



## **South Branch School Council Meeting Agenda**

**Tuesday, April 27, 2021 - 6:00 p.m.**

Christie LaBrash/Principle, Kami Link/VP, David Coombs/Superintendent UCDSB(retiring), Donald Lewis/ New Superintendent UCDSB, Lisa Swan/Trustee, Denise Mahoney, Emily Westbrook, Julie Culkeen, Melody Busuttil

1. Welcome & attendance completed by Melody and Christie at 1805
2. Additions & acceptance of meeting agenda N/A
3. Acceptance of March 2021 meeting minutes N/A

Guest speakers: David Coombs, Don Lewis and Lisa Swan

**\*\*David Coombs is retiring as of June 2021 as Superintendent UCDSB. He shared his enjoyment of his time over the years and continued growth in the school board environment.**

**\*\*Don Lewis: introduction as new role of Superintendent UCDSB.**

**\*\*Lisa Swan: South Branch Trustee for UCDSB.**

--Discussion topics:

-Reviewed concerns of parking lot space and yard. Paired with addition construction for North Grenville HS, there is hope to remove existing portables on SB property and expand surface to SB. Covid construction protocol is only hold up at this time.

--Transfer of school/staff of Oxford on the Rideau school to take place 2022. Goal is September so to not disrupt academics mid-year for all.

--September will revisit Parent Council meeting in hopes with Don Lewis present to begin "Transition Team" which is beginning now, with Superintendent/s and parent council, community members to assist in process and ease/ideas for transition of OOTR to SB.

EX: will the school keep existing playground equip? Can some come to SB. Electronics? Desks/chairs? Staff support? STEO? Bus boundaries? Fundraising? Number of children/class ratios? Room to support classroom sizes? School mascot?

-Lisa Swan and Don Lewis shared great dynamics of school/s. SB has strong arts theme while OOTR has strong Math and Robotics program. A parent volunteer works with students to support Robotics and Coding program. Exciting news to work together and grow 😊

4. Teacher's Report Kami Link on behalf of staff/student body

\*Remote Learning Report:

Kindergarten: Virtual trip to an organic Dairy Farm using interactive video and online games.

-Virtual scavenger hunts that are linked to the seasons and their learning.

-Exploring 2D and 3D shapes online and in the outdoors in both French and English.

Primary: French Immersion classes are experimenting with some online, small group meetings and on occasion, some 1 to 1 reading in French  
-Grade 2-3's are continuing with their language routines remotely, with students responding orally to questions posed. In Math, they are looking at Probability...what are the chances of things happening, using math games for this skill (ex: dice).

5. Principal's Report (Christie LaBrash and Kami Link)

**Staffing** - Staff have been given potential assignments at this point as we are into the staffing process.

**Teaching and Learning updates:** We have made the pivot to remote learning. We have connected with all families at this point. Non digital pickup 13 happened today. We have many more students who have changed to this model now that we are in remote learning for all.

\*\*\*About 155 students are synchronous, about 50 are non-synch digital, 166 students with non-digital packages.\*\*\*

**\*\*\*\*Covid Updates**

**Upon return to school all students will have to provide proof of a negative covid assessment. More to come on this\*\*\*\*\***

**What has been Happening**

With the seasonal shift to Spring we have been taking advantage of the warmer days, and a further shift to learning outdoors. Outdoor classroom has been utilized more and classes have been access the forest trails for learning as well. Grade 6's have had some neighborhood walks where they could move about and learn while getting fresh air and vitamin [D].

**We were approved for 1500.00 to begin our veg/butterfly garden project under the lens of Experiential Learning with an Indigenous Lens.**

- Receipts are to be kept at the school to support spending. Please have funding spent (received and invoiced) by **May 31, 2021**.
- Funding may not be used for release time at this time
- If your project involves facilities, please ensure all steps have been followed
- A FORM Survey will be forwarded in late May and will collect data needed for ministry reporting. Sharing photos of the learning will be encouraged.

The hope would be including all students at some point as we build this garden but initially I thought about start with a kinder group and Mrs. Mellaney's grade ¾ group..(all depending on when we return back to in person learning).

**On the Radar**

Grade 6's will be participating in Indigenous Dot art virtual workshop this week

Some of our classrooms will also be participating in virtual field trips that are upcoming

Planning for virtual Kindergarten "Welcome to School" event and Grade 6 Leaving ceremony

6. Treasurer's Report Melody, for Emily
  - Minimal change at this time
  - School financial has \$11,615.82 on file
  - Needing to add \$122 from Feb 2021 pizza fundraiser
  - No total available at this time for April Pizza fundraiser
  - Additions: wreaths \$167.50 and March pizza \$140.20
7. Fundraising Report-Open Discussion
  - Online Payment App for fundraising is still in process and most likely will be available to school program for September. Time needed to be available on site with staff to determine fully activating app.
  - Interim: knowing the school and parent council would still like to have some form of online payment system, Pam/School Secretary is working on the use of a PayPal type system to promote asap, for immediate online support to end of school year. This should be available in coming days.
8. Discussion Topics – Open for any issues parents would like to discuss (to be addressed now and future meetings)
  - a. Garden – update
    - \*\*\*\$1500 grant awarded to SB school for butterfly garden! \$1000 for garden and applied/received another \$500 grant for Indigenous. VERY happy to share and begin process of starting garden.
    - \*\*Christie and Denise to meet in coming week to prepare details as deadline for receipt submissions is end of May\*\*
    - Request to share exciting news on SB Facebook page/s
  - b. Playground Revitalization - update
  - c. School Yearbook – update
    - Julie has available, most recent update via email from school. Many suggestions provided by Julie to move forward with yearbook photo ideas and end of year Grade 6 grad photo ops. Great ideas shared! Christi and Julie to meet in coming week/s to collaborate and share.
  - d. Online payment – See above
  - e. Parking lot issues – See Superintendent Report
  - f. Leaving Ceremony – Dependent on Covid and if schools are able to open
  - g. End of year – staff appreciation and student treat-
    - Christie wanted to share greatest support always provided by Parent Council. At present, teachers are unable to be in the school or gather. There is hope by June they may be able to be in the school. TBD.
9. Next meeting May11th at 6:00 p.m.
10. Adjournment of Meeting: 8:00 p.m.

### **Dates to Remember**

**Meeting dates for the 2020-2021 school year. SBSC meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month during the school year. We meet at 6:00 p.m. online via TEAMS. Please add the dates to your calendar!**

September 29<sup>th</sup>

February 9<sup>th</sup>

October 13<sup>th</sup>

March 9<sup>th</sup>

November 10<sup>th</sup>

April 20<sup>th</sup> \*\*\*Note Change of Date\*\*\*

December 8<sup>th</sup>

May 11<sup>th</sup>

January 12<sup>th</sup>

June 8<sup>th</sup>

Please contact School Council Chair for more information at [southbranchcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:southbranchcouncil@gmail.com)