

# École Bellewood - Parent Involvement Committee

## MEETING MINUTES -- Monday January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023



### MEETING ATTENDANCE

#### Voting Members

*Nia Khuong*  
*Vanessa Alonso Gonzalez*  
*Stefanie Neale*  
*Dr. Zhengzhong Ma*

#### Attendees

*Jordan Qu*

#### Staff Representation

*Bruno Pallotto,*  
*Tania Verro-Matos*  
*Aubrey Charlton*

#### Regrets

*Lisa Packwood*  
*Yasmine Joheir*  
*Joanne McLean*

### Reference: 22/23 Current Committee Members

- Chair – Lisa Packwood
- Treasurer – Yasmine Joheir
- Secretary – Stefanie Neale
- Council Members (6) – Joanne McLean, Nia Khuong, Dr. Zhengzhong Ma, Zia Waseer, Vanessa Alonso Gonzalez, Donia Hafez,
- Note: council members are required to attend each meeting (unless regrets are sent) to maintain quorum while voting on expenditures/actions.

### Call to Order – 6:04 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.

### Nov 2022 – Meeting Minutes Approval – \*defer to email approval\*

- *Motion – TBD*
- *2<sup>nd</sup> – TBD*

### Principal's Report – M. Pallotto

#### **Happy New Year 2023 Message to students, staff and parents/guardians:**

Continue our new or 'next' normal lives as we have been collectively doing this school year!

Develop a resilient mindset in ourselves and build this resilient mindset with our students via consistent messaging, modeling and practice.

A big piece of learning is social and emotional for our students this year (in addition to curriculum-based learning). Teach our students to be resilient – teach them to adjust, to get through problems instead of getting bogged down. Teach students how to think, problem solve and collaborate with peers.

#### **Ecole Bellewood Welcoming and Inclusive School Community:**

At Ecole Bellewood, we continually promote a welcoming and inclusive school community! During our Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week, our Bison students posted Kindness messages throughout our school and many classes created welcoming class posters. Many students and staff wore pink t-shirts with a message 'Soyez Gentils' depicting our commitment towards choosing kindness daily at school and in our community. In addition, there is a strong focus on the **bystander role**. Students have been **empowered with specific action steps** they can choose from when they witness bullying. At Ecole Bellewood, we believe every child should be included in every activity and happy

coming to school every day! Fostering this positive school culture depends on action being taken by every student and staff member so learning can occur and students can achieve success!

### **Guest Speaker Tracy Schmitt – ‘Unstoppable Tracy Tour’ Gr 5-8 Presentation**

Message for all students fostering inclusivity and building resiliency!

“It’s all about perseverance and a positive attitude!” Tracy

Tracy Schmitt is a **#1 International MegaSuccess TedX Speaker** who has shared the stage with other famous stars such as Jane Fonda, Dr. Phil, Michael Douglas, John Travolta, Mel Gibson and Mark Wahlberg. Her mind blowing stories receive standing ovations pushing audiences out of their limitation zones. Her perseverance is beyond reproach! Her message was very inspiring for students and staff alike!

Parents can visit [www.unstoppabletracy.com](http://www.unstoppabletracy.com) for more information.

### **Immunization of Schools Pupils Act 2023**

On behalf of the Windsor Essex County Health Unit, the Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) document was shared electronically with all parents/guardians which contains answers to some common questions about the current Immunization Child Vaccination catch-up and enforcement process.

Parents please note that **health care providers do not automatically send updates to WECHU** as they are not required to do so. Under the ISPA, it is the parent/guardian responsibility to update the WECHU of their child’s immunizations.

Monday March 20, 2023 - Suspensions will begin for elementary students who continue to have immunization records that remain not up to date.

Should you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit at (519) 258-2146.

### **Grade 8 to Grade 9 Out of District Secondary Application for School Year 2023-2024**

**The on-line application** is now OPEN from January 9 – 20, 2023 for any current Bellewood grade 8 student wishing to attend a GECD SB Secondary School **other than** our **designated Secondary School** which is SANDWICH SECONDARY SCHOOL. If your child is planning on attending Sandwich Secondary School in grade 9.

- Parents/Guardians may choose to complete the **online** Grade 8 to Grade 9 application (*direct link* provided below). No paper copies will be accepted. If assistance is required, please reach out to the main office. **NOTE - the Access Code is your child's Student Number.**

[Greater Essex County District School Board \(publicboard.ca\)](http://publicboard.ca)

A student may complete an OUT OF DISTRICT APPLICATION FOR **ONLY ONE** SECONDARY SCHOOL.

If a student is accepted to the International Baccalaureate Programme (IB) at Riverside or Leamington Secondary School, the *Enriched Program* at Vincent Massey, eSTEAM at Tecumseh Vista Academy, or WCCA at Walkerville Collegiate, they do **NOT** need to complete the Grade 8 to Grade 9 Out of District Application.

**\* The DEADLINE to submit the online application for Grade 8 to Grade 9 for Out of District Secondary School is this Friday, January 20th. \***

Please reach out to your child’s teacher or call the main office at 519-966-3890 if you have any questions.

### **Outdoor Classroom update – front of school:**

Removal of large logs due to Health and Safety concern for students and children. We need to ensure all students are safe and attempt to minimize injury. Moving forward school to investigate replacing the wooden large logs i.e. benches, composite outdoor seating logs, etc.

### Vice Principal’s Report – Mme. Charlton

- Resiliency Initiative – “fail wall” posted just outside the library. Teachers posted some stories about how they were faced with a challenge and how they overcame the situation. Students are encouraged to visit and embrace that failure and mistakes are critical in carving brain pathways in learning.

- Good News Weekly Celebration has resumed – students celebrated for performance in Bellewood theme character traits and academic achievements. 3 students per week are chosen. This helps foster our students in working towards individual goals.
- Girls & Boys (grade 6-8) intramural basketball happening this month – for those students who did not make a team but who still want to play.
- Robotics team (RoboBisons) – travelled to Oshawa in January to compete in the provincial tournament with 40 other teams. Our students earned a 2<sup>nd</sup> place Core Values Award. This marks the first time a Bellewood robotics team has won a provincial award. Go Bisons!



### Treasurer's Report

\$3,043.89 balance at the end of December

Activity since last report:

- Forest of Reading Books have been debited
- School Council Insurance has been debited
- Education fund donation has been debited
- Pizza Day debits and credits

### Teacher's Report – Mme Matos

- Forest of Reading Books have arrived! M. Drexler will be hosting a voting in the school on favourite books in each category. Thank you to the PIC for purchasing these books.
- Character Council Committee – administered a school climate survey, students have a chance to answer a short survey to indicate their happiness, likes, satisfaction in the school and school environment. The survey is still on to encourage more student feedback.

### New Business

- Parent Engagement Fund – propose using these funds to go toward the Multicultural Night, to be coordinated in conjunction with M. Mugabo. Voting to be deferred due to lack of quorum.
- Book Fair – thank you to all the volunteers! Another successful book fair!
- Pizza Days – scheduled days still to come, M. Pallotto to send a reminder of upcoming days.
- Graduation Contribution – PIC has continually supported the grad night celebrations with a contribution of \$1000. Propose to continue this year....voting to be deferred due to lack of quorum.
- PRO Grant – STEAM night proposal has been submitted to the board.
  - Once approved we will need to establish a committee of volunteers to help organize this event. We plan to use partial funding for Mad Science to be a part of this event. They will run activities.
  - Plan to also engage the school clubs (Music Council, Lego Robotics, Chess Club, etc) to run stations/activities relevant to their disciplines
  - Offline meeting to be scheduled to begin organization and brain storming
- Fundraising ideas: Oven 360 (30% return on sales, many flavour options). Plan for February, set up through School Cash Online. Lisa to follow up with Over 360 on timing.

### 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. Charlton) 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 7:14pm

Next Meeting – Monday February 6th, 2022

PIC Chair Contact Info:

Lisa Packwood - [BellewoodParents@gmail.com](mailto:BellewoodParents@gmail.com)