

CCI Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2016 (Amended)

Attendance – Tori Arrigo, May Yam, Charlene Scime, Kim Carey (Staff) Katherine Burns, Lindsay Battaglia (Student Rep.), Sarah Dennis, Julia Hannan, Crystal Bell, Jason Barr, Laura Schywiola

Regrets - Kim Bryan, Debbie Bullock, Crystal Ingles, Pegi O'Halloran, Alicia Marshall

Welcome and Introductions

Review Minutes – Sep 13, 2016

Minutes were amended to reflect correct number of students committed to-date on the Vimy Ridge trip. (30) A motion was made to accept the minutes as amended by Sarah Dennis and seconded Julia Hanna. **Motion passed.**

Student Rep's Report:

Lindsay Battaglia, Head Prefect attended as the student representative at this meeting.

Background - Prefects work to help Grade 8/9s integrate into the school. Prefects planned Grade 9 day at beginning of the year to get new students meeting new people. Prefects will be working to help the Grade 8 students when they come visit the school. In addition, the Prefects are often the go-to people when staff needs help, such as during parent/teacher interview nights.

- Spirit week this week is going very well
 - Friday changed to Orange and Black Day only, no longer costume day
 - Monday (Halloween) will become costume day and there will be prizes for best costumes
- Last Tuesday discussions began on a calendar of spirit days for the year
- Talk about fixing up the courtyard for students to have lunch outside when weather is good
- One teacher has stepped up to oversee Prom – Ms. Palmer has volunteered
- **May 26 is Relay for Life** and a committee will have to be formed soon event will be at Vanier this year.
- Cross country meets this morning. CCI team, first overall going to OFSSA Nov. 5.
- Inter-murals planned at lunch everyday
 - Next week dodge ball begins. Students have to sign up as a team of 12. Co-ed and open to all grades but up to the kids to get the team together.
 - There will be a teacher team
 - Parents at meeting ask the Athletic Council to try to find ways to allow people without a full team to have a way to sign up and be included.

ACTION - Lindsay will bring up the topic at the next Athletic Council meeting on Monday.

- Student Council meetings are on Wednesdays
- Lindsay reported on many sporting events happening, girls basketball Friday-Saturday.
- LINK Crew ran the Grade 9 orientation and each member was assigned a class. Tomorrow they will be pumpkin carving with their Grade 9 class. Pumpkins will be donated to various places in the community such as seniors homes.
- **Nov 2 – Picture yourself in Gr. 9, Grade 8 orientation day.**

Teacher Rep's Report: (Kim Carey)

- On **Oct 18**, Canadian YA author Eric Walters spoke to about 160 students at the school about his books
- The senior boys soccer team were at the SCAA championship tournament and will be playing in the GBSAAs tomorrow (**Oct 27**)
- Boys volleyball finished 8-0 and will have good shot at GBSAAs
- Swim team has 70 students and teacher Ms. MacDougall is working on getting more pool time
- Drama students going to see Hamlet and will panel discussion with actors afterwards.
- **Nov 2 - Take Your Kids to Work Day**
 - Reminder to students and parents to return the form, not getting many returned.
ACTION – Tori will send email to 2016-2017 parent email list as a reminder
 - ACTION** - Charlene to check the info is on the street sign
 - For students who do not go to Take Your Kids to Work Day, they will be reassigned to a teacher for that day. Will not be a regular day for the grade 9s staying at school and they will not be with their usual teachers. Teachers get reassigned for that day so no lessons.
- **May 26 Relay for Life** is at Vanier this year (alternates years of hosting with CCI)
 - Need parent volunteers for counting donations.
- **Nov 2** is for grade 8 kids to visit CCI from 9:15-2:20 and this year CCI will be highlighting some of the optional courses.

- Trip to Matilda The Musical is planned and will include a behind-the-scenes tour
- Drama Dept:
 - Ms. Synnott is working on choosing next year's musical
 - **Oct 28-30**, Blue Mountain Resort will feature "The Haunted Hike" CCI Drama students who will be acting throughout Blue for Halloween wearing costumes they have borrowed from Stratford theatres. Shows begin at 7pm and runs every 20 min.
 - A one-act play will be entered into this year's Sears Drama Festival. The play is about 10 female characters and takes place in a bridal salon.

Principal's Report: (Charlene Scime)

- School budget is in: \$208975 basic + \$1300 for life skills program
- Extended French gets \$1560
- \$500 for Parents Reaching Out
- 60% given out with 40% held for 2nd semester
- Cutting administrative costs (e.g. \$40000 spent on photo copying but trying to cut that down)
- \$12 000 spent on computer storage carts. Certain departments are sharing but computers are being spread out through the school so it's more accessible to the students. Trying to be creative with the use of the computers.
- Lumber received to build two decks in the courtyard (both are wheel chair accessible)
- Rejuvenation of the recycling program taken up by Environmental Class
- Terry Fox Run by the school raised \$700. Good weather and community building.
- Music trip to Chicago approved today. About 160 students in April to compete in a Music Festival there.
- Ultimate Frisbee event was planned – a getting to know you, sense of belonging event. Unfortunately cancelled due to bussing problems. Joined up with Stayner to make up for the cancellation and disappointment. The new event was a success.
- Some other schools are having problems with getting busses for events planned and some are having problem for their grade 8 days. Schools are feeling the restrictions. Consortium has not said anything about the situation and they do not communicate with the school.
- Field trips already taken place: Georgian College, ROM, tree planting, tree top trekking for exchange students and a trip to meet with dietician at Loblaw. Youth in Action group had WE day in Toronto very inspirational for the students (Gord Downie sang from his latest album and CCI students were right next to his stage)
- Youth in Action hosting food drive next week.
- Morning announcements now on YouTube. They are being recorded and uploaded so students can watch later. We have green screen with CCI logos behind them. Kids do the sound system too. OZZIE radio will begin soon. More skills for the students.
- 4 key areas for teachers this year:
 - Math - province-wide renewed math strategy for grade 7-10 teachers to look at elementary and secondary needs, looking at all curriculum areas and how to incorporate numeracy into other areas such as music – to make the language more familiar when students go to math class, having heard the terminology elsewhere
 - Technology Enabled Learning – what can we do with tech to enhance learning
 - Assessment - how to grade beyond test scores - what teacher observes, what teacher hears (between students as they are learning), etc. – all this is being used to evaluate student performance and is used more in some areas than others but may be more difficult for parents to understand the grading.

- Vertical learning/visible learning
 - Students encouraged to get off their seats. Students spend time working at white boards, working collaboratively as a group
 - It has been shown that students work right away on white boards but by paper and pen method, they tend to be slower to start, they feel ideas on paper are more permanent and don't wish to commit their ideas whereas white boards promote the flow of ideas even though they may not erase unused ideas
 - (30) 2x3 white boards purchased and larger white boards have been cut smaller so far positive feedback
- pointer from parent – if accidentally use permanent marker on white board, can be removed by using white board marker over the words and can wipe off
- OSSLT – literacy test -
 - Teachers were trained to properly proctor the on-line test
 - Technology and electronic set up done for test
 - Had person from EQAO on-site to witness. Received email from her complementing the students.
 - Near the end of the test, emails received to cancel test. Charlene bought pizza for the students as a gesture of compensation.
 - System was victim of cyber-attack and more info will follow. Test will not be marked.
 - EQAO built this test as a trial but everyone else looked at it as a real test, not a trial. One Civics' class wrote a letter and petition to Kathleen Wynn, Minister of Education, Director of EQAO, Principal. Collected about 200 signatures. They explained that 190000 students wrote, worked hard to prepare, did not have a choice to do differently, were told if they passed test, they would be finished and pass (not just a trial)
 - The students ask the test to be accepted. A great teachable moment – students did research on the issue and how to create and submit petition.
 - There is concern about marking the test. Students are at all levels and there are some who needed accommodations so not all students would have completed the same quantity of questions. Difficult to mark.

Updates

1. Building Resiliency in our Youth – Nov. 8th Pro Grant Approved \$995
Speaker will be Suzanne Witt-Foley – in school library at 7 pm.

Posted announcement in many public locations in Stayner, Wasaga Beach, Creemore.

Wonderful student artwork combined into three posters and placed around school. Will be posted in library evening of event.

ACTION - Tori will speak to radio and local newspapers.

ACTION - Laura will post around Nottawa

ACTION - Charlene to send to board office and elementary principals and council members

ACTION - Charlene to retweet the announcement and put note on school sign.

ACTION - Charlene to add video from Sudbury District Health Department called "Can You Feel It? (trailer)" to announcements and to post onto YouTube as promotion for Building Resiliency presentation.

2. Parent comment – duplicate emails sent in succession over a few minutes. Sometimes there is no content at all. Charlene explained this may be due to the way the email software is set up that causes the email to be automatically sent each time there is a change made, even before it is fully complete. **ACTION** - Charlene will speak to the office administrator to fix.

3. Oct 18 in Midhurst there was a PIC School Council Connections event Vendors for fundraising, school council email set ups, lots of information available. Best attended sessions of past few years. About 70 attendees. Discussions between schools and councils on how to help one another.

- Building of a continuity binder for school councils – allows knowledge to pass from one year’s council to the next – consider active and archive binders for reference. Each council received one. CCI Council received binder through Jason.
- Board applied for PRO Grant and \$12 000 received. Schools can reach out to board for some extra funding for their own PRO Grant. School did tap into some of that funding last year.

4. Administrative Profile reviewed by tonight's attendees. One question about SPARK initiative and whether it is still on-going. This program is not currently taking place at CCI. Original intent was to have a kit in each room to provide a physical break for students. The teacher leading this effort has retired.**ACTION** - Tori will replace SPARK with a focus on using mental health strategies. Revised profile form will be signed and submitted by end of week.

New Business

1. People for Education annual conference to be held Toronto. \$60 attendance fee. Open to all parents, council members, teachers to share educational practices. This is a very informative conference.

2. Desktops being shifted towards Chromebooks and they boot-up/login much faster. The board has a process to switch out old computers for new Chromebooks or iPads. Students here like Chromebooks. Computers will be replaced by attrition.

3. One parent gave feedback from exchange student who was disappointed there wasn't an assembly to welcome the group as is done at his school. He felt their arrival was not a big deal as it is at his own school. Principal's response: At CCI, there is no school-wide assembly to welcome exchange students but Mrs. Taylor-Fox takes very good care of them. Exchange students reception – swag from school, had trip to tree-top trekking and Algonquin trip planned. Another parent comment is that the student felt very welcomed and lots were being done. Overall feeling is that we as a school need to be aware of cultural and exchange-student expectations to make the exchange a success.

4. Fundraising plan – the plan was passed around and reviewed. Motion to accept made by Tori, Julia second to approve. **Motion passed.** Fundraising plan signed by co-chair and returned to Principal. Meeting adjourned 8:25

Next Meeting: Tuesday Dec. 13-16. 6:30pm Room 126.

Note: November 8th meeting cancelled and replaced by Building Resiliency in Our Youth presentation. 7pm, Library.