



Meeting Attendance

Attendees:

Manal Chams, Donia Hafez, Nia Khuong, Karyn Mui, Jacqueline Naismith, Stefanie Neale, Kara Tse, Jhennel Young

Staff Representation:

Bruno Pallotto, Principal
Joseph Roy, Vice Principal
Tania Verro-Matos, Teacher Rep

Guests:

Joanne McLean, Yathindra Dissanayake

Regrets: Jacqueline Naismith, Vicki Price

Call to Order – 6:00 pm

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are on land and surrounded by water, originally inhabited by Indigenous Peoples who have travelled this area since time immemorial. This territory is within the lands honoured by the Wampum Treaties; agreements between the Anishinaabe (Ah-nish-e-naa-bay), Haudenosaunee (Hoe-den-oh-show-nee), Lenni (Len-eh) Lenape (Le-naw-pay) and allied Nations to peacefully share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. Specifically, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the Three Fires Confederacy (Ojibwey (Oh-jib-way), Odawa (Oh-dah-wah), Potawatomi (Paw-taw-watt-oh-me) and Huron/Wendat (Wen-dat) Peoples. We are dedicated to honouring Indigenous history and culture while remaining committed to moving forward respectfully with all First Nations, Inuit and Métis.

Principal's Report – Mr. Pallotto:

GECPIC Parent Well-Being Session

The Greater Essex County Parent Involvement Committee (GECPIC) is hosting a Parent Well-Being session.

Event Details: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 from 5:45PM - 7:30PM at Westview Freedom Academy.

Attached is the invitation with additional information. Please use the QR Code on the flyer to **RSVP by 4:00PM** on April 11, 2025.

Ecole Bellewood students, staff and community welcomes Marlborough French Immersion program students and families!

Marlborough French Immersion Family Transition Events

Marlborough FI families have been invited to Ecole Bellewood's BISON FAMILY GAME NIGHT on **Thursday, April 10, 2025 from 5:30 - 7:30 pm.**

Bellewood Parent Involvement Committee cordially invites all current Marlborough French Immersion students and family members to an exciting and fun-filled game night!

Marlborough and Bellewood students along with family members are invited to a fun night of gaming, building connections and prizes to be won! *With support from the GECDSEB Parent Reaching Out Grant*, you are all invited to play, strategize, race, puzzle, collaborate, and create memories together! Please note students **must** be accompanied by an adult to attend this event.

2024/2025 Current Committee Members

- Co-Chairs: Donia Hafez & Stefanie Neale
- Treasurer: Kara Tse
- Secretaries: Karyn Mui & Jhennel Young
- Council Members:
 - Nesreen Awad
 - Manal Chams
 - Erin Haldenman
 - Jacqueline Naismith
 - Nia Khuong
 - Joanne McLean
 - Jhennel Young
- Note: Council members are required to attend each meeting (unless regrets are sent) to maintain quorum (7) while voting on expenditures/actions

Marlborough French Immersion Student Shadow Day

Marlborough FI students will visit Bellewood on **Friday, April 25, 2025**.

Marlborough students will engage in learning during the middle block directly **aligned** to same current-grade Bellewood student in homerooms (shadow a Bellewood student)!

French Immersion staff members will be attending as chaperones to assist with the shadow day i.e. alleviate any anxiety, foster healthy peer relationships and build connections to Bellewood.

Multicultural Family Event

Thursday, May 8, 2025 from 4:30 - 7:30pm

Ecole Bellewood celebrates the rich diversity within our school community!

Welcome to Kindergarten Annual Family Event

Thursday, May 15, 2024 from 4:00 - 6:00pm

Welcoming our youngest learners for next year, sharing learning resources and highlighting Kindergarten French Immersion programming.

EQAO Webinar for Parents and Guardians of Elementary School Students

Register for this free live webinar and learn about EQAO's primary and junior Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics. Participants will learn about the purpose of Ontario's large-scale assessments. EQAO staff will explain the assessment format, highlight resources to support students, and answer questions from participants. The session will be approximately 45 minutes, followed by a live Q&A with EQAO staff.

[Register](#)

EQAO Math Night for Parents and Guardians

Join us for a free live webinar where EQAO staff will discuss math questions that Ontario students encounter when they participate in Ontario's large-scale assessments. These assessments are taken by all Ontario students in Grades 3, 6 and 9. During the webinar, EQAO staff will show how these math questions help assess the skills students are learning in their math classes. Staff will also share valuable insights from the past three years of assessment results, which can help parents and guardians support their children's math learning.

[Register](#)

Vice Principal's Report – Mr Roy:

Equity Updates:

Rationale:

Bellewood's school improvement goal is to enhance student well-being, inclusivity and a sense of belonging.

Actions Taken:

Bellewood GSA:

- No updates will resume mural for June.
- Students may participate in T-Shirt Design contest for June.

Refresh Committee:

- M. DeLaronde completed the canvas frame and we showed the 4 students how to stretch the canvas and we applied the Gesso (primer) and will be transposing the sketch this week.
- The sketch is completed and depicts a prairie meadow with Bellewood in the landscape and a diverse student population of students representing different races/ethnicities engaged in various learning activities. The students will be wearing different colour shirts to represent the significant days we recognize throughout the school year to promote inclusiveness (i.e., Orange Shirt Day, Pink Shirt Day, Purple Shirt Day, Pride, Purple Shirt Day, Bellewood School Colours, etc.). We included special programming such as drumline. We also made sure that the plants/trees included are what we would find locally in Ontario.

- The Multicultural Fair banner has been redesigned and slotted to complete as next year's project and will depict 195 country flags as well as First Nations, Metis and Inuit flags. We will still have the world with the quote, "Welcome to Ecole Bellewood...where we celebrate our cultural diversity in a community environment." In addition, each flag will be a puzzle piece and we will add the following quote, "The world is like a puzzle and we are the puzzle pieces. We all belong and when one is gone, we're incomplete."

EAST Initiatives/Student Leadership:

- Student Leadership had a Ramadan display on our front bulletin board as well as an interactive activity. They also gave presentations to classes to teach other students about Ramadan.
- Planning continues for Sikh Heritage month (April), Jewish heritage, World Autism Day and the continuation of daily announcements.

Create Your Future:

- We have significantly increased the number of students at Bellewood part of the Create Your Future program 10 times.
- Create Your Future Advisors are assisting with planning the 2nd Annual Black Joy Conference on April 15 the theme: Express Yourself. Four students will represent Bellewood with M. Pallotto.

Caring and Safe Schools Update:

Ball Strike Prevention Committee:

- On pause and might implement next year.

Map of Caring/Trusted Adults at Bellewood:

- Results of Parent/Caregiver survey include:
 1. 94% encouraging their child to access trusted adults, 6% maybe
 2. 81% of students feel safe, 19% Yes and No/Sometimes
 3. 44% reported positive experiences with trusted adults, 31% no positive/negative experiences reported, 12.5% reported lack of understanding, 12.5% reported negative experiences
 4. 81% parents/caregivers know their child's trusted adult, 19% do not
 5. 88% of parents/caregivers encourage their child to report to school before they go home and 12% maybe
- We have planned 3 Trusted Adult Luncheons for the students that didn't identify trusted adults this month with 19 staff volunteers which include administrators, office staff, teachers, custodial staff, support staff, ECEs and lunch time supervisors. Luncheons are based on student interests and they will be fed.

Other Initiatives:

Science Fair Huge Success!

- Grades 6-8 students at Ecole Bellewood took part in the School Science Fair. This year we had 28 projects with 46 student participants. Student projects demonstrated emerging application of the scientific method, in creative and innovative ways to apply to real world problems. Topics included building better energy and irrigation systems, effectiveness of antibacterial materials, examinations of how perception influences personal bias and developing visual drug interactions programming. Judges were comprised of teachers, school board science specialists and parent/guardian volunteers with science backgrounds. Ten projects were selected to represent Ecole Bellewood in the upcoming Windsor Regional Science, Technology & Engineering Fair, hosted by St. Clair College on April 12th and 13th.

Indigenous Country/Blues Singer Crystal Shawanda Bellewood Performance

- Bellewood welcomes artist Crystal Shawanda and the Blues in the Schools program. Blues in the Schools is an opportunity to expose students from all backgrounds to music and to encourage them to use music as a positive outlet in dealing with the world around them. Crystal Shawanda was born and raised in Wikwemikong First Nation, on Manitoulin Island, in Northern Ontario.
- This presentation will take place as an assembly on April 8th from 1:30-2:15 and we invited the Indigenous families and extend the invitation to PIC.

Teacher's Report – Mme Matos:

- Congratulations to the Chess team, who won 1st place at the annual board-wide chess competition. Chess club starts in grade 2, and students can try it out then.
- M. Drexler purchased many books from the Forest of Reading Canadian authors collection, with expenses divided between PIC and school. We encourage everyone to take advantage of the new books in the library.

Treasurer's Report - Kara Tse

The account balance is as follows:

Food:	\$4339.42
Fundraising:	\$979.18
Grants:	\$1831.68
Total:	<u>\$7150.28</u>

Pro Grant Initiative

Games night – Thursday, April 10th (5:30 pm – 7:30 pm)

- Fun night of gaming, connection and prizes with support from GECSB Parents Reaching Out Grant.

New Business:

Discussion and planning for the December Holiday Market will commence at the next meeting.

As Always

Parent Involvement Committee meetings are [open to any parent/guardian any time](#). Please feel welcome to join us to learn more about Bellewood activities and bring your fresh opinions.

Meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm.

Next meeting: Monday, May 5th @ 6 pm.

PIC Chair Contact Info: bellewoodparents@gmail.com