

Minutes

Sir Robert Borden High School Council

September 21, 2021

A virtual meeting of the Sir Robert Borden High School Council was held on Tuesday, September 21 at 7:00 PM through Google Meet.

Present (based on Google Meet user names)

Carmen Parsons, Chair	Brenda Asselstine
Matt Gagnier, Principal	Heike Payne
Trevor Grills, Vice-Principal (A-K)	Jen Hubbard
Christine Rankin, Vice-Principal (L-Z)	Sharon Creasey
John Ioannou, Intermediate VP	Alia Klein
Himani Parajuli, Student Rep	Alison Harvey
Torie Del Grosso	Lucas Cheng (Joanne)
A McEachern	Emilene Ordeman, Secretary

Approval of minutes from June

- The minutes from June were approved unchanged

Student Representative – Report for Grades 9-12

Hey everybody, my name is Himani Parajuli and I am this year's external representative. I am so excited to be working alongside you all to make sure that the SRB student body has the safest and most productive year possible.

I will also talk about your perspective of being back every day vs. every 2 days as a high school student. I am sure parents will be curious about that:

Everyone seems super positive about the new year

Two classes are better use of time; course load seems spread more fairly – work and exam times line up better with schedules

Google classroom – more savviness and use already

- Student council events
 - First Borden Pride Day last Friday
 - Spirit week Oct 4-8 (Participation from all)
 - Covid Safe
 - Lookout for outdoor permittance after Thanksgiving
- Fall sports starting soon
 - Tennis
 - Rugby
 - Golf
 - Cross Country
 - Field Hockey

- Club fair starting soon
- September 30th Orange shirt day event
- Insta poll on academic and social life discussion: people like it so far; the overall consensus is that students like this semester better than the last; however, breaks need to be more strictly implemented

Teacher Representatives have not yet been identified yet

Principal's Report – Matt Gagnier

Admin Team Introductions (beginning of meeting)

- John Ioannou - Intermediate VP
 - Trevor Grills - Secondary VP (student last names A-K)
 - Christine Rankin - Secondary VP (student last names L-Z)
- The Principal's Report is an opportunity to talk about where we are now; lots of key updates go out via email

School Startup

- Welcome back - 9 full days in; students and staff excited to be back to full time in person learning.
- ~700 high school students, ~365 intermediate school students; including secondary autism program and secondary learning disabilities program
- COVID Safety Protocols
 - Daily Self Assessment before sending your child to school
 - Staff Daily Self Assessment
 - Assigned grade entrances, zones for students
 - Masks on school property
 - Hand hygiene when entering the building and in classrooms
 - Curriculum and safety adaptations in subject and grade areas
 - There are differences in the Intermediate and Secondary parts of the school (e.g. students do not travel in intermediate, high school students have 2 in-person classes)
- Goal is to provide students with daily access to in-person teaching and learning + interaction with peers.
- Daily attendance is important. Google Classroom/VLE is used to support learning, but is not hybrid and does not replace in-class instruction. Teachers of course still supporting the learning of students who have to self-isolate.
- Clubs are being offered virtually for the time being
- SRB is trying to find opportunities to offer inter-school sports in high school for students, the format of the sport and league is dependent on a number of factors. Fall sports in planning stages: golf, cross country, basketball, field hockey, rugby 7s). The decision was to prioritize sports, since they can't be offered virtually
- Caring and supportive staff - when you have questions or concerns please reach out to your child's teacher. There are also Support professionals available at the school (school psychologist, social worker, Rideauwood worker, child and youth worker). Learning Support Teachers are available for students with IEP's, student success teachers in both intermediate and secondary, and guidance counsellors in secondary. We look forward to working with your child.
- Virtual tutoring after school program will start next week – free resource for any OCDSB student – more info to follow

- Question on use of stairwells – partly to keep HS and Intermediate School separate, hard to keep classes/cohorts separate; Matt will take another look to ensure that this hasn't made the stairs too crowded

Staff and Student Events

- 3 Full Professional Learning Days at the beginning of September - focus areas included Mental Health, Student Well Being, Anti-Racism, Anti-Oppression, Literacy and Numeracy K-12 including destreaming (Gr. 9 math and geography), Assessment and Evaluation, Bullying Prevention, and Health and Safety
- Students in Grade 7-12 participated in Student Vote yesterday - we had over 600 students participate; This was a great way for students to be engaged in learning about civics in action.
- Grade 9 Welcome Crew - Students in Grade 11/12 are paired with Grade 9 Classes to provide transition opportunities, answer questions from a student's perspective, provided school tours to help welcome new grade 9 students
- Grad photos next week – email sent out, encouraging bookings as early as possible; white shirt best for photos
- Other grades' photos to follow; grad photos the priority, as some schools' graduating students couldn't get their photos last year due to shutdowns and restrictions on photography companies. Photo ID needed for vaccination passports – Matt will raise this issue
- Secondary schedule: https://p13cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_55394/File/Secondary/Calendar/20-21/Final%202021-2022_Secondary_SYC.pdf
- Elementary schedule: https://p13cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_55394/File/Elementary/Calendar/2021/Final%202021-2022_Elementary_SYC.pdf
- Due to Ministry's requirement for two in-person classes per day, Band being offered as an extra course to form a third cohort right now - being conducted outdoors; when weather turns, will need to determine how to implement

Upcoming items/key dates (including October)

- Sept. 27th-30th Truth and Reconciliation Week, Sept 30th is National Truth and Reconciliation Day, wear orange. More info on memorial and activities to be sent out later this week.
- Sept. 27-Oct 1: Graduation Photos. Gr. 12 students (and parents) received emails with the link to book their appointments.
- Upcoming Inclusivity workshop with company "Get Real" for Grade 9 students at the end of September
- Intermediate-Terry Fox Run either Oct 7th or 8th, donate to <http://www.terryfox.ca/SirRobertBordenHSNepean>
- Intermediate- virtual Meet the Teacher (not interviews): Grade 7-8 Homeroom Teachers will be inviting families to virtual meets during Oct 4th-7th
- Post Secondary Planning for Parents - Thursday October 21 (there is no School Council Meeting in October but this event is strongly encouraged for parents of grade 11-12 students to attend)

Financial Update

- School Council opening balance \$2371.17; the school maintains the account for School Council

- Funds can be used towards supporting Parents Reaching Out Grants (hosting a parent event virtually e.g. a speaker), or specific initiatives that support students in the school (e.g. past project: sponsor book clubs in the library)
- Teachers can request Council funds

Intermediate VP's Report – John Ioannou

- Students are being welcomed, re-learning routines (e.g. Lining up for entry/exit, sanitizing hands, outdoor zones & cohorts, wearing masks), feeling comfortable in class, getting to know peers
- Teachers learning about their students through Observations, Individual Education Plans, focus is on closing learning gaps
- Student Led “Shared Experience” project continues - students have their own experiences to share with the greater community; shared a video last year and will build on that project this year
- Paraprofessionals are available
- Teachers are preparing Google Classroom for each class
- Student Vote occurred on Mon., Sept. 20th - Voting – understanding right to vote; mini federal election led by Gr. 10 Civics class
- Inclement Weather: students are reminded to dress appropriately for the weather, we remain outside unless severe weather or temperatures are below -24 degrees Celsius

Elections

Note: This will be Carmen's last year as chair, so we are seeking a parent who transition to the chair position next year

Positions:

Chair – Carmen Parsons

Secretary – Emilene Ordeman

OCASC rep – vacant

Members at large – Brenda Asselstine, Jen Hubbard, Sharon Creasey, Joanne Cheng, Ann McEachern, Torie DelGrosso

OCASC Representative's Report

- information on monthly meetings are available at <https://ocasc.ca/>

Next meeting on November 9, 2021

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm