

MINUTES

Banting School Council

(transcribed by Tracy Goodman)

Date | time May 19, 2021 | 5:30 pm | *Zoom Virtual Meeting called to order by:* Silvie MacLean

In Attendance

Laura Gonzalez	Dale Jardine	Regrets: Neil Banerjee Amani Radhaa Chris Francis	Jill-Ann Mabey
Nicholas Panhuis	Richard Tanminga		Cheryl Bovington
Amanda Stranton	Silvie MacLean (C)		Jennifer Charleston
John Dubois	Tracy Goodman		Mike Hanson
Abdullah Daher	Unknown Zoom User		Raymond Yee
Chinelo			Shelley Duben

Welcome and Introductions

Silvie welcomed all attendees.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest from any School Council members.

Approval of prior meeting minutes and Current Agenda

The minutes of March 17, 2001 and the agenda of May 19, 2021 were both approved.

Student Council Update (By Nicholas)

- Student Council ran an initiative called, 'Let's Move March', as a way to encourage students to be active.
- A jersey day was planned but participation was not as great as hoped.
- Student Council is currently organizing a virtual coffee house in the form of a talent show, 'Banting's Got Talent', opening Friday, May 21st.
- Banting is supporting the fundraiser, One Run, again this year in support of Wellspring and ChildCan. The event takes place May 17th to June 18th.

Teacher Representative Update (By Chris)

- No update provided.

Principal's Update (By Richard)

- Richard identified that Banting goal is to fundraise \$20K for One Run. One Run is focused on supporting funds for families that have been impacted with cancer. The One Run committee is comprised of its own

committee of 10 students at Banting that are separate from School Council. Banting is currently the top fundraiser in the TVDSB and has exceeded their goal.

- Richard would normally be putting finishing touches on plans for next year however, this year parents have until June 1st to complete the declaration of learning preference for either full remote or in-class learning. Richard will not receive the adjusted line/class allocation until approximately June 7th or 8th. He will then have two weeks to get staff assignments in place.
- Just over 1000 students have indicated a preference for in-person learning. Just over 100 students requested full-remote learning. Four hundred and eight students have not yet submitted a learning preference. Richard has started making cold calls to those 480 students.
- A virtual commencement will be held in June for the graduating class. Nominations have been put forward for valedictorian. The staff are reviewing the nominations.
- Library renovations are continuing as planned with no major delays. It is hopeful that things can be moved back into the space in July and be ready for September startup with students.
- We are currently in a learn-from-home situation until an update is received from Ministry after the stay-at-home order is lifted.
- Last week and this week, Banting has been hosting Leroy Hibbert to discuss with classes (specifically focused on grades 9 and 10) the concept of race and cultural leading as well as what is discrimination, what is racism, what is anti-racism and how to be an ally in anti-racism work.
- De-streaming of grade 9 math and English will take place next school year to create a more equitable learning environment for students.
- “Chat with the Principal” has been taking place once a month. Richard enjoys answering questions from students, parents and community groups.
- The Ontario Secondary School literacy test will be waived for any student who is graduating and has not successfully completed it. Grades 10 and 11 students will complete it next year.
- Chromebooks from the One-to-One Chromebook Pilot Project are to be returned to the school at the end of the school year unless a student is signed up for remote learning next school year or they need it for summer school.
- Asymptomatic COVID testing is being held at Banting on May 25th.

TVPIC Update (By Laura)

- At the April meeting, discussions were had about the outcome of the survey, Every Student Belongs. The survey is conducted by the TVDSB to gain a better understanding of who the students are in the Board so that they can better support them.
- At the May meeting, discussions were had about the School Climate survey which will be circulated in the fall. All school boards must complete this anonymous survey every two years.
- Laura expressed the importance of completing surveys. They provide important feedback necessary to make improvements.
- Funds for TVPIC and PRO grants are available. The Superintendent is working with the Ministry of Education to generate ideas on how the funds can be used in challenging times.

Community Partners Update (By Amani on behalf of NWLRC)

- No update provided.

New Business and Business Arising from Previous Meeting

- Nicholas advised that Student Council has had to abandon the idea of fundraising for grade 12 convocation t-shirt. It is simply too hard to fundraise with fully remote learning.
- Silvie advised that TVPIC funds remain available. Because the school year has been impacted by covid, they are looking at innovative ways within the policy to use the money to support students and families significantly challenged because of remote learning, issues that may pose barriers etc.
- With working at school and at home, Richard advised that staff have had to use a couple of different programs to enter student's marks. There have been a few glitches but those have now been rectified.
- Silvie submitted the Principal Profile to the Superintendent. She received confirmation of receipt but has not heard anything further. The profile asked about diversity associated with Banting's demographic profile, lessons learned around how the administration team handled the pandemic environment, etc.
- The School Council elected in September is encouraged to prioritize parent engagement ideas for 2021/2022.
- A settlement worker from London Cross Cultural Learner Centre ("LCCLC") is willing to make a presentation to School Council about the services provided by LCCLC. The settlement worker would also like to join School Council as a community member.
- From time to time, Silvie sends out emails about administration policies requiring review and input. She encouraged School Council members to subscribe to the Board's website so that notice of policy changes and input requirements are received directly.
- The School Report is due at the end of June. Silvie requested council member's input by email.

Next Meeting

- School Council will not be meeting in June.