



Onslow Elementary School Newsletter^{C19}

September 9, 2020



Special note: As we begin this year, we offer a note of appreciation to all of our parents for their patience and courage regarding the COVID 19 challenge to almost everything we do. School life has been impacted in many ways: we do not foresee organized sports tournaments such as the annual soccer tournament or the Terry Fox Run happening, nor do we see Music Makers or the annual debating competition happening. Take heart however, we will be having a music teacher assist our staff with music this year, by video conference if necessary, and we will have students involved in morning announcements (by video) and a student council. No doubt we will find more activities that we can do safely as we make our way through the school year. Once again, your patience and cooperation with OES is appreciated from new student drop-off/pick-up routines to safe school (social distancing) requirements.

A note about water: we encourage parents to send their children to school with at least two bottles of water. To make sure we have adequate access to water we have two supply stations that are sanitized regularly and students are taught how to respect safe practices for getting water from the stations.

Visiting the school: A friendly reminder that we will have parents in the school by appointments only – we will also offer video conferencing to reduce the number of people entering the building. However, forgotten lunches and other items can be dropped off in the main entrance. Unfortunately, locker visits to verify clothes and other needs are restricted to staff helping parents as required.

Helpful reminders for children:

- Use hand sanitizer each time you exit and enter the school
- Wash your hands frequently
- Play only with your class group outside – keep the bubble
- Grade 5 and 6 students must wear masks in common areas:
Hallway, bathrooms, entry/exit and on the bus
- Do NOT share lunch items or water bottles.

Potential re-confinement (aka emergency shutdown): should the provincial government declare another “shut down” due to COVID 19, parents will be informed immediately and the OES staff will follow a pre-established internal protocol for distributing materials to parents and guiding them with the next steps. Rest assured, we have a plan that will maintain contact between your child and the school/teacher and we have a process for on-line learning and assessment.



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Annual General Assembly for Parents

1 Elections for Parent Representatives to Governing Board

On Thursday, September 17th at 5:30 p.m., parents are invited to assemble in our new tent (gym if rain) to elect representatives to the school's Governing Board from among the parents in attendance. The Governing Board is comprised of parents, teachers, support staff, the principal and community representatives. Parent members serve for two consecutive years. The purpose of the Governing Board is to provide advice and help make decisions about the aims and objectives for the school and to monitor how these are being achieved. This includes voting on policies and overseeing the implementation of the Educational Project, fundraisers, Code of Conduct, budget, school fees, school trips and other important items. Meetings usually take place one evening per month. If you are interested in becoming part of this organization, please ensure that you attend the Annual General Assembly. All parents present will be able to nominate themselves or another parent, and then vote for the candidates of their choice to fill two vacant positions that are up for election this year. *Please see the standard template for AGA attached.*

2 Elections for a Representative to Parent Committee (part of AGA)

Once governing board parent representatives are elected, all parents attending the AGA will elect one representative and one alternate to the school board's Parent Committee from among the parent reps on governing board. Parents can express interest in serving on the parent committee, up to and including the date of 19 September. Parents are welcome to contact Ralph Mason (rmason@wqsb.qc.ca) to express their interest in serving on the Parent Committee.

3 Special Education Advisory Committee (part of AGM)

Parents who wish to take part in the school board's Special Education Advisory Committee (S.E.A.C.) will also have an opportunity to submit their names for consideration. Interested parents must have a child with an Individual Education Plan (I.E.P.). Selection of parents for this committee will be made later by the school board's Parent Committee. A sitting member of Governing Board is ideal but not necessary for SEAC representation. Please contact the principal for the official form to make an application to become a member of SEAC.

Appointment of SEAC Members by Parent Committee

The parent members of SEAC are designated by The Parent Committee at the first meeting of the school year. (Typically in October)

4 Home and School Association

Without a doubt, OES has benefitted from the H&S Association. Last year we received enough instruments to bring music as an arts subject alive in the school thanks to our H&S Committee Association. The president of our Home and School Association, Stacy Johnston, will be on hand for the AGM and can take the names of anyone interested in joining the Home & School Association. Our Home and School is extremely active and contributes greatly to many of the school's projects.



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Onslow Staff Members:

Secretary / Technician: Wendy Wesley onslow@wqsb.qc.ca

Resource / Staff Assistant: Cathy Nugent cnugent@wqsb.qc.ca

Kindergarten (K4): Elizabeth Wright ewright@wqsb.qc.ca

Kindergarten (K5): Sofia Ferreira sferreira@wqsb.qc.ca

Cycle 1.1/1.2 (Grades 1 & 2): Kelsey Turcotte kturcotte@wqsb.qc.ca

We welcome Kelsey this year as the well qualified and capable replacement teacher for Selina Gervais.

Cycle 2.1/2.2 (Grades 3 & 4): Julie Schneider jschneider@wqsb.qc.ca

Cycle 3.1 (Grade 5): Kayla Savard ksavard@wqsb.qc.ca

Cycle 3.2 (Grade 6): Mallory Peck mpeck@wqsb.qc.ca

Français: Louise Barette lbarette@wqsb.qc.ca

Special Education Attendant: Christine Derouin cderouin@wqsb.qc.ca

Special Education Attendant: Nancy Provost nprovost@wqsb.qc.ca

Daycare Educator / Technician: Sheena Hudson shudson@wqsb.qc.ca

Special Education Attendant / Technician: Pamela Illingworth pillingworth@wqsb.qc.ca

Principal: Ralph Mason rmason@wqsb.qc.ca

Security Clearances:

Parent Volunteers are always welcome! If you wish to volunteer for our school, please see Wendy Wesley at the front desk for more information.

"The Western Quebec School Board has the responsibility to ensure the safety and security of all its students and staff members. For this reason, all individuals are required to have a Security Background Check before being employed or volunteering within our schools."

School Fees: A notice will be going home via kiddie mail shortly. Thank you for your patience.

Reporting your child absent / End of Day Routine:

To report your child's absences, contact Wendy Wesley directly. For end of day changes, note that after 1:00pm, changes cannot be made due to time constraints. If you must make a change to your child's end of day routine, please contact the school directly or send a note to the teacher/office prior with the appropriate changes.



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Onslow Elementary School – Important Dates September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7 	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 Annual General Assembly 	18 PD DAY	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



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Annual General Assembly of Parents 2020

Agenda

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Naming of Secretary
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Governing Board
 - 4.1 Roles and Functions of the Governing Board
 - 4.2 Introduction of the Current Members on Governing Board
 - 4.3 Precisions Regarding Available Seats
 - 4.4 Nominations Received Ahead of Time, if any
 - 4.5 Additional Nominations
 - 4.6 Closing of Nominations
 - 4.7 Candidates Present Themselves
 - 4.8 Election of Parent Representatives on the Governing Board
 - 4.8 Election of Substitute Parent Representatives on the Governing Board
5. Parents' Committee
 - 5.1 Roles and Functions of the Parents' Committee
 - 5.2 Election of the Parent Delegate
 - 5.3 Election of the Alternate Parent Delegate
- 5a: SEAC
 - 5a.1 Parent rep ideally also a GB member
 - 5a.2 Rep must have at least 1 child with an IEP
 - 5a.3 Candidate needs to submit a letter of interest
6. Home and School Association
 - 6.1 Roles of H&A in the school
 - 6.2 How to join
7. Varia
8. Closing of the Meeting



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