

**Bond Lake Public School
School Council Meeting Minutes**

Monday, November 02, 2020

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Location: Virtual Meeting

Attendees	<p>Parents: Christina Blakeman, Patrick Lee, Irina Jurbas, JK, Sanaz Khaleghi, Tannaz Khaleghi, Sina, Stefanie, Georgia Savvakis, Sedigheh Tahmasebi, (there were 4 callers without names ‘A”, Caller 02, Caller 03 “I”)</p> <p>School Council Members: Chris, Kara, Rifath, Samantha, Sasha, Shaffina, Shefali</p> <p>Administration: Jackie Linton, Nadine Pickthall</p>
Notes	<p>WELCOME Samantha welcomed parents and called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.</p> <p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES The October 19, 2020 Bond Lake Public School Council Minutes were approved.</p> <p>BUDGET There was no budget update.</p> <p>NEW MATH CURRICULUM: CODING Ms. Linton briefed parents of the updates to the 2020 Ontario Ministry of Education Math Curriculum for Grades 1 – 8. Ms. Linton shared a summary spreadsheet of the math curriculum continuum from grade to grade. Links to the updated Math Curriculum will be shared with the BLPS community in the Weekly Wave.</p> <p>One important update discussed was the incorporation of Coding as part of the Algebra strand of math. While the curricular changes start in Grade 1, coding will be addressed in an age appropriate manner to Kindergarten students. Starting in Grade 1, coding skills will be introduced to improve problem solving and to develop fluency with technology. Coding is not new to most students and has been incorporated by many teachers within their math units. For students in upper years, their teachers will cover the curriculum of previous years in addition to the material for their current grade. Teachers have participated in Professional Development courses to facilitate the delivery of Coding to their students. Ms. Linton walked parents through some examples of what coding will look like in grade 1 vs grade 8. The coding unit will likely begin in December/January. Ms. Linton provided some Coding-related electronic resources that parents could access free of charge including Scratch and Scratch Jr (https://scratch.mit.edu/). However, it was also mentioned that early exposure to coding is not dependent on technology; there are other tools/toys that can be used. Logic and thinking make up a large part of Coding.</p> <p>Students familiarity with the first, then, next sequence as learned in their literacy strand will easily lend itself to the math language in Coding. All forms of movement will be explored.</p> <p>Parent questions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) How will the students be evaluated? Students will be evaluated based on thinking and communication pieces of Coding as well as how well their program runs.b) Will there be any other computer programs used? There may be some additional programs that teachers will opt to use; however, Scratch will be used the most.

c) Are there enough computers for the children to use, while ensuring Covid-19 protocols are maintained?

Ms. Linton noted that they have computers for almost 60% of the children in the intermediate levels. There is a process to clean and sanitize each computer so they can be shared. Students who received a YRDSB Chromebook back in March 2020 are welcome to bring those to school to use in the classroom. While some Coding related assignments may need to be completed at home, these assignments will not need to be done on a computer.

UPDATES: Outdoor Classroom Phase 2 (TD FEF)

Phase 2 tree planting is complete. The school has taken some pictures of the tree-planting and they will be shared in the Weekly Wave. We still need some pictures of students enjoying the space. If parents take any pictures of the trees before or after school hours (while respecting social distancing guidelines), they are welcome to share these with the School Council. The School Council will work on the TD FEF Impact Report for submission.

UPDATES: Chai 'n Chat

Four (4) members of the BLPS community attended the November 2nd Virtual Chai 'n Chat. Mrs. Linton and Mrs. Pickthall asked parents the question, "What are the systemic barriers that you have experienced accessing the education system in Ontario?" The question was also put out to the parents attending this BLPS SC meeting; specifically, what impeded connecting or connection with the school or the wider school community. Ms. Linton invited parents to share their feedback with her via email.

UPDATES: Building Community Connection

Other ideas to virtually engage our community members include a paint night, a games night, a trivia tournament, or an escape room event. There is a Real Estate Agent, within the BLPS community, who would like to financially support a BLPS activity. A sub-committee (Samantha, Shaffina, Kara & Shefali) has been formed to facilitate virtual, SC led, community engagement activities. We hope to host one event prior to the holiday season.

- Virtual Paint Night: School Council is planning a virtual paint night for the BLPS community (parents and their children). We currently have a possible contact to lead a virtual paint night
- Games Night or Trivia Tournament via Kahoot: There will be prizes available.
- Twitter: All members of the BLPS community are invited to follow School Council on twitter at [@bondlake_sc](https://twitter.com/bondlake_sc)

UPDATE: Parent-Teacher Interviews

Sign-up for a virtual interview with teachers will open for sign-up on Edsby from Nov 4 – 9, 2020. Interviews will take place on the evening of Thursday, November 12 and the morning of Friday, November 13. Interview slots are 20 minutes in length; however, the actual interview will be 15 minutes in length with 5 minutes for technological transition time.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30.

NEXT MEETING – December 07, 2020 @ 6:30 pm