

AY Jackson Secondary School Council

Monday, November 30, 2015

6:30 p.m. in the Library

Present: Lillian Neitzel, Susan Wehrmann, Sandra Blakely, Jasmine Larocque, Mathieu Dotzenroth, David Thickett, Diane McFaul, Jamie Yee, Valerie Yee, Louise Roy, Tracy Sun, Kathryn Tranter Abt, Deb Hickey.

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. Agenda amendment – Mr. Thickett and Mr. Dotzenroth to present before Student Council.

Grade 9 EQAO Results – David Thickett

The last couple of years EQAO has been below standard, level 2, at AY. The math teachers began working with the feeder schools and changed the way they do math.

Academic is more traditional, following the book. The new way is to cycle through topics. Introduce them at a low level and then later in the term reintroduce them at harder, then harder levels as the term progresses.

There was a small number of students in the Applied as most students choose the Academic. This would bring our EQAO numbers down due to weaker students in Academic and should have been in Applied. We decide to have mix classes – both Applied and Academic students in the same class. Students could try the academic math and if they found it too difficult they could switch to applied without having to change classes.

We are working with the feeder schools a lot more. The grade 7&8 teachers are starting to work with the grade 4-6 teachers as well. We are tracking students to make sure it's working. We are trying to make the transition from grade 8 to grade 9 seamless.

Grade 10 Literacy Results – Mathieu Dotzenroth

In the 2014/2015 school year we had 90% success rate, above the board and provincial level. In 2013/2014 we had 91% and in 2012/2013 we had 89%. Of the students who didn't pass and rewrote the test in Grade 11 we had an 86% success rate in 2014/2015 and in 67% in 2013/2014.

We have a Literacy boot camp a couple weeks before the test.

The Applied students have 45-60% success rate, which is similar to the board and province.

We may do the same model as Math (combining Applied and Academic) but we have not committed to it yet. We have reading strategies and partner with the grade 7&8 teachers as the feeder schools.

Student Council Report –

Current the Grade 12's are in first place for the grade wars and the Grade 9's are in second.

For Halloweek we had Orange/Black day, Cops/Robbers, Crazy Hat, TBT and Costumes (78% of student dressed up).

There was a teacher auction. You could bring money or food. There was pumpkin carving in the pit.

We had Red Blacks day for the Division Finals.

For the holidays we are planning on a Giving Tree – food, toys, clothing, Snowsuit fund (grades can earn points for bring in items) and Santa Photos.

We have changed the way we calculate participation for Grade Wars points. It is now based on percentage participating as apposed to the number of students participating as there are more Grade 12 students. This makes it fair.

December 11 is the Semi formal dance – Winter Wonderland Theme. The first dance was a huge success but the police are a big expense and cut into profits. Tickets for the December 11 dance are 2/\$15.

Spirit Week – week before Christmas
Monday - Holiday colors – Red/Green
Tuesday – Ugly Sweater day
Wednesday – White out/Winter Sports day
Thursday – Holiday hat
Friday – PJ day

Pit games - 14th Holiday musical chairs
15th Gift wrap
16th Snowflakes
17th Karoke

Teacher Report – Jasmine Larocque

We had a Outer Club Night Hike last Friday. It's run right after school. Go to Gatineau for a 4 km hike. 24 students participated.

We will also have Cross Country Skiing with Mr. Horn, Canal Skating with Mr. Barter and Rock Climbing with Ms. Peters.

Mr. Capeling and Ms. Larocque will be taking students on the China Trip. It will be March 22- Apr 4. It will be 10 days – 3 nights in Beijing sight seeing, then pair with Chinese student and go to an international school. Cost is \$3100-\$3200 + any spending money. Cost includes flight, accommodation and Visa.

2016/2017 planned trips are New York City in the fall, Canadian city exchange, Spain and Italy. Peru will be the same time as China, going with a tour company and Mr. Barter is organizing it.

Dec. 3 – arts night open house: music, dance, theatre and visual arts.

Dec. 9 – Dance showcase at 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 10 – Music concert at 7:00 p.m. All welcome

Dec. 15 - 3rd round of credit intervention

Jan. 20/21 – Gr. 9 EQAO

Jan. 26-29 - Exams

Principal's Report – Sandra Blakely

Our school budget is \$148,349 (88,795 operating budget, \$3, 237 for temporary office, EAs, tech support and \$56,316 for occasional teachers).

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In 2016/2017 we will be offering 2 AP courses – Calculus and Literature. Course is scored out of 5 and you need to get a 4 out of 5 to get the credit in most Universities. We will also be offering a senior business course in french – an addition selection for EFI students.

Two weeks ago staff did a First Aid course. Would Parent Council like to do this? Must have at least 12 people and the cost is \$50/person?

Susan Smith is retiring in January. We will be getting a new VP.

We are looking for ways to reduce our paper/photocopying. Currently our budget is \$16,000.

Vote for next years Prom Co-Chairs will be in April.

Team uniforms – Mrs. Hyndman said it will cost \$2000 to replace the field hockey uniforms. The currently ones are only 7 years old and the kids at the time did not want the skort. Sticks have already been replaced.

No new uniform for tennis, golf, lacrosse and cross country.

OCASC – no report

OCDSB Update - Lillian Neitzel

Labor Relations Update:

Summary - A tentative settlement has been reached between the Crown, OSSTF Education Workers and the Council of Trustee Associations (CTA) composed of all four Trustee/School Board Associations.

Details are confidential until ratified by the parties. Ratification will be completed by the parties on or before December 16, 2015. OSSTF Executive will meet their presidents and chief negotiators from affected school boards Monday morning to recommend the settlement for ratification. Once the settlement has been recommended, central sanctions will be immediately suspended.

There is good news at the secondary level.

OSSTF (Secondary Occasional Teachers): A tentative memorandum of settlement in principle with OSSTF (Occasional Teachers) has been ratified at the local level.

OSSTF (Secondary Teachers): Secondary teachers have ratified the local tentative agreement. With the ratification, this means the OCDSB now has a local collective agreement with OSSTF (Teachers Bargaining Unit) and sanctions are no longer in place for teachers and occasional teachers.

OSSTF (Administrative & Support): The OCDSB has five OSSTF support staff bargaining units which represent school office and administrative staff, custodial and maintenance staff, library and guidance technicians, early childhood educators, educational assistants, psychologists, social workers and speech language pathologists, Adult ESL Instructors and childcare workers. Local negotiations with these bargaining units are on-going and we remain committed to negotiating fair and fully funded agreements with all of our bargaining units.

At the elementary level: a tentative local agreement has been reached with the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario and its Ottawa Teacher Local representing elementary school teachers.

This agreement, reached November 19th, comes less than a week after the ratification of the central agreement between ETFO, OPSBA and the Crown. The terms of the agreement will remain confidential until ratified by both parties. Ratification is scheduled to be completed by or before December 7, 2015.

The OCDSB has one other ETFO bargaining unit which represents occasional teachers. Local negotiations with this bargaining unit is on-going and we remain

committed to negotiating fair and fully funded agreements with all of our bargaining units.

Ottawa Public Health Immunization Record:

Ottawa Public Health (OPH) is reviewing the immunization records of 150,000 students attending elementary and secondary schools in Ottawa to make sure the information is up-to-date. Updates on immunizations are crucial information to protect the health of students during an infectious disease outbreak, such as measles.

Under the Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA), students attending school in Ontario are required to be vaccinated against nine diseases or have a valid exemption. In the months ahead, OPH will be sending letters to parents if their child's records are not up-to-date. A suspension from school may be issued if a student's record remains incomplete.

A suspension from school may be issued if a student's record remains incomplete. Written notices from Ottawa Public Health for Ottawa-Carleton District School Board students are now being mailed to parents.

To avoid school suspensions, parents who receive a letter requesting immunization information can contact OPH by phone at 613-580-6744 or submit immunization information online, by fax (613-580-9660), by mail or by the ImmunizeCA app. Parents can visit parentinginottawa.ca/immunization for more details about how to submit their child's immunization information to Ottawa Public Health. Suspension letters for OCDSB students will be sent home starting in January 2016.

If you receive a letter from Ottawa Public Health, your cooperation and support to respond quickly is very much appreciated. Your efforts will help protect not only your child but will help ensure all our children are better protected against infectious diseases.

Pending changes to French Instruction for Kindergarten and Primary Early French Immersion

Committee of the Whole met on November 17, 2015 to consider changes to the delivery of French language instruction in JK/SK and grades 1-3 EFI. The Committee passed a motion to undertake additional consultation on this topic and delay the implementation of any changes until September 2016. At the Board meeting on November 24th, the Board decided to undertake the additional consultation between now and February in order to consider implementation for September 2016

What is Happening with French Instruction in Kindergarten & Grades 1-3 French Immersion?

This fall the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) has been considering changes to the delivery of French as a second language in Kindergarten and grades 1-3 Early French Immersion (EFI). In October, parents and staff were asked to provide feedback about the recommended changes to how we deliver these programs. We heard from many people, but we also heard that more time was needed for consultation. Additional consultation is now underway and we would like your input.

Why are changes being proposed?

Currently students move into Early French Immersion in senior kindergarten. This is the middle of the two year kindergarten program. Moving students in the middle of the two-year program creates additional transitions for some students, separates peer groups, makes it harder to organize classes and results in large differences in class size. The proposed changes are intended to align the EFI model with the two year kindergarten model.

What are the changes being proposed?

There are three recommendations for change:

1. All students in junior and senior kindergarten would receive 50% of their instruction in English and 50% in French:
2. Students in Early French Immersion would have a change in the language of instruction of mathematics from French to English for Grades 1 to 3 EFI.
3. Students in grade 1 Early French Immersion would receive 60 minutes of daily English (as a subject) instruction.

When would these changes take effect?

The first step will be deciding what changes will occur, including the date of implementation. There has been discussion about implementation for September 2016 and for September 2018.

The current recommendations propose the following timelines:

- **Effective September 2016** – the changes to the amount of French instruction in JK/SK would be introduced and math instruction in grades 1-3 would shift to English (recommended changes 1 and 2); and
- **Effective September 2018** – English would be introduced as a subject in the Early French Immersion program.

What is the decision making process?

It is important to note that no decision has been made about changes to the programs at this time. These are recommendations for change – the recommendations will be considered by Committee of the Whole on February 2, 2016.

This kind of decision is made by the Board of Trustees. Staff is responsible for reviewing the program model and making recommendations for change based on curriculum requirements, research, program design, staffing, resource

requirements, and parental input. Staff puts forward a recommendation to the Committee of Whole and the Committee debates the recommendations and can amend, defeat or recommend approval of the recommendations. The Committee decision goes to the Board of Trustees for final approval.

How can I provide input?

You can provide your input through our survey which will be available starting the week of December 1st. Please complete this survey, even if you took part in the consultation that was conducted September 28- October 31. More details will be available about this in the next week.

BACKGROUND

The OCDSB offers 3 types of elementary programs:

- English with Core French begins in junior kindergarten and offers 20 minutes/day of French in JK/SK and 40 minutes per day in grades 1-3;
- Early French Immersion begins in Senior Kindergarten with 50% French instruction, 100% French instruction in grade 1, and 80% French instruction in grades 2 and 3; or
- Middle French Immersion begins in grade 4 with 60% instruction in French.

How would this change?

The following table shows the current model (on the left) and the recommended changes on the right. The blue arrow shows where change is proposed. Note the addition of 60 minutes English as a subject is not recommended for implementation until 2018.

What can you tell me about the pros and cons of these changes?

Some of the pros and cons that were identified by parents and staff include:

High School Information Nights

To help you make an informed decision when choosing a high school, OCDSB schools host information nights for parents and grade 8 students each year between November and February. Learn everything you need to know about our incredible variety of schools, programs and courses.

January 20 A.Y. Jackson Secondary School 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

For a full listing, visit OCDSB.ca.

Round Table

Boys AY hockey team played but it was not on the website. It's not always up-to-date. Best to go to JTV. There was a buyout (students could pay to leave class and go watch the game) for the hockey game against Earl of March.

Grade 9's are loving AY! Thank you.

Mr. Fried is replacing Ms. Bendel.

Meet was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Next Meeting

Monday, January 25, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the library. All are welcome!