

Bell High School  
Council Meeting  
March 27, 2023  
MINUTES

**Attendees:** Karyn Curtis, Ann Matejicka, Christine Siwy, Mo Tait, Jules Wong, Ethan Guan, Maris Stasko, Amanda Bowman

**Welcome and Introductions – Ann Matejicka**

Ann welcomed participants.

**Approval of Agenda – Ann Matejicka**

The agenda was approved. Motion to approve: Karyn Curtis; seconded: Mo Tait

**Approval of Minutes – Ann Matejicka**

The minutes from February 27, 2023, were approved. Motion to approve: Karyn Curtis; seconded: Mo Tait

**Student Council Report – Jules Wong, Ethan Guan**

We recently held our two biggest events of the year, Battle of the Grades, and Leadership Camp. Students demonstrated considerable spirit throughout the BOTG week, which was ultimately won by the Grade 12s. In addition to Tacky Tourist day, Anything But a Backpack Day, and various challenges and contests, each grade decorated its hall, with impressive results. Numbers will be provided at the next meeting.

Leadership Camp was a great success, with 143 participants spending a weekend developing leadership and teambuilding skills, and having a lot of fun. Many thanks to Mr. Hodgins and the teacher supervisors and parent volunteers who helped make it a success.

There seem to be issues with the form for ordering grad caps and gowns, the deadline for which is Friday. Christine will look into this.

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

The province is introducing two new requirements for graduating students, which will take effect in the 2024-25 school year. Students will be required to take two e-learning courses, though they may opt out. There will also be a compulsory technology course. Bell offers a number of tech courses, including integration, construction, communications, and automotive. Bell's construction tech class is building picnic tables to raise funds for a desktop laser. The tables will cost \$300 each.

Council agreed to purchase tables, as funds have already been set aside for this. We will vote on the amount to spend at the next meeting.

**Ottawa Public Health (OPH) presentation – Amanda Bowman (Bell's OPH nurse)**

OPH works with the OCDSB and individual schools, to support access to resources, give in-class presentations, and provide information on health, infectious diseases, immunization clinics, healthy eating, substance use, mental health, and healthy growth and development.

The Parenting Ottawa website (<https://www.parentinginottawa.ca/en/index.aspx>) gives information on immunization requirements for various ages, updating records, etc., and is very helpful.

Bell will hold a catch-up clinic for Grade 7 and 8 students on April 27-28.

We have held two such clinics already.

Vaccinations may be obtained at physicians' offices, family and community vaccination clinics, and neighbourhood health and wellness hubs.

The goal of health and wellness hubs is to help those facing barriers get access to health services. No health card or appointment is required. The hubs provide vaccinations, dental screening, employment and social services, and mental health and addiction services.

More information on neighbourhood hubs can be found on the OPH site

(<https://www.ottawapublichealth.ca/en/public-health-topics/neighbourhood-health-and-wellness-hubs.aspx>)

It is important to update OPH on your child's vaccinations. This can be done online, by phone, fax, or mail. There is also a free app, found at [canimmunize.ca](http://canimmunize.ca), to enable updates.

### **Staff Report – Maris Stasko**

The Grade 12 Equity and Social Justice class recently produced infographics, which will be put up near the library.

The Grade 10 Visual Arts students took part in a silk screening workshop on Friday with JB Arts.

On April 6, the BMI 3C Marketing class will virtually host Ms. Fatima Zaidi, founder of Quill Podcasting.

Grade 11 students participated in an Eastern Colleges panel last week, with presentations from various colleges on the college system, campuses, and programs.

Badminton, Rugby, and Track and Field are currently underway. Girls' soccer and Baseball will be starting soon.

On Friday, there will be a teachers vs. graduating students hockey game. Admission is \$2. Intramural basketball will start next week.

Although Ramadan poses challenges for many classes, particularly active participation classes, most students are working hard to participate to the best of their ability.

Phys Ed staff are always looking for donations of gently used running shoes, shorts, warmup pants, mitts and gloves, snowpants, and boots. Donations may be left at the Gym Office.

### **Treasurer's Report – Jen Samuel**

There is \$2883.00 in the Intermediate account, and \$5423.21 in the Secondary account.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40.

**Next meeting Monday, April 24, 2023**