

**Alta Vista Public School
Minutes • School Council Meeting
Wednesday, January 22, 2020**

1. Welcome and Introduction (Nancy Dean, Chair)

Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) Superintendent Dorothy Baker was welcomed to the meeting.

Parents/guardians were reminded that child-minding is available during meetings.

2. Approval of Agenda and Meeting Minutes (Nancy Dean)

The agenda was approved with additions. The minutes were approved.

3. Administrative Report (Dennis Paré)

a) Repairs from the November 2019 steam-pipe leak are ongoing. The timeline to reopen is mid February 2020. Moving forward, the pipes are approximately 70 years old and prone to failure; a few steam leaks have happened since Jan. 6, 2020. No mould was found, but Principal Paré stressed it was his job to advocate for students and staff.

b) During this time of labour unrest, it is important to respect the bargaining process. Field trips will not take place. The Jan. 24 PA Day will be used for assessment and evaluation but not preparing report cards. If parents/guardians are concerned about a student's progress, they are encouraged to contact the student's teacher(s) or Principal Paré. Superintendent Baker recommended reading emails from the OCDSB since the state of labour relations changes daily.

c) Lead testing in the water is carried out in all OCDSB schools. Lead may be found in the soldering compound that keeps pipes together, and flushing the pipes mitigates that concern. All lead-testing results are published. A new water fountain was installed in December 2019, and those test results are available. New Health Canada guidelines recommend no more than 0.005 mg of lead per one litre of water, whereas provincial guidelines recommend no more than 0.01 mg/l. A parent noted that she has seen children drinking from the taps in the rooms that house Andrew Fleck Children's Services even though signage at those taps recommend hand-washing only.

d) Superintendent Baker informed School Council of an upcoming meeting to address any unanswered questions regarding the November 2019 steam-pipe leak. Mike Carson, OCDSB Chief Financial Officer and Superintendent of Facilities, Dan Bradley, OCDSB Manager of Facilities, and Clint Vester, OCDSB Supervisor of Occupational Health and Safety, would be at the meeting with Superintendent Baker, Principal Paré and School Council co-chairs Nancy Dean and Janice Chamberlain, who requested that members of

the new School Council Health and Safety Subcommittee be invited to attend. Members of the subcommittee are Jeff De Laat, Scott Chamberlain and Alex Low.

4. Teacher's Report (Richie Dosanjh)

Regarding the labour disruption, the school day officially takes place from 8:30 am to 3:45 pm. Extracurricular activities are ongoing.

5. Treasurer's Report (Kathy Wrye)

School Council approved \$206 to cover the tax for new pinnies and \$93 to cover the cost of the Rag and Bone Puppet Theatre show that was over what was originally approved.

Term 2 requests will be considered in February 2020. Kathy Wrye will have the list of what was allocated versus what was spent from the list of Term 1 allocations.

To date, School Council has raised \$7,000 for next year. This amount does not include Gifts of Giving, which was earmarked for outreach and community-building initiatives.

6. Chair's Report (Nancy Dean)

The deadline to vote on the 2020-2021 OCDSB academic calendar is Jan. 26. The deadline to answer the student survey, Valuing Voices, is Jan. 19; parents/guardians expressed frustration with completing the latter.

It was suggested that the preferred way for School Council to communicate with the school community is with fewer emails containing several points per email as well as half-page flyers in the school bags of students.

Flavours of the World will take place April 2. A coordinator is needed.

The planning meeting for Spring Fair is Jan. 28.

A campaign to show the impact of volunteering for School Council is upcoming.

School Council will post a request for snow pants and boots; School Council was asked to bring hangers for Tia Helm's closet of clothing for students.

7. Next Meeting

The next School Council meeting will take place Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 7 p.m. in the school library (second floor). (Subsequently changed to Feb. 26 at 7 pm.)