

TRANSITION COMMITTEE MEETING

Byng Public School, Clearview Meadows Elementary School, Stayner Collegiate Institute

Tuesday, January 16, 2018
1:00 p.m.

MINUTES

The Byng Public School, Clearview Meadows Elementary School and Stayner Collegiate Institute (SCI) Transition Committee held their second meeting on Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at 1 p.m., at Stayner Collegiate Institute.

PRESENT:

Committee Members:

Byng Public School	Mae Senick, Principal Dave Richter, Teacher Alysia White, Parent Tori Collicutt, Student Linnea Donkers, Student Jaycee Gibson, Student	Clearview Meadows	Jacqueline Linton, Principal Kevin Goode, Teacher Matthew Laker, Parent Grace Baker, Student Amelia Dutka, Student Luke Lightheart, Student
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Stayner Collegiate	Mark Keating, Principal Janice McLeod, Teacher Sebrina Westbrooke, Parent Brittany Michalchuk, Student
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Community Representative:	Christine Tjeerdsma
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Student Success Teacher:	Chris Chater
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<u>Trustee:</u>	Suzanne Ley
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<u>Administration:</u>	Jackie Kavanagh, Superintendent, Area 5 Rita England, Executive Assistant, Area 5 (Recorder) Melanie Slade Morrison, Communications Officer
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ABSENT:	Evan Marriott, Christina Rawn
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Chairperson Mark Keating, Principal of Stayner Collegiate Institute (SCI) called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introduction

Principal Keating welcomed the transition committee members and requested they introduce themselves.

2. Review of Committee Purpose

Principal Keating reviewed statements of purpose from the previous November 9, 2017 transition meeting:

- “Champion for a smooth and positive transition.”
- “We are here to support a smooth transition and learn details.”
- “Creating positive opportunities, recognize individual voices, while working together to shape a new school community.”

3. 7-12 School Page on Stayner Collegiate Institute’s (SCI) Website

The committee viewed the information posted on the Simcoe County District School Board’s (SCDSB) website, entitled “Grades 7 to 12 School.” Principal Keating explained that the transition information is linked to Byng P.S., Clearview Meadows and SCI’s website. School events, minutes of the transition meetings and a Frequently Asked Questions section are posted on these sites and will be updated as additional information becomes available.

Suzanne Ley, SCDSB Trustee, inquired about information for parents on the eventual transitioning of JK/SK students from Byng to Clearview. Principal Jaqueline Linton explained that amalgamation of students from Byng to Clearview would be dealt with through a transition committee specific to the Byng and Clearview amalgamation at a later date.

4. Review of Transition Activities/Efforts to Date

a) School Visits – FAQ

Kevin Goode, Teacher, Clearview Meadows, reported that Principal Keating met with grades 7 - 8 students at Byng and Clearview Meadows to address the September 2018 transition to SCI. Students felt the information was very positive and that Principal Keating had answered their questions and concerns.

Principal Keating commented that a new outdoor school sign had been installed and would be used to communicate the many upcoming events, meetings and activities surrounding the transition of Byng and Clearview Meadows students to SCI in September 2018.

b) Can You Feel it Workshop

Christine Tjeerdsma, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, Health Nurse, spoke about the Can You Feel It Workshop, which deals with issues of Health and Wellness. Details were also provided regarding the process surrounding the application for the Ministry of Education’s SpeakUp Project Grants. Students from Byng, Clearview and SCI spent a day working together with principals Keating, Linton and May Senick to complete the funding application supporting bussing, handouts and materials for the Speak up Grant.

c) Transition Videos

Principal Keating provided two videos assembled by Curtis Dafoe, Media Specialist, SCDSB, for the committee’s review and input. The videos were created to highlight the many programs and activities available at SCI and to share this information with the community.

The videos include clips of the: snowmobile club, arts room activities, library and learning spaces, construction program, greenhouse program, sports activities, photography club, etc. Committee members were asked to review the videos and assist with editing for a finished version.

The committee suggested less static shots of people talking and more audio and short quick clips; as well as adding a tour of SCI.

The committee discussed that a major selling feature of SCI is that staff know all students by name, making attending SCI a more personalized experience for students. It was suggested that this be reflected in the video.

The committee discussed the February 15, 2018 Open House and suggest that the entire video #1 be played for the community at this event.

5. Input for Future Transition Activities

Principal Keating provided details on future transition activities and asked for direction and suggestions.

- a) Joint School Council Meeting – January 29, 2018, 6:30 p.m.
 - To be held at SCI, Library and open to everyone
 - All three school councils will hold a combined School Council meeting
 - Students from Transition Committee are encouraged to attend
 - Encourage councils work together in the future

- b) Gaga Ball Tournament – January 30, 2018
 - Chris Chator reported that this “unique” game will be used to assist in the integration of grades 6 and 7 students from both schools

- c) SCI 7-12 Welcome Night – February 15, 2018
 - Targeted specifically to grades 6 and 7 students
 - This is not a Grade 8 Open House
 - SCI staff will take ownership for this event and will plan an exciting and informative day for students (tours, food and fun)
 - Principal Keating will speak to FAQs
 - Name of event discussed: Spartan Paloosa, Explore SCI Night, scavenger hunt theme was suggested
 - FAQ questions will be geared specifically to grades 7 and 8 students
 - Tweet event to social media
 - Invite teachers from grades 6 and 7 classes to take part
 - Gaga Ball challenge
 - Leadership activity for students while parents/guardians ask questions
 - Other suggestions included: take away gifts, i.e. pens; Spartan locks, finger foods, lock competition

- d) **Supporting Parent – Workshop**
Christine Tjeersma questioned what type of information parents required to support their children for a smooth grades 6 and 7 transition. Triple P Parenting was suggested. Triple P offers a variety of tips and tricks for parents to meet their family's needs such as coping with anxiety and stress and raising resilient kids.
- e) **New Ideas**
Trustee Ley commented that as the process unfolds, information will be added to the FAQ section of the website to answer parent/guardian questions and concerns.

6. Round Table Discussion

- a) Principal Linton requested an itemized list of what school council will discuss at the Joint School Council Meeting – January 29, 2018, and questioned if the school council will be an open forum. Principal Keating responded that the questions will be related to the transition of students and FAQs only.
- b) It was discussed that some parents/guardians are not aware of the SCDSB website explaining the work that is being done on the transition of students to SCI. Principal Keating responded that the outdoor sign would be utilized to advertise the schools' and committee's continued work.
- c) A SCI staff meeting will be held by the end of the week to determine a name for the February 15th SCI Welcome Night.

7. Closing Comments

Principal Keating thanked the committee members for attending and providing their input.

8. Adjournment

The Transition Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 27, 2018, at Stayner Collegiate Institute, Library 1:00 p.m.