

2020-2021 Bayview Secondary School Council Minutes

Date: Tuesday, November 9, 2021

Time: 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Place: Zoom Meeting

Co-Chairs: Colin Hilkowitz and Ben Schu

Treasurer: Linda Zhang

Co-Secretaries: Hanna Ha and Joanna Yu (minutes taker for this meeting)

1. Attendance:

Administration

Arlene Higgins-Wright, Stacey Sadacharan (VP)

Teacher Rep

Lara Joffe

Student Rep

William Jiang

Members of Council

Ben Schu, Jennifer Zhao, Helen Teng, Sharon Wang, Jennifer Hsieh-Chung, Jennifer Fang, Jennifer Shen, Joanna Yu, Roula Visram, Joanne Pan, Hanna Ha, Maggie Ye, Jacqueline Lam, Sharon Wang, Patton Su, Angela Yeung, Rohit Kumar, Linda Zhang, Colin Hilkowitz

Absent: Maral Sadr, Anabela Costa, Yingli Zhang

Other Attendees

Chris Drav, Beenish Imran, Yao Long, Ali Tayebi, Lihong Xin, Ian K, Frank Zhu, Judy Han, Sophia Su, Pearl Chou, Yan Wang, Lida Moradkhani, Arlene Amitirigala, Priscilla Chan, Amirali Arya, Arlene Amitirigala, Babak Nazari, Christina Ng, Sana Hasham, Xin Jenny Wang, Hansen Yan, Farzin A, Judy Han, Sophia Su, Laura Dong, Vivian Han, Yangmei Li, Jacob Shi, Qusai Kanchwala, Johnson Zhou, Babak Nazari, Ruby Chan, Sana Hasham, Lihong Xin, Yao Long, "Zoom User"

2. Welcome: Ben

3. Approval of Agenda

- Joanne P motioned to approve the agenda; motion seconded by Rohit.

4. **Approval of September 30, 2021 Minutes**

- Rohit motioned to approve the minutes; motion seconded by Jennifer F.

5. **Student Council Report:** William Jiang

- Student council elections have taken place
- Halloween initiative for school spirit: a photo booth was constructed in front foyer for students who dressed up to use
- Remembrance Day meeting to determine what will be done for school spirit
 - students to wear red and black
 - mural set up with board for students to add thoughtful and kind notes and anecdotes
- main focus for year is to build a strong school community that would have both parents and the whole school involved with Bayview spirit
- funding is enough for clubs this year; club presidents will have access to fund request document before meeting with student treasurer and president, who will then run the fund request by school administration

6. **Teacher Rep Report:** Lara Joffe

- Guidance teachers would like to remind parents that **guidance weekly announcements** are included in the weekly school newsletters that are emailed to families, and are also posted under Guidance Messages on the school website. The information includes post-secondary pathways
- parent-teacher interviews took place on November 2; the staff thought it lovely to see so many parents
- teachers realize that not all parents were able to book a designated time slot to meet with their children's teachers; parents are most welcome to reach out to specific teachers to discuss student progress

7. **Principal Updates:** Arlene Higgins-Wright and Stacey Sadacharan

Slideshow Presentation by Arlene

- Statistics: 1770 total students (157 remote and 1613 in-person); 144 staff
- Board and community partners of social workers, settlement workers, mental health nurse, inclusive schools and community services

- School Climate: return to clubs/teams/contests/activities; interaction of peers with staff; continued 2.5-hour classes; guidance department has done classroom visits, and presentations are on guidance page of school website
- School Improvement Plan for this school year includes the topics of equity, assessment and evaluation, digital literacy, mental health and well-being
- Additional teacher coverage in some classes to support hybrid learning has been discontinued
- Professional Learning to assist staff with hybrid learning took place on October 15
- PA Day on Monday, November 15 for teachers to process midterms, etc.
- Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) to take place on Thursday, November 25 for grade 11's and non-graduating 12's; remote learners will be required to attend the school in person for test
- School photos for student cards and yearbook will be taken on November 29 and 30
- After November 17, families may request a short term Covid-19 related model change or a long-term model change by contacting the school
- Indoor contact sports can resume provided there is staff participation to take on coaching roles
- Midterm report cards to go home on November 25
- Clubs: 55 clubs are officially registered, but the master list needs to be updated. Student executives of clubs can provide updates by reaching out to Mr. Seigi Ishiguro
- LEAPP mentorship program continues
- A gifted program is currently under development for 2022-2023. Staff is putting together a course offerings menu--program can only be accessed by students entering grade 9 next fall **already with a gifted identification by an Identification, Placement, and Review Committee (IPRC)**; design of gifted program is rooted in the unique balance of characteristics and needs found in the gifted learner profile; gifted program at BSS will end at the end of grade 10; parents are encouraged to ask the administration if there are further questions
- IB admission process (for upcoming grade 9 students) coming soon

Ms Sadacharan

- With colder weather here, the school has increased lunch spaces and capacities (cafeteria, small gym, main foyer, halls, library learning commons)
- 6 overflow lunch rooms are assigned by grade; quadrants for assigned tables/seating by grade, green signs to indicate where to sit for physical distancing
- Reminder to students to not sit in front of doors, on middle landing, and on stairs

Questions and Answers

- Yan asked if lockers will become available for everyone. Stacey said no, as lockers aren't spaced 2 metres apart. Students are to bring coats into class and hang them on the backs of chairs, wear winter boots, etc. Caretaking has been great at cleaning wet floors, etc., Parents are to encourage students to bring as little as possible to school. Students who feel they really need a locker can fill out the Google Form in their GAPPS account
- Ben asked for the location of the closest high school to BSS that will also get a gifted program. Arlene answered that Richmond Hill High School will still be the closest, and that BSS will receive some of the students that would have fed into RHHS next fall
- Maggie asked if the gifted program will offer AP courses in the future. Arlene replied that BSS is only developing grade 9 courses for now
- Sana asked if there is an application form for the gifted program. Arlene reiterated that only students entering grade 9 already with a gifted identification from an IPRC are allowed to access the program
- Colin asked about school capacity concerns in regards to new housing developments. Arlene replied that BSS is already over capacity, and that she does not know what will happen, as the new developments are in the BSS catchment area; students moving in would be allowed to attend the school. There are currently two portables; perhaps more are to come?
- Jennifer F. asked if grade 10 gifted students could transition to the IB program in grade 11. Arlene replied no
- Arlene A. asked about the impact on student well-being of having two alternating 2.5-hour classes every other week. Arlene H-W replied that there are no formal studies. Stacey added that the current school format is a provincial mandate, and that teachers are working very hard as well

8. **Treasurer Report:** Linda Zhang

- Linda prepared and presented report shared on screen by Ben
- Linda received update from Jill in the office: current balance in bank account is \$3344.47 as of Nov 1. *The year end 2020-21 balance was \$7,824.23; more receipts which were approved by council in 2020-21 were collected in Sept. and Oct.*
- The treasurer report format used is the same as the one used in previous years. A suggestion to update the report format, which was inherited by Linda this year, was made; council executive will discuss ideas offline

9. **Business:** Ben

Emails were sent out to respective sub-committees. Any questions or suggestions can be directed to the School Council email for follow-up.

- a. Parent Engagement Committee
- b. Fundraising Committee:
 - Looking for more volunteers to join
 - Linda Zhang (Chair) and Yingli Zhang are on the committee.
 - Angela Yeung and Beenish Imran volunteered to help out
- c. Parent Support Committee
 - Jennifer H-C suggested that Parent Support Group should work in tandem with Parent Engagement Group to discuss future activities in order to prevent similar activities being planned

10. **Other**

Business: Arlene

- no funding requests from staff yet as the due date for requests is November 26

11. **Next Meeting:** December 7, 2021

12. **Adjournment**

- Meeting was adjourned at 8:25