

Ecole Elgin Market
School Community Council Meeting
Date: Monday Sept 25, 2023 6pm
Location – school library and Microsoft Teams

1. Attendance: Laura Stockland, Sarah Newton, Stephanie Cowan, Jan Johnston, Tiffany Rutledge, Kathryn Craig, Taheer Abidi, Rory Cavanagh, A (Parent request not to publish name)
2. Adoption of Agenda: motion to accept by Stephanie Cowan and second by Tatheer Abidi
3. Approval of Previous Minutes: minutes from last meeting distributed in June. Accepted
4. Correspondence: No correspondence
5. New Business:
 - a. Principal's report – see attachment 1
 - b. Walking Students / School Traffic – Concern raised that in the immediate weeks leading up to school beginning there was no warning for some families previously eligible for bussing were not eligible. The exemption provided to close neighbourhoods for walking distance policy was removed as the infrastructure had been built up. The area still lacked from the south direction sidewalk for some parts, no cross walk (across Bruce Ave) and a hidden intersection at Bruce Ave and Queen Street.

It is noted that the school trustee and principal do not have authority on who is bussed. The policy is implemented by bussing consortium. Additional areas had seen bus stops consolidated. Some families eligible for bussing remained without a bus route when school started.

Known issues that contributed includes: bussing delays being common in 2022-23 school year, likely bus driver shortage, long duration bussing activities at school in afternoon (1.5 hours in 22-23 school year). For this school year 23-24 school routes were re-organized to only drop and pick up at 2 schools.

Many parents contacted the Municipality of Kincardine using the online community feedback /concerns form through the website. Responses received indicated that options were being looked at for safe crossing at Bruce Ave and the area with no sidewalk is going to be paved and plowed to provide a safe walking route. A School Council member who is also a Municipal elected representative notes that the change in bussing policy was also a surprise to the Municipality. Councilors for our area are engaged as well as municipal staff to discuss safety solutions.

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School Community Council Meeting
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Actions – Principal agrees to remind families that Princes St traffic is recommended to be one way (North to South) during drop of and pick up times.

- The School Council will discuss at next meeting to provide update to situation for potential sidewalks, cross walks, etc.

- c. Trustee Report – It is noted that Trustee has also been hearing concerns from affected families on bussing situation.

School Board Policies are being reviewed by BWDWB committee. Trustee member notes they lead committee. Administrative reviews at this time including procedures that are not attached to policies. Question asked by Trustee to Principal if Right To Refusal (to accept students)is exercised in this school Principal notes it is not. Only exception noted is Educational Assistants are required and may be unavailable on severe weather days.

- d. Open Forum – This is a new agenda item. Intended to encourage parents and stakeholders to bring forward comments / issues of concern / and questions. In advance of next meeting this will be communicated as part of invite to attend.

6. Old Business: none

7. Professional Activity Day Topics – attachment 2 – this is a new requirement that PA day topics be shared publicly. This new agenda item allows for us to record this activity.

8. Policies under review:
No new policies to review

9. Next Meeting: Nov 27th 6pm

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Attachment 1



École Elgin Market Public

Principal's Report – School Council

School Council – Sept 25, 2023

Enrolment for 2023-24

We currently have 296 students enrolled. We were fortunate enough to receive a reorganization before the school year began, and this has meant that we are not having any additional required reorganization. Mme Bowes joins us in Grade 1, Mme Leyden as an ECE in BK3 and Mme Loney, Mme Simons and Mme Crawley as permanent prep coverage staff. We are currently hiring for a 0.5 afternoon teacher for Mme Rutledge's class and a librarian position.

Grade/Class	Educators	Number of Students
BK1	Mme Diffin and Mme Hall	25
BK2	Mme Thompson and Mme Sloetjes	23
BK3	Mme Mangotich and Mme Leyden	25
Gr 1	Mme Rutledge / position to be hired	20
Gr 1	Mme Bowes	20
Gr ½	Mme Haylow	20
Gr 2	Mme Brown	20
Gr 3	Mme Tremblay	19
Gr 3	Mme Kolaska	19
Gr ¾	Mme Gibson / Mme Boucher	23
Gr 4/5	Mme Everingham / Mme Boucher	28
Gr 5/6	Mme O'Donnell	26
Gr 6	Mme MacLennan	28

Mme O'Donnell and Mme Everingham share 0.3 English as a Second Language. Mme Hart is Learning Resource Teacher and 0.4 Lead Teacher. Mme Gibson has the majority of the resource allocation in her timetable to work with students in French and English, and Mme O'Donnell has some English resource. In addition, Mme O'Donnell and Mme Haylow both have some social-emotional learning as part of our resource allocation, and Mme Crawley is supporting students with technology requirements.

We received an additional 1.0 EA, bringing our permanent allocation to 4.0 (Mme Leschied, Mme Liivoja, M Schildroth and Mme Speedie). We also currently have an additional 1.0 temporarily to assist with some additional needs in the school.

Professional Development

Our focus as a staff for Literacy is on moving our knowledge of the components of the Science of Reading into supporting students in writing, and on implementation of the new Language curriculum. A number of staff have

Ecole Elgin Market
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taken courses with the Learning Disability Association of Ontario over the past year or two, and have found this to be very helpful to their practice.

In Math, we continue to focus on building our understanding of the three models (open number lines, decomposition and parts-whole) across a broader range of strands to develop flexibility in choosing and using their strategies. In addition, Allison Dietze, a BWDSB math coach will be working with our Junior Math staff (Mme MacLennan and Mme Boucher) to further deepen their understanding and refine instructional practices.

Staff are currently able to be fully reimbursed for any Special Education and Mathematics Additional Qualifications courses through the board.

October 17th Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration for 2024-25 will be taking place on October 17, from 12-6pm. Parents will again have an opportunity to connect with the school and community partners as they prepare to enroll their child into JK or SK. Community partners invited include YMCA, Bright Beginings, Anxiety Lab owner Jenny Chreptyk, Penetangore Wellness, Play therapist Ryan McLeod, Kincardine Library, an optician and dentist.

Ecole Elgin Market
School Community Council Meeting
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Attachment 2



Bluewater District School Board

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September 22, 2023 Professional Activity Day Communication

Date: Friday, September 22, 2023
Length: Full Day – Meeting the Needs of All Learners

Topic 1: Literacy and Mathematics

Entity Hosting: School Board
Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): School Administrators

Description: Referencing the new kindergarten and the Ontario Human Rights Commission *Right to Read Inquiry* report, elementary educators of kindergarten through Grade 12 will work with their school teams to recognize opportunities, develop their understanding, and address opportunities for literacy instruction across curriculum areas. Primary and junior educators will explore assessment and options for early reading screening. In mathematics, elementary educators will work through a guided exploration of the Knowledgehook program facilitated by their administrator and consider how Knowledgehook can support high impact instructional strategies in the mathematics classroom.

Referencing the new Grade 9 de-streamed English curriculum, secondary educators will work with their school teams to recognize opportunities, develop understanding, and address opportunities for literacy instruction across curriculum areas. In mathematics, secondary educators will work with Math Administrator Coach Karla Whiteside to deepen understanding of effective instructional practises, high impact strategies and the resources available to support all learners in the mathematics classroom.

Topic 2: Curriculum Implementation

Entity Hosting: School Board
Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): School Administrators, Central System Staff in collaboration with classroom teachers, Ministry of Education.

Description: Elementary educators will work with their division teams to become familiar with the new social studies curriculum expectations related to Indigenous education (Grades 1-3) and Holocaust education (Grade 6). Grade 7 and 8 educators will attend a Ministry webinar to develop understanding of the new mental health curriculum expectations, and resources to support implementation. All elementary teachers will continue their learning related to the science, mathematics, and language curriculums.

Secondary teachers will meet in subject specific groups to focus on developing equitable classroom environments and practises to support the learning needs of all students. These sessions will be facilitated by central system staff, in collaboration with other Bluewater District School Board teachers.

Ecole Elgin Market
School Community Council Meeting
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Topic 3: Health and Safety

Entity Hosting: School Board

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): School Administrators

Description: Administrators will facilitate a session on Workplace Violence Prevention using materials provided by the Central Health and Safety Committee. All permanent employees will attend an information session on the Employee and Family Assistance Program, facilitated by their supervisor or administrator. Administrators will facilitate mental health and wellness activities using materials provided by Katie Simpson, Clinical Health Manager. Grade 7 and 8 educators will attend a Ministry webinar on the new mental health expectations and resources. Secondary science and technology teachers will attend health and safety training facilitated by Sarah Hills, Occupational Health and Safety Officer.