

Meeting Date: Monday May 14, 2018 @ 7 pm in the Library

Attendance

Staff Members: Meshell Lynch- James, Mark Melnyk

Regrets: Rose Walker, Scot Angus

Teacher Rep: Seiji Ishiguro

Members: Lori Mater, Simone Elliott, Eden Winick, Patty Gismondi, Noula Halikias-Mintsoulis, Sherry Hugh, Lynne Smith, Eric Issaev, Marcia Banfield-Smith

Regrets: Marilyn Clark, Michelle Fraser, Jo-Anne Wallace, Audrey Wega

Absent: Maxine Eastmond, Andrea Kalmin

Student Representatives: Peter Popolis and Tina Eberhardt - regrets

Guests: n/a

Next Meeting: June 11, 2018 @ 7:00 pm in Lecture Hall

1.0 HOUSEKEEPING

- a) Lori welcomed all to the meeting and proceeded with an inclusion activity.
- b) Motion made to approve the agenda by Noula and seconded by Lynne. Motion passed.
- c) Approval of Minutes: motion made to approve the minutes by Lynne. Seconded by Eden. Motion passed.

2.0 COMMITTEE UPDATES: Student Leadership Council

- No report. Regrets by co-council members received.

3.0 PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - Meshell Lynch-James

Instructional

OSSLT – Results will be provided in April

Lots of students that attended prep courses and OSSLT Blitz, students provided with packages with sample tests, information from OSSLT website which lots of students picked up. Hoping for great results

EQUITY WEEK – Reps attended a board equity workshop – planning an equity week to be infused into the school culture

BAND CONCERT – great event, Bill Hogarth and Bill Crothers both attended and shared their vision and story. They were honoured at the event.

ARTS NIGHT – Ms. Baskin is retiring and was recognized at the event. A video presentation in her honour was shown that evening.

FROM – 400 students attended. Held in North York and no incidences. Fewer than 100 kids stayed until the end. Question from parents: Is there anything that can be done to get students to stay? It's a problem that all schools have – many kids go to after prom parties. BCSS encourages students to stay however after dinner many students leave to attend after parties and not necessarily hosted by BCSS students.

MYP CONSULTATION – Multi-Year Plan (MYP) – different dates in different regions inviting parents and community members to voice their concerns, ideas, what's working. All completed last month and BCSS will receive data on how the conversations went.

TAMIL AWARDS – 2 recipients from BCSS

AEBS AWARD – will be presented May 14

YRDSB ANNUAL AWARD – Teacher that won was Jacopo Stifani – recognized for working towards creating 4 cross-curricular projects for students – Gr 9 & 10 (Modern Learning Projects). Want students to connect their subjects to that one topic. Gr. 9 topic is the Environment. Next year, will select a different topic/project for Gr 10. In the past something similar was done, but moved away from this. This year, moving towards this through the Modern Learning project.

Operational

- Reviewed timetable change for next year
- Changes were made to address the increased numbers of students skipping period 5 since it was the only academic class after lunch and ILIP.
- As per the timetable outlined on the report, period 1 and 2 will be academic followed by lunch and ILIP and period 4 and 5 will be academic classes. Earlier lunch period may benefit students who don't eat breakfast
- Breakfast club program is still being offered at BCSS

Upcoming Dates:

- Refer to upcoming dates listed on report
There is a religious holiday during exam time – June 15 will be an instructional day. No formal classes but students are expected to attend school and teachers will be available to students who need extra help, much like an all-day ILIP.

Other

The boy's rugby team went to France over the April break. VP Mark attended and spoke on it. He said it was a great trip that went beyond sport. Comment was made that the trip turned boys to men – there was a focus on respect, teamwork and accountability. Even between the players on opposing teams. The trip encompassed sport, culture and history. It was deemed very much a brotherhood experience.

4.0 TEACHER'S REPORT- VP Mark Melnyk

2 students won YRDSB Student Success Awards held on May 2 and will also be honoured at the BCSS awards ceremony (Alexander Cooper and Emma Zukow)

5.0 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/NEW BUSINESS/CONCERNS

1. Inquiry about 10th Anniversary planning. No planning committed yet just a preliminary meeting in March with Executive council members, Shirley and Rose.
2. Has a replacement been found for Ms. Baskin who is retiring this year? No, not yet.

3. Was there a prom for students with special needs? Meshell advised that there was. It is the Best Buddies prom, which is usually held at the Crystal Fountain banquet hall. A BCSS student accompanies graduating students with special needs. It is a daytime event held for all York Region students with their chaperones. It was a successful event.
4. Meshell had a suggestion about selling the excess BCSS yearbooks that were in storage at a reduced price as part of the anniversary events. Noula asked about inventory and Meshell will verify and follow up. BCSS will keep 2 yearbooks for each year in the library.

The tentative date set for 10th Year anniversary is October 19 and 20th however this is not confirmed as the council Executive board is awaiting the survey results sent to staff. The plan is to have a social event at an offsite venue and memory lane event at the school.

It is unclear if the survey was sent out to the teachers yet as Seiji indicated he did not receive it. The survey was scheduled to be sent to the staff the first week of April.

Planning is at a standstill as the survey feedback from the teachers is imperative--the focus is to get alumni to return for this event and teacher attendance is important as alumni will expect to see their former teachers.

Meshell will follow up on the survey sent out.

Early and effective communication about the anniversary through all available channels—social media, direct email, school website, community newspapers etc. is vital to ensuring the success and attendance of event. Save the date announcements can go out as soon as survey results are assessed.

5. Can we give consideration to moving homecoming on a Friday to get more alumni coming back? It has always been on the Thursday before Thanksgiving weekend with a PA day on the Friday. It was suggested that moving the PA day to the Tuesday or better yet a Friday that is not a holiday long weekend. Alumni attendance has been on the decline as post-secondary students have classes on the Friday so it has become an event for existing students. Additionally many students and teachers don't stay very long as many people travel for the long weekend.

Reviewing homecoming 2019 events would be worthwhile to see what can be done to raise awareness that it is a family event and not just for students. High School football doesn't have the following it used to and the current timing makes it challenging for the other football teams to attend (St. Mikes event?). Should we give thought to another sport to replace football? DJ/Dancing/Band in the evening to encourage people to stay?

6. Inquiry about centralized communication portal for BCSS? There are a lot of events and opportunities within and outside of the school but there seems to be a lack of awareness. Team tryouts, volunteer opportunities, internal and external clubs, groups etc. Mark advised that there are plans to work on billcrothers.com site this summer. BCSS teachers have Google calendar and they would like to roll out the same for parents and students next year.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting by Noula; seconded by Eden.

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