

Earl of March School Council Meeting

Monday, May 15, 2023

7:00 pm

Library, Second Floor

Attendees: Melissa Adams, Anthony Anderson, David Che, Louise Foley, Melanie Gavan, Joanne Greenwood, Daniel Lau, Ram Manikavasagar, Jaime McDonald, Caitlin McIlveen, Alisha Schnell, Maria Short, K. Smith, Angela Vennor

Regrets: Mante Molepo

Call to order: 7:05 pm

Welcome - Ram Manikavasagar, Co-Chair

Approval of Agenda

Louise Foley moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Joanne Greenwood. Motion carried.

Approval of Previous Minutes

No changes to the draft minutes. Louise Foley moved a motion to approve the minutes from the April meeting. Seconded by Joanne Greenwood. Motion carried.

Student Council Report - Daniel Lau

- The Addams Family*, this year's school musical, was a big success.
- Leadership camp is coming up.
- Battle of the Grades is taking place with events like a lip sync, capture the flag, hallway decorating and daily dress-up themes.
- The Oscars (high school edition) is happening. Nominations in various categories.
- Diversity Week coming up at the beginning of June.

Literacy at EOM - Presentation by Angela Vennor and Alisha Schnell (Intermediate)

- Met last fall and talked about how to help students and determine who needs the most intervention
- DIBELS - an assessment used 3 times per year.
 - 1) MAZE - reading comprehension - 3-minute timed assessment
 - 2) reading fluency
- Identified students who were at risk or significantly at risk
- Gives information to allow them to target intervention strategy
- Lexia - online, literacy-based program. Contains word study, grammar and reading comprehension.
- Caught 'ya!: Grammar with a Giggle* by Jane Kiester - Angela and Alisha created a program based on this.
- Comments from Steve - the danger is that courses are curriculum focused in Grade 9 onwards. Plan to introduce a literacy-focused credit at the high school level.

Secondary Admin Report - Steve Collins, Principal

- 80 birth countries represented at EOM, 34% of students were not born in Canada
- English + 48 others first languages at home
- 475 multilingual learners at high school level (first language is not English). This represents 31% of students. 166 at the intermediate level.
- 80 different birth countries are represented at the school.

Data about credit accumulation Gr. 9-12

Over 5 years = 2018-2022, individual grades:

- Grade 9: 98% have accumulated 8+ credits (9% above Board levels)
- Grade 10: 91% have accumulated 16+ credits (13% above Board levels)
- Grade 11: 91% have accumulated 22+ credits (11% above Board levels)
- Grade 12: 92% have accumulated 28+ (21% above Board levels)
- Since 2015, an average of 70% of Grade 12 graduates go to university, 14% to college and 16% other.

Senior Staff Report - Anthony Anderson

Science Dept

The Physics Department is getting some tech updates:

- The micro:bits acquired last year have recently been incorporated in laboratory investigations of magnetic fields. The micro:bit's internal magnetic field sensor can be set up to produce real time graphs of experimental data. The micro:bit can even be used remotely, sending data over radio signals. These applications were successfully tested and used by students for a Grade 9 astronomy project and Grade 12 inquiry labs.
- Some of our older high quality sensors made by Vernier have been adapted to function with student Chromebooks.
- A class set of new motion sensors is being ordered for next year.

Arts

- Two murals to celebrate diversity at EOM are underway right now. One is a ceramic mosaic by Ceramics students and the other is a painting by the Art Club. Both will be completed and installed by the end of the school year.

Canadian World Studies

- Mrs. Scheepers' two History classes and Mr. Crilly's History class will visit the Canadian War Museum on Friday, May 26.
- Mrs. Scheepers' Grade 12 Equity & Social Justice class had an in-class workshop on 'creating sustainable solutions to big problems'. It was delivered by the education team at the Aga Khan Foundation Canada. This workshop supported the students with their course Summative Task.

Library Learning Commons, May 2023

- History Box Is coming back in June for the intermediate students.
- Mental Health Week in the Library Learning Commons. This month our main display focuses on mental health and tools and tips to keep your body-mind-soul healthy. We

have a calming coloring sheet to help refocus teachers and students when they are anxious. Our favorite tool is gratitude. Try writing five things you are grateful for everyday. Revisiting gratitude helps us bring a more positive energy into our lives.

- Asian and Jewish Heritage Month book display: Happy to see such a diverse collection of books at Earl. This month we are looking at Asian and Jewish authors.
- Geography and History: We are getting into our summative projects. Our lessons in the library focus on documentation such as bibliography and footnoting.
- English: We are bringing Shakespeare into the library with a lesson on Macbeth.
- BOOK CLUB: New members are always welcome – meetings are posted on Instagram and in the Library Google Classroom (code gjvc2ug).
- Check out the Library Google Classroom! Students are encouraged to join the Library Google Classroom with code gjvc2ug to stay informed about resources, library events, book clubs, opportunities, volunteering, and more. Students and parents are invited to check out our Library website at https://earlofmarchss.ocdsb.ca/academics/library_learning_commons and to follow us on Instagram @eom_library.

Physical Education

- After a few rain days, spring sports are now well underway with over 200 students participating.
- The Fitness and Leadership class will be running Weights for Wellness, a DIFD fundraiser, on May 17 and the Colour Run on May 30.
- At the start of June the Athletics Department will be celebrating our athletes at the Athletic Banquet. It is an awesome evening celebrating all of the hard work and dedication these student athletes have shown this year.

Question from Jaime McDonald - She is advocating for more certificates to be offered in the Manufacturing SCSM (Specialist High Skills Major) For example, fire safety and working at heights (ladder safety).

Answer from Anthony Anderson - The reason more are not currently offered is due to a combination of teachers being stretched and catching up after Covid.

- School received a 90K grant from the Canadian Milling Association and has purchased a CNC milling lathe and 5 mini lathes.

Intermediate Admin Report - Caitlin McIlveen

- Lots of activities happening - talent show, tie-dye, Grade 8 trip to Camp Olympia, Grade 7 trip to Camp Arrowhead and EOM Colour Day, among others.
- Mr. Beach is leaving.
- Anti-racism presentations delivered by Get Real.
- Rideauwood Addictions Counselling - balancing technology and life
- Looking at keeping phones in lockers most of the day. Open to hearing from parents about this.
- Student presentations at staff meetings - for example, solving a
- Recently held a successful lockdown practice. Another one to be held on Friday.

Intermediate Staff Report - Melanie Gavan

Madame Jones:

- Hackergirl Hackathon. Grade 7 and 8 students who identify as girls are invited to join the Hackergal Club being run for the next two weeks in anticipation of the Hackathon event running the week of May 29-June 2nd. This group is to encourage girls to learn about and/or hone their coding skills to try to narrow the gender gap in the fields of computer science and technology. Girls will participate in a live stream launch party on May 29 where the theme for this year's event will be announced and girls will work together to code their project throughout the week.
- GSA and Rainbow Clubs - The Intermediate GSA and the Secondary Rainbow Club have collaborated to create Staff Appreciation/How to Show Allyship packages which will be distributed to staff on May 16 in anticipation of May 17 which is the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia. Staff will receive pins with a logo designed by Joel Beach with the slogan *Earl of March - Every One Welcome*, a student-generated list of "How to be an Ally" suggestions, and a pack of Skittles. On May 17 both the Secondary Rainbow Club and the Intermediate GSA will have a table set up in the lobby with our newly acquired pin maker to encourage students to make their own pronoun pins; pride pins will also be available. Students are working on pictures/mini-biographies of famous members of the 2+LGBTQIA community to highlight how boring the world would be without this diversity.

Monsieur White:

- Grade 8 students will participate in a Science Expo at Earl Of March from May 16 to June 23. Students will work in groups of three to either conduct an experiment OR innovate a scientific concept already invented. Groups will be formed within each homeroom class and no groups will be formed from multiple classes.
- The Science Expo will kick off on Tuesday, May 16 with a virtual presentation by Ingenium Canada's Valerie Wood, a curator for the Aviation and Space Museum in Ottawa. Ms. Wood will spark our students' interest by giving them expert advice in showcasing exhibits to an audience. Following the presentation, students will be given a handout by their teachers and in their groups, they will work to complete weekly goals. These learning goals will lead to the BIG REVEAL as students set up their dioramas on June 21 in the high school gymnasium. On the day of June 22, all Grade 8s will have an opportunity to tour the Science Expo. Parents will be invited to visit the Science Expo on June 22 from 3pm-4pm. Finally, on June 23, Grade 7 students will be invited to tour the Expo as a lead up to next year. Take down of the projects will be June 23, 2pm-3pm.

Grade 7 Tie Dye Extravaganza

- This Grade 7 activity will be taking place on Wednesday. There has been an email sent home with some instructions and information, but it has also been posted on the students' Google classrooms.

Arrowhead trips

- All deadlines have passed and we are just waiting to go! First trip is in just under 2 weeks.

Talent show

- Tryouts will begin next week, the show will be on Wednesday, June 28 in the afternoon.

Mrs. Ferguson re: Caribou Math Contest:

- In the May contest 5 students tied for 1st out of over 10,000 students in the world. Then in the Caribou Cup (which takes the students' 5 best scores out of the 6 contests written this year) 7 students placed in the top 100 students in the world. This is the best result Mrs. Ferguson has ever seen from this many students in all the years she has run this contest.

EOM Ball Tournament

- All Grade 7 and 8 classes are participating in an EOM Ball Tournament during the second recess.

Grade 8 leaving ceremony

- Grade 8 teachers are planning this now; date is Monday of the last week of school.

School Council Admin Report - Ram

- Ram reminded everyone that this is the last meeting of this school year and thanked everyone for their participation.
- Any comments or questions can be sent to the council email which will be monitored over the summer.
- Council bank account balance is \$2700.00

No OCASC update from Tom Holloway.

Motion to adjourn the meeting moved by Joanne Greenwood. Seconded by Maria Short.
Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:49 pm.

Next Council meeting will be in September. Have a great summer everyone!