

# **2020-2021 Bayview Secondary School Council**

## **Minutes**

**Date:** Thursday, Sep. 30, 2021

**Time:** 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

**Place:** Zoom Meeting

**Co-Chairs:** Rev. Philip Der, Ben Schu

**Co-Secretary:** Helen Teng, Sharon Wang (Minute taker)

### **Attendance**

**Administration:** Arlene Higgins-Wright, Kirsty Irvine (VP), Seiji Ishiguro (VP), Stacey Sadacharan (VP)

**Teacher Rep:** Lara Joffe

**Student Rep:** William Jiang

**2020-2021 Council presented:** Philip Der, Ben Schu, Helen Teng, Sharon Wang, Jennifer Hsieh-Chung, Jennifer Fang, Jennifer Shen, Joanna Yu, Lida Moradkhani, Mike Xie, Patton Su, Farida Kafei, Joanne Pan

**Other Parents:** Colin Hilkowitz, Rosalie Chan, Maral Sadr, Hanna Ha, Ying Li Zhang, Linda Zhang, Syeda Hussain, Anabela Costa, Ousai Kanchwala, Rohit Kumar, Maral Sadr, Suyi Chen, Jennifer Zhao, Eric Song, Maggie Ye, Jacqueline Lam, Roula Visram, Qusai Kanchwala, Laura Dong, Angie Ai, Wuzhong Wei (Max), Karen G. Total 62 participants at the peak time. (The names listed were the names provided in the Zoom chat.)

### **Minutes**

#### **1. Attendance**

Ben asked school council members and attending parents to provide their names or to Sharon Wang. Names provided are in the meeting minutes.

#### **2. Welcome**

Ben greeted everyone when the meeting started.

#### **3. Approve Agenda**

Ben welcomed everyone and asked if anyone would like to add anything to the agenda. No new agenda items to add.

Approve agenda: Jennifer Fang motioned to approve the agenda; Jennifer Hsieh-Chung seconded. 8 people from the last year's council members approved.

#### **4. Approve Last Minutes (June 1, 2021)**

Ben asked whether all members had any questions on the last meeting minutes. Lida Moradkhani motioned to move the last minutes; Joanne Pan seconded. 9 people from the last year's council members approved.

## 5. Student Council Report

William Jiang, student council president, grade 11 IB student, provided the student council report.

- The student council election rescheduled to this year due to the pandemic. The vote will be on Oct. 01, 2021. The initiative will be started on Oct. 14.

## 6. Teacher Rep Report

Ms. Joffe expressed how happy she was to see so many students this year. It's more fun than sitting behind computers. Our school also supports online learning. Speaking of the current learning model, students should engage their teachers to ask questions, especially students at home.

Joanna asked about the Grade 11 literacy test-noted below.

Principal Arlene Higgins-Wright mentioned it would be covered in Principal Report.

## 7. Principal Report

- Welcome / Overview – presentation by Arlene Higgins-Wright. Principal Arlene Higgins-Wright mentioned that she was so happy to greet students every morning. The interactive relationship is very important to everyone.
- BSS stats: Students 1759 in total– adaptive and virtual students.
  - Virtual students -173
  - In-person -1586
- Staff:
  - Total – 141
  - Vacancies (teachers)-2
- School Climate
  - Students
    - Return to school – Grade 9 transition day.
    - Interaction with peers & staff.
    - Longer class. –It's a learning curve due to new model that we require adjusting to.
  - Staff
    - New model-2 period day, additional coverage. One more teacher in the classroom that kids can connect to (in some classes).
    - Use of technology – a hybrid, synchronous instruction.
    - New staff – 25%
- Ms. Irvine showed the school activity of Sep. 30<sup>th</sup>, a day for truth and reconciliation. The student equity team and teacher advisors shared daily announcements and songs outlining the importance of learning about the history of residential schools and its negative impacts on Indigenous children and culture.

- i. Grade 12 History students supported by their teachers created a 7-minute video to be shared in all homeroom classes to frame the importance of the day.
  - ii. Students and teachers participated in YRDSB wide broadcast in honor of Truth and Reconciliation Day.
  - iii. Students made 1,200 “Every child Matters” buttons which were given to students when they arrived at school.
- f. Events & Activities
  - Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test.
    - i. 2 administrations, Fall and Spring
    - ii. Grade 11 and 12 (non-graduating) will write the test online in the fall between October 12 and December 01. Test is waived for graduating Grade 12 students.
    - iii. Remote learners will be asked to attend the school in person for the test.
- g. Clubs and Programs
  - Mr. Ishiguro talked about the clubs and programs.
    - i. Almost 40 clubs.
    - ii. Club information has been shared on announcements and Google Cohort Classrooms.
    - iii. A master list of clubs will be compiled shortly and posted on Google Classrooms.
    - iv. LEAPP mentorship program (Learning Experience and Participation Program).
    - v. Clubs can now meet in person, after school with appropriate social distancing.
    - vi. Sports team – tennis. (Only sports team we have this year due to pandemic restrictions.)
- h. School Model
  - Ms. Sadacharan talked about the school model. For the very first two weeks, every morning all the school administrators were greeting students outside. They were so happy to see all students. She talked about the school schedule.
- i. Health & Safety Protocols
  - i. Daily screening
  - ii. Physical distancing
  - iii. Masks
  - iv. Cleaning & Disinfection
  - v. Protocols for Symptomatic Individuals
  - vi. Visitor Log
  - vii. Hand Hygiene
  - viii. Capacity Limits
- j. Key Dates
  - Principal Arlene Higgins-Wright continued talking about the key dates.

- i. Terry fox run – Oct. 14 (Rain date: Oct. 18)
  - ii. Math contest – Oct. 28 (3:00 -5:30 pm)
  - iii. Parent’s night – Oct. 28 (6:30 -8:30 pm)
- All parents should pay attention to the “Guidance Message” every Friday.

Q&A:

Q: Hanna Ha asked who could connect to understand the new model.

Answered by Principal Higgins-Wright: “Me and vice-principals.” (She posted the email addresses in the chat window.)

arlene.higgins-wright@yrdsb.ca   seiji.ishiguro@yrdsb.ca   kirsty.irvine@yrdsb.ca  
stacey.sadacharan@yrdsb.ca

Q: Sharon Wang expressed concerns on the approaching winter weather and the impact on students who stay at school during lunch hour.

A:(Answered by Principal Higgins-Wright) The school has already started preparing for this. Has considered the weather, like moving to different spaces, etc.

Mr. Ishiguro also commented: “We have taken measures to prepare for cold weather, with regards to lunch e.g., designating eating areas in the hallways and limiting to groups of four per lunch.”

Q: Vivian Tu asked about the LEAPP program.

Mr. Ishiguro answered it’s a year-long volunteer program.

Student rep William pasted in the chat window:

“I’m a LEAPP mentor and I strongly recommend you encourage your kids to check out the fun events/initiatives LEAPP has in store :)

You can have your child email me and I can have them assigned to a mentor asap.”

Q: Qusai Kanchwala asked whether the parent night could be in person.

Answered by Principal Higgins-Wright: York Region Public Health doesn’t approve large gatherings-it must be online (this year).

Q: Jennifer Hsieh-Chung asked whether the student council could provide an orientation for Grade 10 students, who were at virtual school last year.

Answered by Ms. Sadacharan, we already had a mentorship and provided the orientation for the grade 9 students.

Q: Nancy shared her concern about no French teacher for Grade 9 students.

Ms. Irvine responded that the school had a shortage. It’s difficult to hire, not enough applicants. There is a temporary teacher next week in school.

## 8. Financial Report

*- Please see the attachment of the school council meeting agenda.*

Rev. Philip Der presented the report. The school account currently shows \$6049.92; however, \$5775.20 of that amount has been budgeted and approved for expenses from the last school year.

Once all accounts payable have been paid, the remaining balance will be \$274.72. Rev. Philip Der mentioned ways to fundraise and encourage parents to donate. Phillip mentioned that parents could make a donation through Cash Online; but this medium only raises a minimal amount. Need to communicate fundraising goals/objectives in order to better engage with the parent community to drive donations.

#### 9. New School Council Election

Rev. Philip Der hosted the election process. Ms. Irvine helped to create the polling / voting tool.

a. Election of 2021-2022 School council members was as follows:

Introducing all candidates – All parents who submitted a nomination form / wanted to be part of this year's school council gave a personal biographical speech.

Voting occurred with the target of having equal representation from each grade.

The 21 parents on this year's council are:

Anabela, Yingli, Maral, Rohit, Jennifer Z, Roula Visram, Linda Z, Maggie Y, Jennifer Hsieh-Chung, Farida Kafei, Hanna Ha, Sharon Wang, Jacqueline Lam, Joanna Yu, Mike Xie, Jennifer Fang, Ben Schu, Patton Su, Hussain Syeda, Colin Hilkowitz, Joanne Pan

The election was motioned by Jennifer Fang and Helen second.

b. Election of 5 executive members

i. Co-Chair

Speeches were provided by the candidates and then the voting by council members ensued with the following results:

This year of 2021-2022, the co-chairs are Ben Schu and Colin Hilkowitz.

ii. Co-secretary

Joanna Yu and Hanna Ha were the only two volunteers for the co-secretaries, so no elections were required.

iii. Treasury

Speeches were provided by the candidates and then the voting by council members ensued with the following results: Linda Zhang got elected.

c. Fundraising Chair

Sharon Wang agreed to be the fundraising chair.

e. Parents Support Group Chair

Jennifer Hsieh-Chung agreed to be the parent support group chair.

Due to timing, Rev. Philip Der mentioned the election was not completed and could be completed at the next school council meeting. The following items per the agenda were carried-over:

- Engagement Chair
- Community Reps (up to 4 members)
- Funding request to the school departments
- Hopes and dreams for the coming year

Rev. Philip Der announced the upcoming tentative meeting dates (2021-2022) Tuesdays at 7 pm,  
Nov 2, Dec 7, Jan 18, March 1, April 12, May 17, June 21

10. Next Meeting:

Tuesday, Nov 2, at 7 pm

Meeting Adjourned