



Council

**Emily Carr School Council Meeting Minutes (Google Meet)
January 20, 2021 @ 6:30pm**

Present: Keri Coulson, Karen Green, Jennifer Neill, Nora Kennedy, Tanya Monteiro, Derek Black, Aline Vesely, David Manias, Leslie Wittenberg, Stephanie Ettinger, Jessica Hearty, Nina Ryan, Andrea Hopkins, Dana Burke, Samar El Arayssi, Mohamad Iqbal

Regrets: None sent

1. Welcome/Call to Order – Tanya / Nora

- a. Opened at 6:30

2. Chairs' remarks

3. Approval of Agenda – Tanya

- a. Motion to approve – Tanya / Seconded - Derek

4. Approval of Minutes October 21, 2020 and November 17, 2020 - Tanya

- a. Motion to approve - Derek / Seconded – Leslie

5. Treasurer's Report – Derek

- a. No money expended since last report
- b. This year we are budgeted to support: \$500 Forest of Reading / \$1,000 Get Real presentation / \$375 Incoming Grade 6's / \$900 Outgoing Grade 8 Ceremonies
- c. Vote by email on December 14, 2020 approved \$2,200 for Scientists in the School virtual presentations for each of 10 homerooms, as requested by staff; as well as \$300 for Indigenous virtual guest speaker Cody Coyote, Indigenous Speaker to cover costs for 2 grade presentations (OCDSB is covering cost for 1 grade presentation).
- d. Anticipated to receive \$500 from OCDSB as parent involvement grant (Note: received week of February 1, 2021).

- e. \$5275 to be spent / approx. \$6720 left in budget (assuming \$2000 minimum account balance retained for next school year)
- f. Letter received from Past Chair Lesley Ireton to transfer banking signing authority from Rob Cosh and Lesley to Tanya Monteiro and Lisa Lovric, with Derek remaining as well. Bank appointment to be made when current lockdown / stay-at-home measures end
- g. Motion to accept report – Nora / Seconded - Karen

6. Principal's report

- a. See full report below minutes
- b. 221 students currently. Remote learning currently as per provincial emergency order. Return to in person learning date TBA.
- c. Distributed 1 Wi-Fi hotspot and 30 Chromebooks to students in support of their remote learning.
- d. Keri thanked Council for their support of school wide 'Get Real' presentations, one on anti-racism and the second on inclusivity. Both took place in December.
- e. January 22 is a PA Day for development of report cards, which will be available February 11 on the Parent Portal. No PT Interviews scheduled but parents can always connect with teachers regarding progress and achievement.
- f. Following Ministry revisions to report in Mathematics, one mark is now given on report cards rather than by strand, as was previously done.
- g. February 12 is a PA Day set aside for District and Ministry initiatives – focus will be on equity, and health and safety.
- h. Secondary School Virtual Information Sessions info sent via email and is on ECMS and OCDSB websites.
- i. Keri will be hosting a virtual information session for incoming grade 6 families. Date TBD. Encouraged School Council members to attend.
- j. Principals received their school operating budget in early January. Keri shared her framework for ECMS.

7. Teacher's Report – Jennifer

- a. Staff learning from students with remote learning in place; getting easier as weeks go on.
- b. Key events include EF8A coding project.

- c. Thank you from staff for support of Scientists in the Schools (to be scheduled) as well as Cody Coyote presentations.

8. OCASC update – David

- a. No membership fees 2020/2021 (\$35)
- b. OCASC was to compile a list of parent council involvement activities/events, as well as fundraising, at other schools but has not shared it to date.
- c. OCASC meeting is this Thursday so more next meeting.

9. Discussion

- a. **Trivia Event** - Tanya thanked Aline for her time and initial research for a trivia event. Aline had expressed concern about an event involving more screen time during remote learning, and taking place in the winter months, and Tanya said we felt Council might agree. Everyone was in agreement to postpone and look at an online trivia event another time.

Nora suggested that when the warmer weather and longer days arrived that perhaps a family scavenger hunt or other outdoor event, within Covid rules, might be an option. Keri suggested a Spring Clean Up Day at Emily Carr – yard work, planting flowers, some painting etc. Council was in complete agreement. Suggestions were made to ask for donations but that will be put on hold until needs are known, and depending on climate for requests. Keri and Rob, the Chief Custodian, will begin a list of ideas to “green up” ECMS.

Nora spoke to the fact that she and Tanya have offered help to Keri as needed, and have asked her to please let Council know if she hears of events at other schools etc. that she wishes for. Nora asked Council members to please share any events etc. that they hear of, or think of, in hopes that we can support the Emily Carr community as best possible. Nora asked Keri about volunteer needs and Keri may need assistance with the Literacy Room this Spring.

10. Approval of Monies

- a. Nil

11. Adjournment

- a. Next meeting February 16 (Tuesday) at 6:30pm
- b. Motion to adjourn – David / Seconded – Aline Meeting adjourned at approx. 7:35pm

Emily Carr M.S. School Council

January 20, 2021

Principal's Report

As I prepare my Principal's report for School Council, I am looking out my office window. The sun is setting over the outdoor rink, a family is walking their dog and I can see two children sliding down the hill - a typical Canadian scene. But it is not a typical day at ECMS or in other schools in the OCDSB. I am alone in my office as the majority of school staff work from home during this remote learning period stemming from Ontario's emergency order. I have never experienced anything like this in my 28 years of being an educator!

One practice that enables me to feel connected to the students and staff during this remote learning period is attending Google Meets. It is so great to see the kids (most turn on their camera when I join), hear about their day and observe their learning. I continue to be amazed at the creativity and depth of instructional practices ECMS staff demonstrate. In the virtual world, school staff manage students entering and leaving the Meet at all points in a lesson, they look for raised hands, chat room questions and conversations, listen for audio responses, observe movement between a student's camera being on to their profile pictures all while delivering their lesson. It is really quite incredible. We have distributed 1 hotspot and over 30 Chromebooks to students in support of their remote learning. It is expected that these items will be returned to ECMS once students return to in-person learning. As just recently announced, students in the OCDSB will continue with remote learning for the time being. The provincial announcement has not indicated when students in the Ottawa area will return to in-person learning.

Thanks to the support of School Council, all students engaged in two virtual Get Real presentations before the holidays. The first presentation focused on anti-racism; the second on inclusivity. Last week, all students participated in a virtual performance by Cody Coyote. Cody is a local hip hop artist who shares with students about growing up indigenous in Ottawa and the struggles he faced. He delivers important messages around bullying, equity and being you.

This Friday (January 22nd) is a P.A. Day allocated for the development of Term 1 report cards. Teachers will be sending time compiling marks for submission. Report cards will be available to families on Thursday February 11th via the parent report card portal. There is not a designated parent-teacher interview day at this time of year but parents/guardians are always welcome and are encouraged to connect with their child's teachers regarding progress and achievement. It should be noted that, following Ministry revisions to report in Mathematics, one mark is now given. In the past, achievement was broken down into strands. Teachers will consider the evidence of achievement that is available for each overall expectation. They will also consider that some evidence carries greater weight than other examples when determining a student's achievement level. Also, while there is an expectation that instruction of the social-emotional learning skills documented in the Ontario Mathematics curriculum occurs, teachers will not be reporting on the overall expectation (A1) related to social-emotional learning.

Friday February 12th is another P.A. Day that is set aside for District and Ministry initiatives. This year the focus is on equity and health and safety.

For parents/guardians of Gr. 8 students, you received information last week from me about our secondary school virtual information sessions. These are very useful presentations for families to attend. For your reference, the dates are:

- Cairine Wilson S.S. – February 4th at 7:00 pm
- Gloucester H.S. – February 2nd at 7:00 pm
- Ottawa Technical Secondary School – January 27th at 7:00 pm

Please see the “Welcome to High School” section of our website for the presentation links for all sites.

I will be hosting a virtual information session for our in-coming Gr. 6 families. At this time, Principals have been asked to wait on communicating with in-coming families as the district continues to plan for next year. Once I know when I can proceed with this virtual event, I will let you know. It would be wonderful if some members of School Council could attend as in past years.

In early January, Principals received their school operating budget. I would like to share with you the framework I have developed based on the 2020-21 operating budget provided.

EMILY CARR SCHOOL COUNCIL
Budget 2020 - 2021 31 January 2021

	Budget	To Date	Actual
	(plan)	(active)	(final)
<u>REVENUE</u>			
<u>Primary Fundraising</u>			
Pizza Program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Parent Involvement Fund	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ -
Misc Fundraising	\$ -	\$ 3.11	\$ -
SubTotal Fundraising	\$ 500.00	\$ 3.11	\$ -
Carryover from 2019/20	\$ 13,494.95	\$ 13,494.95	\$ -
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 13,994.95	\$ 13,498.06	\$ -
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
<u>SCHOOL SUPPORT</u>			
Forest of Reading Books	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Get Real Presentation (Anti-racism / inclusivity)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Scientists in the School (virtual)	\$ 2,200.00	\$ -	\$ -
Indigenous Guest Speaker (virtual)	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ -
Grade 6 (Incoming) Orientation	\$ 375.00	\$ -	\$ -
Grade 8 School Leaving Ceremony	\$ 900.00	\$ -	\$ -
SubTotal School Support	\$ 5,275.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
<u>SCHOOL COUNCIL</u>			
OCASC Membership	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
ECSC Operating Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
NSF Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Bank Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
SubTotal School Council Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 5,275.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
Less Reserve Holdings	-\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Plus Cash Float	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Less Committed Funds (2020/21)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<u>NET INCOME</u>	\$ 6,719.95	\$ 11,998.06	\$ -