ensure that consistency in terms of content and evaluations
 - Have finalized our school Assessment & Evaluation policy

2. Speaking of Evaluations:
 - Letters of Concern have been mailed out
 - Report Cards (November 17)
 - Parent-Teacher Interviews (November 26)

3. Student Success Initiatives:
 - Workshops: Time Management, Organizational Skills, Study Skills
 - OR = Opportunity Room – Tutors available every day over the lunch break
 - ASAP = After School Assistance Program (Thursdays 3:15 – 4:15)
 - Tutors (private) (also some volunteer tutors (doing CAS hours) available)

4. Library – a hub of activity:
 - Reading Buddies Program (Partner with Ottawa Public Library: CB's Grade 10 students work with Robert Hopkins ~Gr 3 students)
 - Literature Circles – with Graphic Novels (this year – in French!) (group of students choose book; teacher may help them discuss it and delve deeper)

5. We continue to be one VERY busy school – To highlight a few of the many recent activities:
 - Fall Pep Rally – completely Student Run
 - Thanksgiving Food Drive – for Gloucester Food Cupboard; gathered \$1800 cash plus a truck load of food!
 - Grade 9 Active Unity Conference – Full day conference for all Grade 9 students. Speakers, workshops and loot bags! FANTASTIC
 - Leadership Camp: 130 students and 13 supervisors. Wow!

6. Upcoming Activities
 - Coffee Break for Hospice (October 22)
 - Post-Secondary Information Night (October 22)
 - Cougar Courtesy Day (October 23) – Catch 'em being courteous!
 - Open Eyes Pancake Breakfast (October 29, 7:00 – 9:00 a.m.) – ticket proceeds for Girls' Leadership Camp in Lesotho
 - Blood Mobile (October 30)
 - Take Our Kids to Work (November 4)
 - Awards Ceremony (November 4)
 - PA Day (November 13)