

Sir Frederick Banting Secondary School - School Council Meeting

Wednesday March 22, 2023, 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm (Hybrid)

Council in Attendance

Victoria Laidlow, Clarke Baldwin, Jenny Ingrey, Angela Vrieze

1) Welcome

- Victoria Laidlow welcomed everyone to the meeting and started the meeting at 7:32PM.

2) Previous Agenda and Meeting Minutes Approved

- Jenny motioned to approve the February 2023 meeting minutes.
- Frances Hinnah second to approval.
- Richard will post the February 2023 Meeting Minutes to the Banting website so they will be available for the public to view.

3) Principals Report – Richard Tamminga

- Banting will be completing renovations in the Developmental Center as current unused space will be turned into a classroom and updates will be made to the Developmental area. The goal is to start the work early and continue throughout the summer. To assist with the student relocation during this time, a temporary portable will be added to the school.
- A LARRC subcommittee was held March 23, 2023, to establish committee roles and community meeting dates. All future meetings will be open to the public as we hope to obtain the community's input. Stay tuned for dates.
- The enrollment projection for the 2023-2024 school year is currently approximately 1600 students. This number includes anyone who has at least 1 course currently requested. Based on these numbers, the administration is hoping to be able to stay with a four-period day, however this will be determined by class choices and needs.
- The OSSLT Literacy Test is coming up soon - April 4 will be Grade 10, April 5 will be Grade 11/12, and April 6 is the scheduled make up test date for all others. The big focus is on ensuring all Grade 12 complete the test as it is a graduation requirement.
- There are approximately 450 students who are potentially eligible to graduate this June, however 309 have not yet submitted their required 40 hours of community service. The administration team will be working with students to discuss their hours, plan and offer support on how to get the hours completed in time for graduation.
 - Question asked: How are students reminded throughout their four years about the requirement?
 - Answer (provided by Richard and Sophie): Students can keep on track their portal and it also displays hours on their reports cards if they submit on going

hours to the offices. Students are reminded about the requirements during assemblies, classes, guidance appointments etc.

- Question asked: At which grade students start submitting their community hours?
- Answer (provided by Richard): They can submit any time.
- TVDSB sent out an email on March 20, 2023, to all Grade 9 and Grade 10 families stating that de-streaming would continue for the 2023-2024 school year. For Grade 9, students will still not be required to choose between Applied or Academic level courses and for Grade 10, TVDSB has prioritized Academic programming in Grade 10 to ensure students have the opportunities across all pathways.
 - A decision was reached by staff, that that the school will not be piloting this de-streaming option for Grade 10's for the academic the courses at Banting for the 2023-2024. Based on this, staff will be reaching out to those families they feel may be interested in applied classes. If parents have any concerns, please reach out to the guidance department for clarification and / or see email from TVDSB.
 - Teachers/staff will be very mindful in their language in their emails/communications as one stream is not better than the other and taking an applied course in Grade 10 will not necessarily limit other options in higher grades.
 - Question asked: Will de-streaming for Grade 10 eventually come to Banting?
 - Answer (provided by Richard): The direction of TVDSB is to eventually de-stream the grade 10 program.
 - **Suggestion for future council event**: To provide a parent session that shows how a track can change even if you start on applied vs. academic. This could be an event that we hold hybrid with the help of the school's guidance counsellors.
- Planning for the Relay for Life is currently underway. Stay tuned for information!
- The Banting Wild Card event is back and will be held on May 5th, 2023. This year's event will be a daylong event with the incoming Grade 8 students.

4) Staff, Student & Community Representatives Updates

Staff Representative Update – TBD

- We are still looking for a staff representative to join the council.

Student Representative Update – Sophie Mutch

- Banting winter sports had amazing results at both WOSSA and OFSSA this year. This included the Girls Volleyball, Swimming, Boys Basketball, and Wrestling teams. In addition to this, the Robotics team won their first district competition and brought home 3 judges awards and Reach for the Top has started their playoff tournament. Great job everyone!

- Sophie mentioned how accessible clubs and activities are when Banting is at a one lunch period. Having everyone being able to attend at the same time builds a sense of community and allows friendships to grow.
- The Spring Coffee House occurred on Wednesday March 22, 2023. The event is open to parents and students and had a great turnout.
- DELF exams (French certificate testing) is being held at the end of April. The exam is open to anyone in Grade 12 French immersion or French Course and if successful, you are able to use this certificate to work/study in the French language as it is recognized worldwide.
 - Question asked: Are we allowed to know the level current French teachers received on their DELF exams?
 - Answer (given by Richard): As this is not part of the hiring process for TVDSB, this would not be asked for in hiring. Use of the DELF as a standard has become more relevant in the last 10 years approximately.

Community Representative Update – Northwest London Resource Centre - Amani Radhaa

- The NWLRC sign is finally up at the new location! The Centre will need to leave their current space, however, and move into a temporary location until permanent space is available.
- For any Banting students that need volunteer hours, NWLRC is happy to help them obtain the hours needed to graduate. There are lots of ways that the students can obtain the hours and programs run 6 days a week (including during the summer). Some current opportunities include:
 - The Lions Club Cruise Night
 - The Emergency Food Cupboard
 - Meals to the Community
- Some upcoming events/programs open include:
- 3rd Annual Dominoes Cereal Box Challenge which occurred on Saturday March 25, 2023. There were 550 cereal boxes. This represented 1 cereal box for every family NWLRC supports with their Food Cupboard.
- The lunch program at Banting is still occurring at Banting, with the majority of participants being Grade 9 & Grade 10 students. Amani mentioned as well how beneficial it is to have a one lunch period at Banting as it helps to run successful programs within the school.
- There are currently 2 spots open for the mentorship program.
- The next mental health literacy workshop will be held in May (TBD).
- The next Open Youth Space will be April 20, 2023. A different activity is chosen each month (last month was a paint night).
 - Question asked: How do you recommend that students get in touch with you if they are interested in volunteering?

- Answer (provided by Amani): It is best to email Amani directly as she will then forward their information to the appropriate area of interest. Her email is amaniradhaa@nwlrc.ca.

5) School Council Goals / Next Meeting Schedule

- A discussion was held if we feel the need to continue to meet monthly as the school year is wrapping up and there has not been a lot of action planning as of late. It was agreed that meetings will still occur monthly, and we will start to make an action plan for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Next month's meeting's focus will be to review the parent survey in more depth and to bring forward calendar ideas for 2023-2024.
- Next Meeting will be April 26, 2023, at 7:00PM (Hybrid option).