WHAT'S NEW

Happy Halloween! This is a day that really allows people to express their creativity and imagination. Today in schools and administration building, there were incredible pumpkins, costumes and festive treats. We've captured some photos on our Twitter account - take a look!

Municipal Election 2014 Results
The Ottawa-Carleton District School Board will welcome six new and six returning members to the Board table on December 1, 2014.

Trustees, Lynn Scott, Zone 1; Christine Boothby*, Zone 2 - acclaimed; Donna Blackburn, Zone 3; Theresa Kavanagh, Zone 4; Mark Fisher, Zone 7; and Shirley Seward, Zone 11 were re-elected last night (*acclaimed).

Anita Olsen Harper, Zone 5; Chris Ellis, Zone 6; Keith Penny, Zone 8; Shawn Menard*, Zone 9 acclaimed; Erica Braunovan, Zone 10 and Sandra Schwartz, Zone 12 were all successful in their bids to represent their zones (*acclaimed).

School board trustees are elected politicians who are responsible for developing the school board's overall policy direction and the board's budget. They represent the interests of the students, parents, and community in their area. Each year of their mandate, they consult with their communities on the board's multi-year plan and they bring concerns and suggestions from their community to the school board as a whole.

Congratulations to all candidates and welcome to the newly elected Board. The last meeting of the current Board of Trustees will be held on November 25th. The meeting will begin with presentation to the retiring trustees, followed by an appreciation reception. Our trustees have had a really productive four-year term and we're so appreciative of the work they have done.

Playgrounds and Play Structures
As part of the 2014-2015 budget, the Board approved increased funding to assist school communities in developing their school grounds or installing or replacing their play structures.
In the past most schools applied for funds from the City of Ottawa's Community Partnership Minor Capital Program up to ($7,500) which were matched by the OCDSB Facilities Department. The Board/Facilities portion has now been raised to up to $25,000, although more funds may be available to help address unique circumstances. The difference in the cost of a project and the funding provided will remain the school community's responsibility, and may be met through fund raising or sponsorships.

More information about the application process, appropriate forms and other supporting details is posted on the School Council section of our website. You might also be interested in our upcoming workshop on School Greening.

School Council Finances
By now, most of you will have your new school councils in place. A challenge for every council is the continuity of operations as old members leave and new ones join. This is particularly true for school council treasurer's who need to get financial records from the previous treasurer. The treasurer performs a key role on school council. The recent presentation on finances at the School Council Training Day has excellent information for treasurers. A resource guide will be coming soon - stay tuned! In the interim, all school councils should ensure that:

- Ensure that the list of authorized signing officers for school council transactions is updated.
- All cheques are signed by two authorized signing officers.
- A monthly financial report is presented at school council meetings;
Proper year-end reports are completed each year and filed with the Council and the District.

**Colonel By Secondary School International Baccalaureate Program**

Do you have a student looking for an intellectually rigorous, pre-university course of study that is recognized world-wide? Many of Colonel By's International Baccalaureate graduates are top candidates for scholarships both nationally and internationally. Our students often qualify for university credits and advanced standing. Find out more at our Open House and begin preparing for a successful post-secondary future.

When: Wednesday, November 26, at 7:00 p.m. or Thursday, November 27, at 7:00 p.m.
Where: Colonel By Secondary School, 2381 Ogilvie Road
Visit [www.ibcb.ca](http://www.ibcb.ca) for complete program and application information, and to register for one of the Open House dates.

**Take Our Kids to Work™**

Take Our Kids to Work™ program will celebrate its 20th anniversary on November 5, 2014. The Learning Partnership’s program has been inviting Grade 9 or equivalent students to spend the first Wednesday in November in a work place setting since 1994.

**Math Facts**

What's the best language for learning math? Research shows Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Turkish use simpler number words and express math concepts more clearly than English, making it easier for small children to learn counting and arithmetic.

Here is an interesting news article: "[The best language for math](http://www.wsj.com)" (Wall Street Journal, September 15, 2014).

**Drop the Worry Ball - November 5th**

Bell High School invites parents to a [special information session](#) at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 5th with Dr. Alex Russell. Learn more about today's helicopter parents from the author of "Drop the Worry Ball." Dr. Russell is a clinical psychologist who helps children develop resilience. He believes that children learn by experiencing non-catastrophic, painful failure and it is through the process of these failures that they mature into resilient, resourceful and emotionally balanced individuals.

**Barrhaven Public School Council - Free Workshop - Tummy Thyme - November 4th 7:00 p.m.**

Our hectic schedules can make it a challenge to create nutritious meals for our families. The Barrhaven Public School (BPS) Council is offering parents the following FREE workshop hosted by the registered dieticians of Tummy Thyme ([www.tummythyme.com](http://www.tummythyme.com)), an Ottawa-based nutrition consulting service that specializes in childhood and family nutrition. Learn how to pack healthy lunches. Each parent will receive detailed handouts, recipes, and food suggestions to take home.

DATE: Tuesday, November 4,  TIME: 7:00 P.M.
LOCATION: Barrhaven Public School
TO REGISTER: Send an e-mail to bpsparentcouncil@gmail.com with the following information, by Tuesday, October 28. Name(s) of parent(s) attending.
Do you need childcare? If yes, for how many children? The age(s) of children requiring childcare.

**Speaker Series**

Mark your calendars for two important upcoming presentations in the next three weeks. Both presentations are being offered as part of our Speaker Series - free presentations on topics that are important to parents and educators.

**Standing Up to Hate - Ending Discrimination and Intolerance - Nov 5th**
Dr. Eva Olsson will share her personal story about the Holocaust and being a prisoner in Auschwitz death camps. It's an amazing story about perseverance, resilience and hope. This session will be held on November 5th from 7 pm to 9 pm at Sir Robert Borden High School, 133 Greenbank Road. Take a look at this video of Dr. Olsson speaking with high school students.

Developing Social Emotional Skills in Children - Nov 11th
Dr. Oliver John is an expert in understanding personality development. He will be speaking about children and the ways in which social development of children can affect outcomes. He will also talk about parenting strategies to support the development of social emotional skills in children. Find out more and if you are interested, Dr. John has a personality test that you might want to try. The session will be held at Sir Robert Borden High School from 7 pm to 9 pm.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Meetings that Matter....

Board and Committee of the Whole Meetings
The next Committee of the Whole Meeting is Monday, November 3rd, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. Read the agenda, there are reports about the annual student achievement results, a draft trustee code of conduct, a year 3 status report on progress on our strategic objectives, the new capital planning policy, interim measures regarding school accommodation in Kanata North, and revisions to the audit committee policy and other minor housekeeping policy changes.

Calling Interested Committee Volunteers
The District is looking for volunteers to serve on the Special Education Advisory committee (SEAC). More details about the committee, the roles and responsibilities of members and the application process is available on our website.

Boundary Revisions - Consultation Documents and Timelines
We are reviewing school boundaries in several areas of the City, read the overview or the detailed consultation reports for the following areas:
Mer Bleue Expansion Area (Orleans)
Cardinal Creek New development area (Orleans)
Central Park MFI 4-8 boundary revision
Valley Stream Secondary 9-12 boundary revision
West Carleton MFI 4-8 boundary revision
Riverside South New development areas (south of Armstrong Rd. and east of Limebank Rd.)
J.H. Putman/Broadview 7-8 EFI boundary revision (Carlingwood area only)

We would like your input about possible boundary revisions in schools in these areas. This review process will commence in early October 2014 and be completed by the end of December 2014. It should be noted that proposed changes would not be implement until the 2015-2016 school year at the earliest - and not without your input!

The OCDSB is holding public consultation meetings on November 5th and 10th. Learn more about the meetings and read the following two reports - the first describes the seven potential minor attendance boundary revisions in different locations across the District. The second report outlines a proposal to expand elementary alternative program boundaries (to areas not currently served by the program.)

EVENTS AND REMINDERS
Westwind Public School Speaker Event - November 6th 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Dr. Maggie Mamen
Different Folks, Different Strokes: Understanding and Supporting our Children Through School
This presentation will examine how different personalities and learning styles can impact a child's experience of school, and will provide some ideas and strategies for encouraging independence, accountability and progress. Dr. Maggie Mamen is an award-winning psychologist and best-selling author who works with children and their families in a multi-disciplinary private practice in Ottawa, Ontario. Before starting this practice in 1990, she worked at Carleton University, CHEO and the former Carleton Board of Education. Maggie provides seminars and presentations to groups of parents, teachers and other professionals both nationally and internationally. She and her husband have three adult children on whom they practiced and three grandchildren who reap the benefits.
RSVP: paula.harris@hotmail.com

Clifford Bowey School Council Chef Night - November 15th
"Chef Night: Savour Autumn" will be held on Saturday, November 15th at 6:00 pm at Clifford Bowey Public School. The evening will include a cooking demonstration with renowned Chef Justin Scott followed by a three-course dinner and a silent auction. Tickets are $45 per person and can be purchased online. The Silent Auction portion of the event is already up and running online. Anyone can participate, whether they are attending the event or not.
http://www.boweyfoundation.org/

REMINDERS

Parent Guide to Assessment, Evaluation & Reporting (9-12)
We're excited to share our new Parent Guide to Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting. The guide will help you better understand assessment, evaluation and reporting and answers some of the most common questions you may have regarding your child's progress. It also provides you with tips on how to talk with your child and his or her teachers. Hardcopies of the secondary version are in schools now. The elementary version is coming soon.

Secondary Parents - Scholarship/Bursaries
There are many free resources available to assist you in your search for scholarships, bursaries and awards? Check out our website for more information or talk to your child's guidance counsellor for more information. Several deadlines are coming up.

Free Online French Homework Help - Bonnes Nouvelles!!!
The OCDSB has partnered with Voilà Learning and dozens of French teachers to provide free online French homework help to your children/students registered in a French program. Students will need access to a computer (at home) and internet. Register, and you will receive an e-mail every Mondayand Wednesday at 3:30 letting you know that a French teacher is available online to help your child every Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. REGISTER YOUR CHILD WITH VOILA LEARNING TODAY

Click here for Homework Help in English

School Council Insurance
School Councils are required to have insurance coverage for events and activities not under the control of the school principal. Historically, councils have been encouraged to buy insurance for such situations. This year, as part of the District's risk management strategy, the District will again be providing and paying for the School Council's liability coverage for the policy period 1 November 2014 to
1 November 2015. The school council $2 million third party liability insurance coverage will be provided through the Ontario School Boards’ Insurance Exchange (OSBIE) and confirmation of the coverage will be sent to the school council chairs within the next month.

**Taking Care - The Importance of Public Health**

With increasing media coverage about public health concerns, we often get questions about what plans are in place in schools. The OCDSB has a strong working partnership with Ottawa Public Health (OPH) and we keep in regular contact. As public health professionals, we follow their advice and advisories when developing plans for schools. The OPH website has a wealth of information that you might find useful. Learn more about the current flu clinic schedule for the City of Ottawa; develop your understanding of the Ebola virus; or read the resource material they have about dealing with stressful events.

Happy Halloween - drive carefully and watch for children on the streets. Tomorrow night is Daylight Savings - remember to turn your clocks back!

Michele