

Bell High School
Council Meeting
January 30, 2023
In-person and virtual
MINUTES

Attendees: Karyn Curtis, Ann Matejicka, Murjan Abdi, Christine Siwy, Shannon Mills, Rod Oickle, Jing Wu, Vivian Chan, Mo Tait

Welcome and Introductions – Ann Matejicka

Ann welcomed participants.

Approval of Agenda – Ann Matejicka

The agenda was approved, with the addition of an OCASC report under Other Business. Motion to approve: Karyn Curtis; seconded: Murjan Abdi

Approval of Minutes – Ann Matejicka

The minutes from November 28, 2022 were approved. Motion to approve: Murjan Abdi; seconded: Mo Tait

Student Council Report – Ethan Guan, Jules Wong

No report was provided as Jules and Ethan were absent.

Principal's Report – Christine Siwy (on behalf of Jon Harris)

New Staff

Intermediate

Leah Ogalvie - Gifted 7/8A

Secondary

Alysar Dandach - Media Arts

Costa Georgitsos - Immersion Phys Ed

Bryce McBride - Business

Filip Wawrzyńczak - English

Athrum Zhang – Math/Physics

Grade 9 Information Night

February 9 - 6:30 PM in Cafetorium

Guidance Team meeting with current grade 9 classes and visiting feeder schools

Course Information for 2023-2024 School Year

Students will use Xello to select courses

Open to submit starting February 10. Courses selections due February 27 (change in date from last night due to Board decision)

Students will attend Grade Assemblies Feb 6 to get an understanding of the course selection process

All resources are posted on the student Services website on the Bell website.

Destreaming

OCDSB School will continue to destream compulsory junior courses. Additionally for the 2023-2024 School Year
Grade 10 Science
Grade 10 English
Grade 10 History
Grade 10 Math (Destreamed 2022-2023)

Spirit Wear

Spirit wear is now for sale. A link to purchase can be found on our website. Items can be shipped home with a shipping fee or to the school with no shipping charge. The deadline is now February 5.

Grad photos

Grad photos will be coming back after March break. Space is VERY limited and this is the last opportunity for them to be done. A booking link will be posted on the website and a message sent out via school messenger.

School Transfers

Transfer window - January 30 - February 10
This year Bell Secondary and Bell Intermediate are capped at zero transfers

Upcoming Dates

Jan 31 - Secondary PD Day
Feb 1 - Start of Semester II (Secondary)
Feb 9 - Grade 9 Information Night
Feb 10 - Secondary Report Cards
Feb 15 - Intermediate Report Cards
Feb 17 - PD Day (Intermediate & Secondary)
Feb 20 - Family Day
Feb 21 - Ottawa Public Health Catch-Up clinic
Feb 22 - Intermediate Dental Screening
March 13-17 - March Break

Student Success – Christine Siwy (on behalf of Shane Kelly, Student Success Teacher)

The Student Success group helps students who are struggling, through credit support, credit rescue, and credit recovery.

Credit support is available daily during lunch. Any interested student can sign up for assistance, in any subject. We had 900 students register during the first semester, twice the number from last year. We are looking to expand the supports available, through peer tutoring.

Credit rescue helps students who are at risk of failing a given course to complete missing work. There were 120 signed up last semester.

Staff Report – Shannon Mills

Bell has had a significant influx of ESL students this year; over 42 per cent of our student body is ESL.

Treasurer's Report – Jen Samuel

No report was provided as Jen was absent.

Other Business

Purdy's Fundraiser – Mo Tait

The Purdy's chocolate fundraiser netted almost \$1,000.

The amount available for any given project will be capped at \$250.

Jon will circulate the funding request form to staff.

We will hold another Purdy's fundraiser for Easter. Orders will have to be received by March 19, to be delivered by Good Friday.

We will order extra to sell when handing out orders, in response to student demand.

Communications – Murjan Abdi/Ann Matejicka

There is interest in setting up a communications channel for parents, such as WhatsApp or Telegram.

It could be run through Bell, with posts metered by staff. Parents would be invited to subscribe. Communications would be one-way, i.e., subscribers would not have the capacity to post or respond.

An alternative would be to make an unofficial channel, and invite parents to sign up.

Christine will raise this with Jon.

OCASC Report – Vivian Chan

OCASC wants councils to support getting more school bus drivers.

Applications for the Parents Reaching Out grant are due February 20.

The next meeting is February 16.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40. Motion to adjourn: Karyn Curtis; seconded: Mo Tait

Next meeting Monday, February 27, 2023