



MEETING ATTENDANCE

Voting Members

Nasreen Awad, Manal Chams, Vanesa Gonzalez, Donia Hafez, Nia Karyn Mui, Stefanie Neale, Lisa Packwood, Kara Tse, Jhennel Young

Attendees

Erin Hadleman, Arwa Jammali and Jacqueline Naismith

Staff Representation

Annemarie Symchyshyn, Acting Principal
Emily Ali, Acting Vice Principal
Tania Verro-Matos

Regrets

Ali Awade, Joanne McLean, Bruno Palatto, Donia Hafez

2023/2024 Current Council Members

- **Co-Chairs:** Lisa Packwood, Stefanie Neale
- **Treasurer:** Ali Awad
- **Secretary:** Karyn Mui
- **Council Members:**
Nesreen Awad
Manal Chams
Vanesa Gonzalez
Donia Hafez
Nia Khuong
Joanne McLean
Heliasadat Tarjomani
Kara Tse
Jhennel Young
- **Note:** council members are required to attend each meeting (unless regrets are sent) to maintain quorum while voting on expenditures/actions.

Call to Order – 6:00 pm

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are on land and surrounded by water, originally inhabited by Indigenous Peoples who have travelled this area since time immemorial. This territory is within the lands honoured by the Wampum Treaties; agreements between the Anishinaabe (Ah-nish-e-naa-bay), Haudenosaunee (Hoe-den-oh-show-nee), Lenni (Len-eh) Lenape (Le-naw-pay) and allied Nations to peacefully share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. Specifically, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the Three Fires Confederacy (Ojibwey (Oh-jib-way), Odawa (Oh-dah-wah), Potawatomi (Paw-taw-watt-oh-me) and Huron/Wendat (Wen-dat) Peoples. We are dedicated to honouring Indigenous history and culture while remaining committed to moving forward respectfully with all First Nations, Inuit and Métis.

Principal's Report – Mme Symchyshyn

Monday, January 15th, 2024 - Principal Report

Happy New Year! On behalf of our staff, we hope everyone had a wonderful break and we are looking forward to continuing to partner with you in 2024! M. Pallotto is on a short medical leave and Mme Symchyshyn is acting principal and Mme Ali is acting vice-principal.

Grade 8 Transition to Secondary Information

- High school registration has begun with specialized programs and will continue over the next month. This is a busy time for our grade 8 teachers and office staff as we determine where everyone is headed next year
- We are a feeder school to Sandwich Secondary, so all students are automatically registered to attend there. At the end of 4 years, they will get their French Immersion certificate when they graduate, based on 10 courses that they take in French.

- Our Board also offers many specialized programs and we do have students who apply to these. Some students apply to the Walkerville Centre for Creative Arts (WCCA) for music, visual art, drama, dance, etc. They still must complete their required courses throughout secondary but also have a concentration of courses in the arts. Others apply to Riverside for the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program, which is a challenging program that gives them a diploma at the end recognized worldwide.
- We also have students who want to attend Massey for a variety of reasons. Not all our students live in the Massey boundaries, and it is a closed boundary school. Some students apply to the Enriched program and if accepted, there is nothing further. Others, if they live in the Massey catchment area, need to do an Out of District form. They are considered Out of District because currently they are in a French Immersion program and Massey does not offer that.
- Students who want to go to another GECDSD school such as Kennedy or Tecumseh Vista also would do an Out of District form

Language Assessment/Report Cards

- With our new Language curriculum, one major change is that there will now be one mark for Language on the Provincial Report Card, based on the 4 strands
- The expectations in the language curriculum are organized into four distinct but related strands:
 - Literacy Connections and Applications
 - Foundations of Language
 - Comprehension: Understanding and Responding to Texts
 - Composition: Expressing Ideas and Creating Texts

Strand A is an overarching strand that helps teach the other strands (things like collaboration, problem solving, research skills, digital literacy, etc.)

The other strands are weighted differently according to the division. In Primary, B has an equal weight to C & D together. In Junior-Intermediate, C & D are weighted equally and B is taught within each of those strands

Please see the attachment for more details on this language curriculum.

2023 Ontario Language Curriculum and Reporting

The expectations in the language curriculum are organized into four distinct but related strands:

- A. Literacy Connections and Applications
- B. Foundations of Language
- C. Comprehension: Understanding and Responding to Texts
- D. Composition: Expressing Ideas and Creating Texts

In Primary, Strand B is weighted equally with Strands C & D to arrive at an overall mark.

Figure 1.9 Reading Rope (Scarborough, 2001)

In Junior/Intermediate, Strand B is taught and assessed through Strands C & D, which are weighted equally.

Strand A is taught through all the other strands

- Reminder that report cards will be going home on **Monday, February 12th** and Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held after school on **Thursday, February 15th**

Kindergarten Open House – Save the Date

- We are starting to plan this week for our Kindergarten Open House, which will be on **Wednesday, February 21st**
- Kindergarten Registration officially runs from **February 20th – March 1st, 2024**, but we have already had a few families register
- Word of mouth is the best way to promote our school – please continue to share positive information about Bellewood in the community

Follow-up from last month

- Bellewood Cares Concert - Mme Chandler plans to do a Spring Concert, which would involve our Choir, Band, Drumline and Dance Group, as well as performers from Grades 4-8 who would like to prepare something on their own.

She would love to bring back the gift baskets that we used to sell at the Benefit Concert and see proceeds from the event go to Windsor Essex Hospice OR Ronald McDonald House OR WE Care For Kids

- ESS Appreciation – thanks for your assistance with this! Please send any information about lunch/date to Annemarie via email Pita pitt lunch for the three EA's

Lisa motioned \$60 for all 3 EA's (\$20/pp) to show our appreciation.

Karyn 2nd

All in favour, motion passed.

Vice Principal's Report – Mme. Ali

Introduction: Hello everyone, I'm Emily Ali, stepping into the role of Acting Vice Principal for the next month. While I'm navigating the new terrain here, I come with a strong foundation as an educator, having spent 12 years as a teacher at Tecumseh Vista Academy. I appreciate the opportunity to contribute in this role, and after this temporary assignment, I'll be heading back to my grade 8 classroom here at Ecole Bellewood. I'm genuinely looking forward to collaborating with the PIC. Your insights are crucial, and I believe our joint efforts can make a positive impact on our students. I value our partnership and am here to work together for the benefit of Bellewood.

- Rounding off the end of December, we had our Student Celebration Assembly where we celebrated the character trait of patience and student accomplishments.
- Our grade 8's held their Career Fair to demonstrate their hard work in researching future career opportunities. Grade 8 students also worked on a STEAM project in which they created a scaled gingerbread house model and displayed their work for the school community to appreciate.
- Our basketball season has begun. Coaches Mme Tonello and Mme McCullough have completed tryouts and are well underway with training.
- There are many field trips being organized by our wonderful staff to allow for experiential learning. Mme Danby, Mme Quennell, Mme Rodriguez, and M. Mugabo have organized an opportunity for our Grade 5 students to go to Ska-Nah-Doht.
- Mme Halliwill and Mme Scheurman's grade 3 students are taking part in the 'Swim to Survive' program.
- Our Bellewood choir, under the direction of Mme Chandler, will be singing the national anthem at the Spitfires Game on **January 25th!**
- We have some Spirit days coming up also! **January 18th** will be 'wear your favourite jersey day' and January 31st will be all about sporting our Bellewood swag and school colours.
- We also have some educational presentations that will be happening at the school. Namely, #KYPP presentation for students in grades 5 & 6 to help them learn more about healthy and safe technology use, online safety, protecting your privacy online, and managing online relationships. And, we have a presentation scheduled for students in grades 6-8 to help them learn more about self-esteem and body image.
- Teachers on our intermediate team will be participating in special training over the next month to learn more about different tools and ideas to effectively implement the Mental Health portion of the Health curriculum. They will also receive further training in the new Math & Language curriculums from our teachers at the program department.
- Preparations have begun for Kindergarten Open House which will take place in February.
- Teachers are busy working on their report cards. This Friday will be a P.D. day where teachers will have the opportunity to partner with their divisional teams to report on student achievement and develop their report cards for term 1.

Teacher's Report – Mme Matos

Support homerooms teacher – funds to supplement activities \$120 x 40 = \$4800 total

Date of when teachers need to spend money by May 10, 2024.

Stephanie motioned \$4800 towards funds to support homeroom teachers with activities.

*Manal 2nd motion
All in favour. Motion passed.*

Treasurer's Report

Fundraising –
School council grants 1424.08
Food -

Ali Awade has stepped down, position has opened up. Looking for someone to take over position. Deferred til next meeting.

Other discussions:

PRO grant: Received \$894 grant

- Looking for speakers on topics related to: naturopathic doctors, nutrition, health, mediation, mindfulness, self care, mental health and so on.
- Report due April 14th, 2024
- Needs to be spend prior to by June 1, 2024
- Committee to look for vendors and speakers and report back for next meeting.

Event: Wellness Wednesday - April 3rd ,2024

Fundraising ideas for the spring:

- Coffee fundraiser – ground beans, decaf and pods - \$5 a bag kickback
*Karyn motioned to move forward with fundraising event.
Kara second motion.
All in favour.
Motion passed*
- Anna's nursery – kickback is \$3 per plant
- First aid kits – sell first aid kits, 40% kickback
- Spring market event presented by Karyn. \$20 per table kickback for PIC. Event ran during school times where students will be allotted time to go down to the gymnasium to shop. Parents are welcome to come the time their children are down shopping. PIC to set up a bake goods table (if allowed. Principal will follow up) and free gift-wrapping station. Poster and event will be organized by 3rd party, event insurance will be purchased and provided by 3rd party. Event can be everything \$15 and under or \$10 and under. Dates and pricing will be sent on edsby for members to vote. Looking at holding the event end of April or beginning of May.

Pole will be sent out. Fundraiser for tentatively for February.

Last months minutes – **voted and passed.**

As Always:

- Parent Involvement Committee meetings are **open to any parent/guardian any time**. Please feel welcome to join us to learn more about Bellewood activities and bring your fresh opinions.
- If families have any questions regarding Covid Guidelines or school protocols, please contact the main office (M. Pallotto or Mme. Symchyshyn) or the Windsor Essex County Health Unit (wechu.org) or the Greater Essex County District School Board website <https://www.publicboard.ca> for reliable and current guidelines.

Meeting adjourned at 7:18 pm

Next meeting: Monday, Feb 5th, 2024 at 6:00pm in Library

PIC Chair Contact Info: **bellewoodparents@gmail.com**