

CSPC Meeting Minutes: November 17 2021 6:30pm, Online via Zoom

In Attendance:

- Anyta Kyriakou (Principal)
- Kimberley Evans (CSPC Chair)
- Madeline Nakamura (CSPC Secretary)
- Alsha Mark (Member-At-Large)
- Teresa De Stefano (CPIC Rep)
- 30 Parents

Safety Issues

- Stabbing at VP Collegiate, OCS contacted at 6pm. Doesn't believe any students from OCS. Police haven't identified if kids were students.
- Because of COVID, all doors except front are locked. Now, school will lock front door.
- OCS students did identify non-students & immediately notified Winston at school. Early dismissal for Parent-Teacher interview that day, non-students came to look for friends at OCS end of lunch. Approx. 600 students at that time, possible someone let them inadvertently in.
- We have many friends that go to VP Collegiate, family, neighbours. Students are connected to the school, not a bad thing, lots of positive connection. Students who did come were believed to be from Grade 10 looking for friends.
- Why are strange students entering our school?
 - AK: Last time grade 10s were in a real classroom, they were in school Grade 6. We have to reteach & revisit etiquette. We have info obtained anonymously that can be investigated prior to acting upon.
- Staff are on alert, increased uniform awareness, due to safety issue, school is enforcing uniform policy, reminding students to not open doors to non-students. Cancelled civvies day tomorrow, not for punishment, but for safety.
- Currently, Winston & Jose are Supervisors. Requesting 3rd Student Supervisor due to current situation/circumstance.
- Comment from parent (Cynthia):
 - There seems to be a few challenges with the grade 10 cohort - I'm saying that as a grade 10 parent. Re: uniforms. Why are students not allowed to use Athletic O'Connor gear. Some issues in bathrooms, both boys & girls, & lunch hour in the community.
- AK:
 - Phys Ed is for phys ed. Never has been part of a regular uniform. Spirit wear is acceptable. OCS has a very loose uniform: golf shirts, crew neck, lots of comfortable wear. Ex: all black shoes vs. hard leather.
 - Washrooms: supervision is 3 admin & 2 supervisors to supervise 600 students. Doing the best we can, can't continually be there. Anonymous Alerts is available to students if they wish to share info.
- Comment from Kimberley:
 - Why do we have admin being student supervisors? Why can't we pay for other supervisors? Money can be better spent. Spoke w/brother who is a cop: what about use of 1 washroom instead during lunch? Why are kids afraid of going to the washroom?
- Chat Comment from parent (Alesksadra):
 - My grade 10 daughter is not comfortable using the washroom... Would love to have police resource in school again

- AK: The police have been removed from all schools as resource officers. Role is to build relationships with students. Don't think we will see the police back.
- Comment from Kimberley:
 - Issue is rise/increase of violence/problems in schools. Police should be there but not they are not, need an alternate solution.
- AK:
 - This is challenging with having people coming in.
- Chat comment from Parent (Alma Marie Calma):
 - My son is also not comfortable using the washroom, always saw group of higher grades staying in the washroom.
- AK:
 - Will make note & do a more regular check. Problems is at lunch, 4 sets of bathrooms. Portables, relocated classes in café, classrooms upstairs. These are where Student Supervisors are.
- Comment from Kimberley:
 - Supervision ratio for schools?
- AK:
 - Depends on who are staff. Administrators & Student Supervisors only. Washrooms are only locked if there is an issue/work order in place, due to safety. Students can't lock them. 4 Sets of washrooms, café, science business hall, math/English hall. Must also supervise students in classrooms eating lunch.
- Comment from Kimberley:
 - Wasn't aware of procedures re: tracking kids. Kids have to sign out & in if going to washroom. Kept to follow & track.
- AK:
 - Purpose is for COVID contact tracing. If student who later tested positive & went to the washroom, then log is checked in case others were exposed.
 - If vaping & fire alarm goes off, have to evacuate whole school. Incident where wheelchair student was on 2nd floor. Elevators were stopped, had to go to top of stairs & sit under alarm for 25 minutes. Some adults have physical mobility issues as well. So, when something like this happens, it's complicated. School can face a huge fine if it's not an actual emergency. We have spoken to students about this issue.
- Comment from Kimberley:
 - What's the progressive discipline for smoking marijuana/vaping.
- AK:
 - Suspension 1-20 days. Depends on circumstances. Talk to students, then talk to parents. Then look & see. Been issuing 1-2 day suspensions surrounding vaping. Education on vaping/smoking is rec'd by students in health & have been even in elementary school. Kids need to be re-taught especially since COVID has prevented kids from attending school.

Exams/Community Service/Midterm Marks:

- 80% will be tests, Final will be max 10% of final. Varying with classes.
- Community service: Grade 12 grads this year need 20 hours of volunteer. All other will need to complete 40 hours. Make appt with guidance counsellor if you are not sure. There's a sign up.
- Midterms coming home next week. Check OCS Community.ca Next Thursday is Parent-Teacher interviews virtual. Will provide info.

Uniform:

- If you have sizing issues, contact McCarthy's directly.
- No kilts for a long time at OCS. Only 2 or 3 high schools use the kilt.
- Comment from Parent (Michelle Clemetson):
 - Regarding uniforms. Sizing is not the same. McCarthy has 2 manufacturers that they use. Have had problems twice with my Grade 9 student.
- AK:
 - I was not aware. Call Erika Fredelos. She can liaise with McCarthy's and Michelle.
- Comment from Parent (Alicia Ravello Carabon):
 - Also had to special order, gave measurements. Was 4 sizes too big, had to get it specially. Paid \$60 for uniform & then another \$60 to get altered.
- AK:
 - Call and speak with Erika Fredelos, so she can liaise with McCarthy's

Lockers:

- TPH Distancing for safety. Board put something up there. Difficult to supervise students. Difficult to distance outside. Supposed to be distancing & masking. No way to be able to distance with lockers. Have mirrors & do grooming at lockers. Precious Blood, physically closed for learning because COVID. If we have lockers, I don't see how we can follow TPL protocols.
- Comment from Parent (Jack L/Lisa Levac):
 - Is the locker issue as per public health decision? Or TSCDB? Or OCS? What does Precious Blood have to do with Lockers? We should look at other jurisdictions outside Toronto that do use lockers.
- AK:
 - TPH is saying No Lockers. Mentioning Precious Blood because they are in our community. Mentioning this because we need to continue to adhere to protocols.
- Comment from Kimberley:
 - Call TPH if you want change. Toronto is highly saturated & high rate of COVID cases versus outside Toronto. Can't compare because they have low numbers. We don't have the same freedoms as everyone else. Kids are in school and we have to value that.
- Comment from Parent (Ildiko Gruber):
 - Winter is coming. Where can they leave their black shoes somewhere in the classroom or not?
- AK:
 - If they have winter footwear, they can keep them on. Will depend on the particular classroom & space available.
- Comment from Kimberley:
 - How can a custodian clean a room if there are shoes in the classroom?
- AK:
 - We have almost 1200 students. Perhaps student can ask individual teacher. Can't say one rule for one students.
- Comment from Parent (Ildiko):
 - Make announcement to students so they know what the rules are. Talk with other teachers.
- Comment from Theresa De Stefano:

- What do we need to see to have the lockers. It's on the School Board website that you can have cubby/lockers.
- AK:
 - Need to know no transmission of COVID due to locker use. I know someone who got COVID & was in ICU. Came out, wasn't able to speak, move, had to learn how to speak again, move again. Having that personal knowledge, I won't put anyone in that situation. Need to know that TPH can guarantee that COVID can't be transmitted through locker use.
- Comment from Parent (Jack L/Lisa):
 - Locker issue. This is your (AK) decision? What's the metrics or exploration how this can be done safely. Can there be some research on other schools who are using lockers?
- AK:
 - TPH has not said that locker use is safe. They won't give direction to schools. No way that I know of on how to use lockers safely. With infections increasing, I don't see any info that would allow me to make that decision to use lockers.
- Comment from Kimberley:
 - Cynthia is with TDSB – no lockers at any TDSB schools. Different principals can do different things.
- Comment from Parent (Ildiko):
 - I don't think you have enough info for locker use, not from TPH. I don't think we will be allowed to have lockers until. Let's respect Anyta's decision. We have 1300 children. Let's keep them safe.

School Schedules:

Semester 2:

- Hopefully, regular 4 period day. Guided by School Board. Announcement now in news.

COVID Protocols: When will masks be removed? Lead by TPH.

Cafeteria: Under repair, service can't be provided. Kids can't eat in Lab, Phys ed, computers. We don't have the cafeteria space open. So, no space for cafeteria service.

Sports:

- Some limitations. Cross Country had a fantastic showing. Thank you to Mr Cruikshunis. Sr Boys Volley ball team, teacher still meeting. Cheer squad, badminton, Girls field hockey, hockey. No to basketball & swimming. Need to listen to announcements or come to office for the update.
- Why Basketball closed? TPH direction, TDCAA works with school board. Don't know why hockey is allowed. Only informed of decisions.
- Swimming/OFSA: TDSB is going to participate in swimming.

Action: Kimberley will contact someone from York Mills Collegiate who is with OFSA to verify.

COVID Protocols

- Comment Kimberley:
 - Why doesn't Province provide the info to TCDSB? Since they have the info? Just a question.

- AK:
 - I'm providing info for both TPH & Province re: COVID testing, etc. Why these are separate, I don't know.
- Comment from Parent (Michelle Clemetson):
 - Why not rewarded for being vaccinated? Like, have a locker because you're vaccinated. Why can't you get a benefit for being vaccinated.
- Comment from Kimberley:
 - I agree with you. It's politics. Why can Raptors game & Maple Leafs game happen? It's politics.

Jayne Price, OCS Secretary

- Kimberley: A very important employee is going to retire on Thursday: Jayne Price, head secretary, been there for many years. Important to recognize key people in the school. She helped students when we are not there to help. Jayne Price is the proudest 'parent' of the student population for many years. I baked a few things & gave a card on behalf of parent council & parent body. Reward is the success of the students.
- AK: staff will be celebrating her tomorrow throughout the day. Welcome Erika Fredelous will be acting in that role. Jayne will be missed.

MYSP (Multi-Year Strategic Plan)

Kimberley: Board wants your input. They did an amazing presentation. Student is the centre of the strategic plan. Need parents' feedback. Survey is quick. Put down what you want them to hear. Example: lockers. Say what you want. This is your opportunity, use your voice! We have until Nov 30. So proud of the parents here tonight. Share your thoughts. This is an engaging parent population. I encourage you to speak out. We have 1 social worker to 8 schools to help fix the mental health issues. Make it known to them that our students deserve. We as parents need to advocate for all our students.

AK: Board is looking for more input. Does cross different areas, Catholicity, what's going well, what's missing, areas of improvement. Board more than ever is listening to parents. Students can voluntarily look at Survey. Parent voice is very respected, in some cases more than administrative voice. Still a report from OAPSE. We can look at other items at the next meeting.

<p>Action: Anyta to resend MYSP link to parents</p>
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Next Meeting: Wed, Feb 16, 2022, 6:30pm.