

Clarington School Council Association

Wednesday Feb 21, 2018

Newcastle Public School

7:00-9:00

Attendance: James Rook (Central Bowmanville PS), Dawn Chapell and Kerry Ann Anderson (Dr. Emily Stowe PS), Sean Ireland (Hampton Junior PS and M.J. Hobbs Sr. PS), Matt Balsler (John M. James PS), Sharie Campbell (Duke of Cambridge PS), Jane Crabbe (Newcastle PS), Marika Beaumont (Waverley PS), Kerry Roorda, Kim Hancock (Charles Bowman PS), Robin Blesse (Clarke HS), Angela Roberts, Dr. Ross Tilley/CCSS, Dawn Canonico, S.T. Worden PS.

Regrets: Sarah Bobka, Danielle Magvas (Clarington Central Secondary School).

Guests: Alison Sadowski/Wilf Gray, Chris Johnson and Jennifer Forsythe – Principal and VP of Newcastle.

Chris – Newcastle and Newtonville, 30 classes, 700 students, JK to 6, and started French Immersion grade 2, next year starting grade 1, private ABA team starting next week for a child on the Autism Spectrum. Sept got Pro Grant – motivational speaker for here and the Pines and a collaborative presentation in the evening – choose choices for circumstances, coaching parents for coaching kids to build resilience, linking initiative to High of Hero's – collection of toonies (\$2000) and planted 30 service trees along highway and walking path. New initiative to rebuild library – new librarian, community nights with teachers and council every few months, new school logo and mounted, 6 room porta-pack this year. Looking for AED because busy community school as well, handbook for students and families – less rule based, resource for things in school and community.

Call to Order – Robin Blesse.

Adoption of Agenda and Jan 17, 2018 Minutes – Sean/Matt.

Educational Topic- Alternative and Continuing Education in KPR – Principal Alison Sadowski, Principal Wilf Gray.

Discussed Alternative and Adult Continuing Education programs – grade 11 or age 16 can enter the program. No upper age limit, adult completing secondary, tri-ministry collaboration (Min of Ed, Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development, Ministry of Citizenship, and Immigration), variety of programs in traditional schools, with youth emergency services, ESL, as well as others.

Re-engage back into education, flexible, individualized, co-design educational plan suits learning styles and goals, still teach to the Ontario Curriculum but individualized time frames.

If there are 23 learners from a community then school board has to provide. Looking at Spanish hosted at Duke of Cambridge, open to any K-8 students coming in the Fall.

Trustee Reports – Cathy Abraham

Started budget conversations, to be done end of June, talking about “what really matters” based on strategic plan – every year overspend in special education line and will likely continue to do that.

Social Media - #weareKPR, lots of posts about Black History Month, Carl Subin spoke in February at CCSS.

Don't meet in March – at Program meeting in January reviewed Safe Caring and Restorative Schools Policy – will come to school councils to review, please do that and send comments – for April.

Discussion paper on transportation still open for discussion – New Vision for Student Transportation in Ontario – on the Ministry of Ed website, important because significant portion of students are bussed and large part of budget.

PVNCC does not offer alternative education – they come to KPR for support. A lot of discussion about one school system in media – budgetary and equity issue, in Nova Scotia move to get rid of school board trustees so starting to hear discussion about importance of the role.

Superintendent Reports – Peter Mangold

Safe Care and Restorative Schools policy – very comprehensive, what may constitute suspension, when suspended or expelled, based on Ministry guidelines and policies but local input – created by committee with administration and trustees and then draft out to schools for feedback via school councils and regional council, will need to also consider legalization of marijuana.

Encourage finding ways to get families involved in the schools – special events, sports and cultural events.

Meeting with more schools, meet with Clarke staff about continuing shrinking enrollment, waiting for Ministry guidelines about accommodation review processes prior to making any recommendations to the Trustees, all rumours that new HS will be build in Newcastle, will have opportunity for community consultation, 2015 accommodation review – projected Clarke to have 360-370 students this year, now 250 this year. Kids going to St. Stephens or BHS – some go catholic after G6 or at G9 or all of elementary to avoid transitions.

Ministry of Education – Strengthening the Process for Reviewing Pupil Accommodation – available for review and comment on the website – review about process possible until end of April.

How and when do parents/students get their voice heard in program changes or school change?
Generally, there is a consultation part of presentations. Should be an opportunity for feedback at those presentations – prework done before and options considered. Concerns were discussed specifically to the transition at Charles Bowman PS.

Currently, will bus kids from Clarke to BHS but not well known, kids making choices based by walking/transportation. Feels scattering/split town because of high school choices being forced.

Province won't fund courses/classes without minimum numbers so that impacts choices/decisions. Suggested joint council meeting with Peter (all Newcastle schools).

Sharing of Successful Practices

Waverley doing Edbsy education session prior to Parent Council meeting.

Next meeting

April 18, 2018 – Clarington Central Secondary School, Bowmanville.

Adjournment – James Rook