

# **Bur Oak Secondary School Meeting**

## **Meeting Minutes of 3rd School Council Meeting**

**School Council meeting:** Monday, January 23, 2023

**Time:** 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

**Place:** Bur Oak Secondary School, Library/Learning Commons

**Participants:**

School Leadership: Louis Lim

Teachers: Angela Wan, Bhakti Merchant

Student Council Representative: Manav, Rachel

Parents/Guardians: Shirley Deng, Vajira Abeyshinghe, Zeng Bo, Hongjie Wu, Raj Thiru, Ivy Chan, Yasmin Sinarar, Kim Shah, Roger Shah, Joe Ferraro, Lisa Wu, Willa Zhang

**Agenda**

- Land acknowledgement (Joe Ferraro & Lisa Wu)
- Student Council Update (Manav & Rachel)
- Welcomes & Introductions (Joe Ferraro & Lisa Wu)
- Approval of Minutes: November Minutes (Willa Zhang)
- Presentation of Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) Results 2021-2022 (Angela Wan)
- Presentation of Grade 9 EQAO Mathematics Results 2021-2022 (Bhakti Merchant)
- School Administration (Louis Lim)
- Other Business

**1. Land Acknowledgement (Joe Ferraro & Lisa Wu)**

**2. Student Council Update (Manav & Rachel)**

- **Clubs Promotion:** took place in December with a lot of clubs promoting and attracting many students
- **Winter Assembly:** successfully held on Thursday, December 22, 2022, with dancing, music clubs to perform shows
- **Upcoming activities:**
  - i. Valentine's Day: February 14, 2023
  - ii. Next Club Promotion: with clubs continuing to enroll members of interest before March Break
  - iii. Culture Fair Day: April or May, 2023, with food and games

### **3. Welcome & Introductions (Joe Ferraro & Lisa Wu)**

Co-Chairs: Joe Ferraro & Lisa Wu

### **4. Approval of Minutes: November Minutes (Willa Zhang)**

The meeting minutes of the second School Council Meeting on November 21, 2022 was officially approved by all members of the council at tonight's school council meeting.

### **5. Presentation of Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) Results 2021-2022 (Angela Wan)**

Literacy Teacher, Ms. Angela Wan, shared the results of OSSLT for the last school year. 95% of Bur Oak Secondary School's first-time eligible students passed the test.

All YRDSB schools administered two opportunities for students to take the test: December 2022 for the fall session and April 2023 for the spring session. During this Wednesday's lunch period, students will be notified of their OSSLT test results from the fall 2022 session and those who did pass the test in last fall session will take the test again in the upcoming spring 2023.

For next steps, 1-on-1 support and group support will be provided by the literacy teacher to help students prepare for the spring test.

**Q1:** For first-time eligible students, when will they practice the OSSLT test?

**A1:** They will have 1 to 1.5 weeks ahead to practice before taking the test.

**Q2:** For students taking ESL level E in Grade 10, will they also need to take the OSSLT test?

**A2:** For students who are taking any level of ESL course, whether they will take the

OSSLT test depends on how old they are and their readiness to write the assessment. For older students, we will ask them to try to take the test. The literacy teacher will talk with students individually to see if they are ready to write the test.

## **6. Presentation of Grade 9 EQAO Mathematics Results 2021-2022 (Bhakti Merchant)**

Mathematics subject head, Ms. Bhakti Merchant, shared the 2021-2022 results of Grade 9 EQAO Mathematics test. This EQAO test is written by students taking grade 9 de-streamed mathematics. It is not a graduation requirement and counts for 5% of the students' final mark. For the 2021-2022 school year, 84% of our students taking grade 9 de-streamed mathematics achieved level 3 & level 4, 0% below level 1, 3% below level 1. We will continue to analyze the data to inform classroom instruction and practice.

**Q1:** Do Grade 9 students who do not have grade 9 de-streamed mathematics course this semester need to take this EQAO test?

**A1:** Students write the grade 9 EQAO mathematics assessment when they take grade 9 de-streamed mathematics course.

Note: Grade 10 mathematics is at the academic level only (i.e., no applied level). For grade 11, the math course will be divided by students' pathways (i.e., university, university/college, college, workplace). Why did YRDSB make this change? Because YRDSB wants all students to keep their pathway options open for post-secondary.

**Q2:** How can students apply to the school's Advanced Placement Calculus course? Beside calculus, does our school offer other AP courses or the IB program?

**A2:** AP-Calculus will continue in our school. Students in Grade 11 can apply to participate in the enrollment test and will be enrolled based on the test results. So far we only have one AP program, which is AP-Calculus, because there is only one teacher who is willing to teach this course. Mr. Muzsi has a PhD in Math and really likes teaching the course. YRDSB determines which schools run IB program with grade 8 application for admissions.

## **7. Guidance Updates (Louis Lim)**

### **(1) Course selection for upcoming school year from February 16 - 26, 2023**

We suggest students take time to browse the Bur Oak Secondary School website by departments to read the course description carefully; this will prepare students for course selection for the upcoming school year. Especially for grades 10 and 11 students, students need to think about their areas of interest to select courses based on post-secondary destinations so they receive them when timetables are created.

### **(2) Upcoming events**

- **Tuesday, February 7:** Grade specific presentations for parents of current Grades 8 – 11 students
- **Week of February 13:** course selection

Presentations to current Bur Oak students on how to select their courses for the upcoming school year

- **Any students need support: talk with guidance**

## **8. Principal updates (Louis Lim)**

**(1) On February 16 evening, a School Council Forum** for York Region District School Board's East schools will be held at Markham District High School. The principal and 2 parents/guardians will participate in the forum, to learn how other schools run their school council, and get to know parents of other schools.

**(2) School Council Program:** Each school is provided with \$800 Pro Grant for school councils to spend (e.g., to bring guest speakers on particular topics). The board has a list of approved speakers. Parents at tonight's meeting brainstormed possible topics, such as students' time management skills, exam stress, how can parents help their teenage children cope with final examinations, how students can take part-time job/volunteer job, how to better adapt to post-pandemic learning environment from remote to face-to-face, etc. Principal Lim will work on securing a speaker.

## **9. Other Business**

**Parking issue at school:** Lisa Wu proposed a suggestion to address the traffic safety issue in the morning. A draft drawing is attached to illustrate the current and proposed traffic flow. A new exit is needed to reduce the inflow/outflow crossing. The school council meeting discussed this proposal and all agree that this issue needs to be explored and Principal Lim will bring this proposal to the caretaking supervisor about the possibility with YRDSB Plant department.