

At the beginning of the school year, the following officers were elected to the school council: Natasha Heston was initially the Acting Chair and was subsequently elected as Co-chair, Bruce Giles second Co-chair, Suzanne Striegler OCASC Representative, Chris Ellis SEAC Community Representative, and Vicki Ross as Secretary.

As co-chairs, Bruce Giles and myself, Natasha Heston, have enjoyed and have grown as first-time co-chairs at OTSS. We look forward to a continued, open partnership with the teachers and with the staff at OTSS.

The following is a summary of the school council's activities carried out over the 2011-2012 school year:

- Barry Armstrong, Principal, informed the school that we could not, as a 'Parent Body', vote to push back the due date of the students' IEP's.
- OC Transpo changed its bus routes September 2011; hence, leaving only one bus (Route No. 18) arriving close to OTSS; however, leaving students an approximate four-block distance to walk.
- School Council wrote a letter to the Mayor of Ottawa requesting a bus route change, which resulted in unfavourable results.
- Co-chairs, Natasha Heston and Bruce Giles, organized a school petition to regain Bus Route No. 18 morning service back to OTSS, and was hand-delivered and registered to the Mayor. It was accepted as 'other mail'; thus, regained temporary morning bus service back to the school, pending ridership outcomes.
- A new program, 'The Enterprising Person', focused on the further development of a glass jewelry business "Fireworks", and the students were invited to participate at the 'Special Education Conference' in Gananoque.
- OTSS and Sir Guy Carleton Secondary School shared in the 2010-2011 Ontario Award for **excellence** in Intramural Sports for the unique vocom sports league.
- For the 4th year in a row, OTSS has been awarded the Secondary School Quality Physical Education Award by Physical and Health Education Canada.
- The PSP Hot Lunch Company had their first successful venture of the year. They planned and executed a monthly hot lunch until the end of the year.
- OTSS had teachers visiting from Nigeria for three days and 16 teachers visit from China.
- The newer Anti-bullying Practices of restorative practice and collaborative problem solving at OTSS are more successful.
- A semestered school system was approved for OTSS for the school year 2012-2013.
- School Council invited OCDSB nurse, Melody Mantil, who discussed prominent public health issues such as tobacco cessation and healthy sexuality.
- School Council decided to purchase fridge magnets with the Parents' Reaching -Out Grant.
- Co-chair's (Bruce Giles) email to alert parents of upcoming school council meetings was initiated.
- Barry Armstrong announced that the Academic Award Assembly slated for June 2012, would be postponed until September 2012, to allow those students finishing up in September to attend the ceremonies.

We as co-chairs wish to extend our gratitude to the teachers and to the staff who voluntarily offered input by way of their reports. We also wish to thank all of the fellow council members who attended the monthly meetings, and who also contributed to our monthly discussions. Therefore, as a result of this, you have contributed to the growth and to the success at OTSS.

Respectfully submitted by,

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