

Banting School Council Meeting

Thursday, February 8, 2024

Attendance: Amanda Davidson (Chair), Kam Uppal, Juanita Wilson, Amber Coon, Deidre Nodwell, Sarah Harris, Natrisha LaRocca,), Jody Cele, Monica Ewles, Lorna Brown, Olubusola Sanjo-Bankole, Carolyn Maw (secretary) Rob Poissant (Principal), Jane Dewer (Vice-Principal), Marnie Jackson (Teacher Rep), Sarah Beitz (Trustee)

1. Approval of November 2023 Minutes

Motion to accept the minutes: Deirdre Nodwell

Seconded by: Natrisha LaRocca

Passed.

2. Principal's Report:

• Feedback and Recovery Days

- In order to minimize behaviour on the improvement days the format of the day was modified. In the past students attended during their regular period times. This year it was changed to a drop in, and student were required to sign in upon entry to the school. Admin were stationed at three entry doors with a teacher locator list. There was a QR Code that students scanned and filled out a form outlining why they were there and which teacher they were seeing.

Questions or Concerns from parents/guardians at the meeting about Feedback and Recovery Days:

- How many students attend these days? Answer: 340 students on the first day and then fewer as the days progressed.
 - Concerns from parents/guardians that this is only a small fraction of the school. Wondering if there was any data on if these days were effective or not.
 - Is there a way to know if a teacher is absent on one of these days so students do not come in? Suggested that teachers can post on D2L if they will not be there, and students can check before coming to school.
 - Thanks to the teachers for offering the option of an exam for some courses. Parents/Guardians were happy that students could have this practice.
 - Parents/Guardians continue to express concerns about the lack of formal exams. parents/guardians were advised that some changes are coming.
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- **Guidance**
 - Guidance office is following up with students who have not yet achieved their 40 hours of community service. Emails are sent home to parents/guardians to inform them as well. In the past the rule has been that you cannot attend Prom unless you

have your 40 hours completed. Guidance office has a list/resources/websites for students to help direct them to places where they can complete the volunteer hours. It is expected that students set up their own volunteer hours. There are also online options for students to volunteer.

- Grade 8 Info night was very well attended.
- Guidance and Special Education Teachers are going to feeder schools to participate in transition meetings for incoming Grade 8 students.
- Course Selection: February is course selection for students. If students have parent/guardian email address and enter it in correctly, parents/guardians can see courses selected. Alternatively, parents/guardians can check the parent portal to see this information. <https://ps.scdsb.on.ca/public/>

- **School Safety and Student Conduct**

- Safe schools assemblies were held with the grade levels and were well received by students
- Admin has seen improvement in the hallways. Bathrooms are still a concern.
- There are clear expectations that during class time, students are not walking around the hallways in groups. Admin is standing in doorways when possible, between classes to discourage skipping and sending students to class. In washrooms, if Admin walks in and sees people standing around the following progression of consequences applies: #1: warning, #2 parent/guardian phone calls and either school clean-up (if supported by parent/guardian) or detention, #3 suspension.
- Guided facilitation questions in homerooms will be the week of February 12. Homeroom teachers will ask a series of questions determined by admin to allow student input and discussion.

Current Events:

February is Black History Month. There are many activities planned like a student conference at Bear Creek, attending a [performance "Lost Heroes of Oro"](#), DJ Glenn will be coming to Banting, Taste of the Grill, Bulletin Boards and Announcements.

ACTION: Looking for members from the community to speak to the Black Student Association (BSA) to celebrate Black Excellence. In the past, they have hosted Lunch and Learns where community members can speak to the group and others who are interested. Contact the school if you are interested.

- **Future Events:**

June 20th- Prom at Nottawasaga Inn

June 27th - Commencement at the Innisfil Recreation Centre at 10 am. There will be no limit on tickets for students and families. This location was found to be the best option in terms of cost (cost will be shared with other schools who will also be using the venue at different times) and with the number of people who can attend.

Parent/Guardian Question: Wondering why there have not been student reps at the last two meetings? We are missing the student perspective at these meetings. Is it possible to invite more students to attend?

Action: Admin will reach out to students for the next meeting.

3. Trustee Report - Sarah Beitz (<https://www.facebook.com/sarahbeitz>)

- **Town Council reversed decision to deny the board building at the Banting Homestead Site. Steps are underway to get things started at this location.**
- Exams – there was a parent/guardian delegation about exams and a protest at the following board meeting. A lot of pressure to bring back exams at the end of each semester. Student Trustees, Union etc. all gave input. Vote by the trustees will happen on Wed, Feb 14th.
- Reminder to parents that students should all get work back that they completed.
- Sarah would like to encourage ongoing dialogue about board issues using the Thought Exchange.

4. New Business

Next Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) meeting is on February 27th. It is virtual.

https://www.scdsb.on.ca/board/board_and_committee_meetings

https://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/parent/parent_involvement_committee

5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn 7:25pm. Natrisha LaRocca.

Seconded. Sarah Harris.

Passed.

6. Next Meeting: April 11th 6pm