BILL CROTHERS SECONDARY SCHOOL

School Council Minutes

Meeting Date: Monday December 1st, 2020 @ 7:00 pm via ZOOM

Attendance

Staff Members: Meshell Lynch-James (principal), Mark Melnyk (VP - A to G), Jean Janzen (VP - H to O), Laura Hogan (VP - P to Z), Allison Fox (Guidance Department Head), Heather Graham Burt (Guidance Department), Sunil Khandor (Math/business department), Rory Gangbar

Student Representatives: Lauren Cirelli, Rachel Collins

Executive Council Members: Simone Elliot (Chair), Anne Johnston (Co-Vice Chair), Jeff Yeoung (Co-Vice Chair), Van Sterijevski (Treasurer), Laura Pino (Secretary)

Council Members: Olu Adebajo, Jenn Bahen, Marcia Banfield-Smith, Robert Belcastro, Lina Turner, John Bertie, Marisa Mahabir Byers, Georgia Carnevale, Carlo Carnevale, Charmaine Collins, Silvia De Crosta, Georgy Djanashvili, Elena Parfenon, Linda Galanakis, Carlo Guerrieri, Chris Kostakis, Kathleen Kwan, Sarah Lake, Stephanie Lock, Lisa Maadanian, Michael McGeorge, Julia McIntyre, Nancy Medlock, Aneesah Mohamed, Andrea Philp, Joanna Rizi, Laura Rowed, Terri Russell, Lesley Sahakian, Laura San Roman Onate, Brett Sears, Kathie Sears, Silverina Selvaratnam, Sheshan Selvaratnam, Afia Shah, Nicole Soverall, Michael Vachon, Persila Vachon, Robert Van Den Heuvel, Danielle Juekens, Michelle Waddington, Charlene Woron.

Guests: Luk D'Souza, Jasmin Schiralli, Trena Finnegan, Megan Patullo, Eden Winick, Edna Di Falco, Lara Morris, Lise Hubbard-Muir, Patricia Whelan, Marie Ugolini, Julian Cofini, Carolyn Cofini, Elena Parfenov, Alysa Cowan, Patti-Lynn N, Voula Thalassinos, Kelly Rhyness, Persila Vachon, Emma Zukow, Dawn Beal-N, Dians Balicssk, Maria Hyponen, Chantal B, Catherine B, Stephanie Christie, Beth Gould C.

"Don't let yourself become so concerned with raising a good kid that you forget you already have one (or more)"

Glennon Melton

1.0 HOUSEKEEPING

- a) 7:05 Ms. Lynch-James welcomed all and presented the agenda for the meeting.
- b) 7:10 Ms. Janzen shared the Land Acknowledgement as well as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Actions #62 & #63.

(The **TRC** is a component of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. Its mandate is to inform all Canadians about what happened in Indian Residential Schools (IRS). The **Commission** will document the **truth** of survivors, families, communities and anyone personally affected by the IRS experience)

- c) 7:07 Ms. Hogan went through the online rules that govern all online meetings at the school.
- d) 7:10 Approval of October 22, 2020 meeting's minutes Approved by Joanna Rizi, second by Marisa Mahabir Byers.
- e) 7:12 Introduction of the 2020/2021 BCSS School Council Executive:

Simone Elliot Chair

Anne Johnston Vice Chair

Jeff Young Vice Chair

Van Sterijevski Treasurer

Laura Pino Secretary

- f) 7:15 Thank you to the 2019/2020 School Council Team led by Eden Winick (2019/2020 Chair).
- g) 7:20 VP Intruductions: Mark Melnyk (A to G), Jean Janzen (H to O), Laura Hogan (P to Z)
- h) 7:20 Guidance Department Introductions: Ms. Fox (A to F), Mr. Jones (G to L), Mr. Gratta (M to Si), Ms. Jackson (Sk to Z).
- i) 7:25 Inclusion activity led by Simone (Chair).

2.0 SCHOOL COMMUNICATION (SCOREBOARD) AND GUIDANCE

1) BCSS Scoreboard

- 1) How to get there: Google Bill Crothers and on the YRDSB school site, click on the Scoreboard icon.
- 2) The Scoreboard is a great place to find information regarding various aspects, departments and happenings at the school.
- 2) Guidance The guidance website is a great resource for parents and students. For example:
 - 1) Book appointments
 - 2) Look at post-secondary presentations
 - 3) Updated section for community involvement
 - 4) Grade 9 intro video
 - 5) Links to scholarships
 - 6) Links to mental health resources

3.0 COMMITTEE UPDATES

- a) Bill Crothers Leadership / Student Council: (Update by Lauren and Rachel)
 - 1) Spirit Days coming in December: Denim Day, Pajama Day and Sea of Red
 - 2) Tugues for Heart
 - 3) Holiday Cards for the Amica Senior Centre These holiday cards are being made for the seniors living in the AMICA building to bring holiday cheer and show our support to those within our community
 - 4) The BCLC is working on a video to showcase all members. Will be ready before the break.

4.0 PEAK PERFORMACE PRESENTATION by Michelle Sigman

Michelle Sigman talked about the work she has been doing at BCSS to help kids learn and implement new tools and strategies related to a goal action plan that will allow for a greater impact on student and teacher overall mental well being and consistent habits that will allow for a greater outcome in achieving goals and dreams.

Michelle presented a number of stats that were collected at BCSS through a series of questions presented to the kids. Some examples of this data are below:

- Number of students that set short term and long-term goals
- Number of students that consider goals are important
- Number of students that believe their goals are specific and have a plan to achieve them
- Number of students that take daily steps to achieve their goals

Michelle then worked with the kids to help them understand the importance of setting goals, measuring those goals, the impact of those goals and the roadblocks that could face them on the way and how to overcome those road blocks.

Michelle's contact information:

Instagram: @michellefitnessmomma

Twitter: @wellnessmichell
Email: michsigmann@gmail.com
Website: www.wellness-michell.com

5.0 PRINCIPAL'S REPORT- Meshell Lynch-James

- a) Graduation There was a drive-by held for the class of 2019. They received their diploma, awards, prizes, etc.
- b) The tech team worked on a video for all the grads that includes the valedictorian speeches. It was a great video!
- c) The mid term report cards came out. If parents have any questions, they are encouraged to contact the teacher first.
- d) For grade 12 students, the grades are sent to the post-secondary destinations.
- e) The donated Under Armour masks were handed out to students and staff. BCSS was the only Candian school to get these masks!
- f) Kids can only take the masks off if they are at least 2m apart
- g) There are still no sports happening at BCSS. This is very hard for students as well as for staff however, the number of cases in York Region keeps climbing and so we must follow the rules and regulations from both York Health and the school board. Hopefully activities can resume sometime in the new year.
- h) Announcements and activities for the mental health board initiative will be rolled out later this week.
- i) National Signing Day was on November 11 BCSS students signed with US and Canadian Univiersities. Congratulations Colts!
- j) We had an amazing Remembrance Day Ceremony. There was a socially distanced gathering in the gym to pay respect to our troops and veterans. The History Department lead the moment of silence through the PA system. Because of BCSS' schedule, the moment of silence is usually held at a different time than the rest of the country, however, this year it was possible to do it at the same time. This made it special.

- k) Applications for Grade 8 students are due on December 6. The open house was virtual this year but it was a success. The videos were great and motivated some kids to apply. Hope to see you soon future Colts!
- Semester 2 starts February 2nd. At this point, it will look very similar to semester 1. We will follow the same model (face to face and virtual). If parents missed the deadline for switching from one to the other, let the school know and you will be placed in a waiting list.
- m) Inclement Weather Days If buses are cancelled, the school will remain closed. Please DO NOT send your kids to school. The learning on that day will happen only online.
- n) No exams this semester. Usually, exams are 30% of the final mark. This semester, this 30% will be made up from final assignments and or presentations. It will vary depending on the teacher.
- o) No EQAO for grade 9 math
- p) No OSSLT for grade 10 literacy
- q) COVID update The cases we've had at Crothers have been transmitted outside of the school. There HAVE NOT BEEN any in-school transmissions. There are no current cases at school (since the end of October). Please be mindful of activities outside of school. Follow the rules, wear your masks, wash your hands, limit your contact with people, etc. and stay safe!
- r) A saliva test is being developed. 7 YRDSB high schools and 23 elementary schools will be selected for a pilot project. BCSS has been selected for this pilot project. More information will be given to parents when it becomes available.
- s) Next meeting dates:
 - Monday, January 18
 - Monday, February 22
 - Monday, April 26
 - Monday, June 7

5.0 OTHER BUSINESS/QUESTIONS

Questions submitted on the ZOOM chat:

Q: If kids didn't get their mask when they were distributed, can they still pick it up?

A: Yes, please contact Mr. Chaudhry for information on how to pick it up.

Q: Are there any COVID cases at school?

A: Currently no COVID cases at school since end of October

Q: Will the ski/snowboard club be on this year? These activities are outside.

A: No. The mandate to not have any sports/clubs this semester is YRDSB wide.

Q: Are there exams for semester 1?

A: No exams for semester 1.

Q: If a test is scheduled and the school is closed due to inclement weather, will the test still happen online?

A: This varies depending on the teacher.

Q: Are the next rotations created yet?

A: No. They will be posted on the scoreboard as soon as they are available.

Next meeting will be held on Monday, January 18, 2021 via ZOOM @ 7:00pm

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm by Ms. Lynch-James; approved by Julia McIntyre second by Jenn Bahen.