

# Balaclava School Council Meeting Agenda

## Date: February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 6pm

**Attendees:** Cheryl Hue, Kelly Rizzo, Charlie Smith, Jenn Lukawecky, Sarah Zinke, Steph Chemello, Erin Meanchoff, Julia Edwards, Melanie Houde-MacDonald, Tina Lillycrop

Meeting Commenced: 6:04pm

Meeting Adjourned: 7:39

Item #	Discussion	Name
1	Approval of Minutes	Sara Zinke
2	Business Arising from Previous Minutes	All
3	School Report	Kelly Rizzo
4	Chair's Report	Cheryl Hue / Erin Meanchoff
5	Home and School Report	Ellie Millard
6	New Business	All

### **Item 2: Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

1. Piano at Balaclava  
Have a commitment from the board (Bill Torrins) that this will be looked at for next year because it is a concern.
2. Michelle Balson/Geri Hall and draft letter re music at Balaclava  
Erin will follow-up with both because neither in attendance
3. Creating a Balaclava Mission and Vision / possibility of graffiti wall – Group Activity With Mrs. Rizzo – Brainstorming for our vision/mission - to be continued at next meeting
4. Planting of trees to replace those that have died – parking lot this until spring  
This would be funded by the board (13 trees are scheduled for the spring)
5. Cutting down of Michael Smedley tree  
Was cut down two years ago at Christmas. Incorporate this with the trees being replanted. Potentially have Heinz come and plant it. - HWDSB has strict rules about having memorials
6. Revisit bringing back screenagers – ask Ellie if this is still something that we want to bring back this year

### **Item 3: School Report**

1. Cognitive
  - Report cards will not be issued for first term but did receive the progress reports. Parents are encouraged to reach out to teachers if concerns
  - Professional Learning has been paused during job action including vision work. Will do the vision work with school council and hopefully students in the meantime
  - Kindergarten registration open and have 8 registrants. Open to Out of Catchment because running below 96% which is break even
2. Environment

- Trees noted above
  - Guest speaker: Thahn Campbell – man who was incorrectly brought from Vietnam in the 70s, with a message of caring for others, making a difference, and appreciating what you have
  - Looking to put keypads on the Junior/Intermediate doors, which Kelly will fund through school budget
  - Vandalism in boys' washrooms (sharpie). Have asked everyone to do washroom sign-out sheets in hopes of monitoring
  - Had first lock-down drill in January with Officer Richard and he said he was very impressed. It was smooth; there was learning (no window covering where Nelligan/Rizzo would go, and one of room catches in library wasn't working properly). Another to be scheduled for February 11
  - Stage curtains need to be refreshed. Potential to get it covered given it is a safety concern that they are not fire retardant
3. Community
- School Budget
- \$42K which is 4% less than last year due to government budgets and student enrolment.
  - Kelly has looked at photocopying costs. The first few months at Balaclava were more than the entire year at her previous school. She has put limits and numbers on the machines. Has asked teachers to consider 'is there another way to teach this lesson?', if yes, then no photocopying needed.
  - Parents can ask teachers to communicate by taking photos and posting them, email, seesaw, Google etc., to keep parents informed of assignments and expectations. However, these are not required methods of communication and are used at the teachers' own discretion.
  - Kelly Rizzo read the book "What do you do with an idea?" by Kobe Yomada – Inspirational book

#### **Item 4: Chair's Report**

1. Officer Drozdz online/social media safety event / Optimist sponsorship
  - The event on November 26<sup>th</sup> was very well attended by caregivers from Balaclava and some surrounding schools.
  - Information shared by Officer Drozdz was very eye opening and informative
  - Caregivers have requested support to provide them with various forums and tools to help them educate their children. Examples include how to monitor what a child is doing online, various tools to block children from specific social media forums, etc.
2. Update to School Council website: School Council Message and Meeting Minutes
  - <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/balaclava/school-council/>
  - Kelly Rizzo has updated the website with new council members, meeting times for 2020, and is looking to add in previous meeting minutes (post Feb 26, 2019)
  - Erin M has offered to write a message on behalf of the School Council Chair(s)
3. Upcoming Rural Schools Meeting – postponed to March 24, 2020

#### **Item 5: H&S Report**

- No H&S in attendance

#### **Item 6: New Business**

1. Balaclava is Open to Out of Catchment Enrolments. This is due to lower than required enrolments.
2. 2020 Parent Voice Survey (how can School Council Support)  
Kelly will repost on HWDSB email. Council will send out to all council members. Ask H&S to send out as well and post on Facebook

**Vision Exercise – performed by School Council members in attendance**

- On sticky notes, members were to write down what they value in relation to learning/academics at Balaclava in the following three domains:
  - Emotional
  - Physical
  - Social
- Sticky notes were then organized into common themes within each of these three domains
- Attendees then took these common themes and brainstormed through a root cause analysis of how they could be achieved

**Root Cause Example:**

Q. What must happen for staff and students to feel supported?

A: They must feel like they have someone they can talk to.

Q. How would someone know that they have someone to talk to?

A. They have to know that they will not be judged and are in a safe place

**Activity to be continued at next meeting**

\*\*Next School Council Meeting: April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 6PM