



Meeting Agenda
Balaclava School Council
March 28th, 2022 @ 6pm

Item #	Discussion	Name
1	Welcome	Jacky Small/Hannah Wright
2	School Report	Kristi Keery-Bishop
3	School Council Update	Jacky Small/Hannah Wright
4	Home & School Update	TBD
5	New Business	All

Meeting Commenced: 6:00pm

Attendance:

- Jacky Small, Erin Bell, Steve Bell, Hannah Wright, Kristi Keery-Bishop, Laura Harris, Jennifer Lowe, Brittany, Jennifer, Lisa, Sarah Fujimoto, Lasha Hukezalie

Item 1: Welcome

- Welcome & virtual meeting best practices
- Land Acknowledgement
- Attendance
- Review & approval of minutes from January 31st, 2023
 - Jacky Small, Erin Bell

Item 2: School Report

- **Student Council**
 - Spirit wear was distributed on March 8th, almost \$1000 was raised for the music department to purchase instruments.
 - Proposal has been submitted to the optimist club to support this initiative as well.
 - Many instruments are 50 years old. Currently in need of 2 alto-sax, baritone sax, bass guitar with a case, and ongoing maintenance.
 - Food drive for Ramadan
 - Earth Day cleanup April 24th
 - Pajama Day and pasta day April 28th
 - Student council will be making seed bombs to sell and fundraise for a charity. Egg cartons are needed!
 - Gauss math contest will be coming up in May, available for Grade 7 & 8
 - School is still in need of Lego if parents have any extra to donate.
- **Safety**
 - Buses are a big concern, transportation does not allow for flexibility with what buses student's go on.
 - An issue was raised about the drop off process being unsafe and asking if there was a possibility to send communication home to ask parents with oversized vehicles to ensure they are pulling forward as much as possible to not block visibility.
 - There was a concern raised about playground supervision. We've split lunch and supervision time and limited the space students can use on the property. Parent volunteers cannot be used for recess supervision. Kristi will talk to the staff about reinforcing supervision and potentially student leadership opportunities.

- **Program**

- Recently had a PD day, lots of work around math and planning for assessment and instruction
- Lots of staff PD for science, math, outdoor learning, AI, literacy
- EQAO coming up for grade 3's and 6's. Students will be working in the classroom prior to the test.
- DRA assessment is being phased out. Additional resources are being used like Haggerty's and UFLI. At this point we don't know what the board will come up with as a systemic resource.
- We've been putting together resource packages so parents can volunteer for intervention support for reading.
- Question was raised about whether coding was being taught. It is being taught throughout the curriculum. Minecraft education is used.
- New grade 1-8 language program in September
- New math curriculum in 2020
- Curricula is available online on the Ontario Education Ministry website:
<https://www.dcp.edu.gov.on.ca/en/curriculum#elementary>

- **Facilities**

- Water checks - daily checks are done every morning between 6-7am. If those tests are not passed the drinking fountains are bagged right away but the rest of the water is still used. A plumber comes right away and it is usually fixed by 9am. In this case, bottled water is provided.
- Quarterly samples are taken for nitrate
- Organic and inorganic parameters are tested every 60 months
- The water disruption happens when power is off. There is now a battery backup in place if there is a brief outage. In a longer power outage this may not be sufficient.
- Facilities and the Superintendent determine what communication is provided to families in the event of a water disruption.
- Rural schools meeting - there were many similarities about water and water policies. The next meeting will be focused on parking and transportation. The next meeting will be mid to late April, date is TBD.

Item 3: School Council Update

- Financial Literacy Night - April 12th
- Hannah will be stepping down as Co-Chair for next year. We will need a new Co-Chair.

Item 4: H & S Report

- H & S is supporting the field trip busing for grade 7 & 8
- Hot dog/Blue Jay day this Friday
- H & S has been doing the gardening at the front of school the past years. This will be brought up again to look for volunteers.

Item 5: New Business

- Follow-up on tree planting for Ms. Rizzo
- Next meeting: Tuesday, May 30th

Meeting Adjournment: 7:20pm