H.B.Beal School Council Meeting

October 19, 2026, 6:30 PM

Attendance: In person: Ian Charlton, Deidre Di Nino, Rachel Peaker
Online: Tina Painter, Carrie Wakem
Regrets: Blythe Allman, Dawn Davis

Welcome: All were welcomed and thanked for sharing their time.

Agenda: Adopted as presented.

Staff Update: Dawn was unable to attend in person, but shared by email her appreciation for the many events, clubs and activities that the Beal Staff are spearheading, including the music event this Wednesday. As well as the amazing work that Andy Parr has done to bring Beal into the sunny spotlight again with his support of the Thunder Queens...I'm copying here Andy's letter to the staff about their accomplishments, but that also speaks to the dedication of our staff to our students:

"Many of you are already familiar with the Thunder Queens, a versatile punk rock band consisting of Violet Bruneel, Clara Magnan, and Lola Hayman, who are currently grade 11 and 12 students here at Beal.
Over the last several years, they have had opportunities that seasoned bands can only dream of. They have toured Canada and they have performed on the same bill as legendary artists like 54-40, Sheryl Crow, Sloan, and The Beaches, just to name a few.
Earlier this year, they recorded their second studio album, Deep Below, in Toronto with legendary music producer Dave Schiffman, who has won Grammys for his work with Smashing Pumpkins and Alanis Morissette. During their recent interview on CBC Radio's Q, host Tom Power even described it as the best new album of the year!
And now, their story (up to this point) is being told in a film. Last night, the Forest City Film Festival hosted the world premiere of Thunder Queens. This documentary highlights the journey of women in music, the importance of community, and the incredible power and potential of today's youth.
I, along with many other Beal staff and students, was at the premiere last night. *It was an unforgettable evening filled with emotion, laughter, tears, and standing ovations.*
Lola, Violet, and Clara are navigating this exciting journey with immense grace and maturity, and we are so fortunate to have them as Raiders! Please join me in congratulating them on their incredible accomplishments when you see them in the halls."

Other points:
-I regret that we still have some staff off on medical leaves, but kudos to our lovely Ms Iddison-Gubbels, who hurt her foot, but is still here everyday for her shining stars.
-We have a number of new teachers who are seeming to find their niche. They are lovely and keen.
-And I want to highlight the many teachers, who often give up their lunches for students to finish sewing projects, Math tests, homework, and just lend an ear for students who need the support.

Principal Update: *Staffing:* Hiring is ongoing, a hairdresser has been found for the open position.

PD Day-October 26: Staff will have opportunity to learn about:
Safe schools focusing on online/cyber bullying and new marking software.
PLA: Prior Learning Assessment. A process used for credit equivalency to give credit for life experiences.
Special Education: Tier one supports
Attendance and Participation: how to standardize grading for this new component (10% of course mark for grades 9 & 10, 15% for grades 11 & 12)

Financial Literacy: The first grade 10s eligible to write this new graduation requirement did well. 70% passed on the first try. This is 5% of their careers mark.

Facility: retractable divider wall in the gym is still not working, tenders are out now and expect work to progress soon. School board has declined to install the cement pad for bikes as planned. A secure bike shed is being investigated.

Lighting: Additional flood lights and blue lights to discourage IV drug use to be installed around the property.

SISP: Breakfast program is up and running. First week served approximately 50 students, now serving 100. Funding is partially through the OSNP (Ontario Student Nutrition Program). Some students who benefit from extra food security support receive that outside of this program also.
Community Partners will be available one day per week in the atrium to speak to interested students about the resources they provide.

SIEP: Focus on Numeracy and Literacy, focus on continuing to improve grade 9 EQAO scores.
Math: Digital test taking resources - increase use of anchor charts, decrease barriers and stigma of including technology in classroom.
Literacy: Low interest from staff in taking on leadership role. Ms. Truelove will head this opportunity to help students prior to the November 23 test date.

Fall Sports: Fall playoffs soon! Winter sports will begin after.

Robotics: have secured $6000.00 funding from TVDSB to continue program.

Grade 8 Info Night: Tina to speak in Auditorium, Banner and our handouts will be placed in Library. Anyone available to meet and greet prospective parents and students please meet in the library. The more different perspectives and experiences we can share, the better.

Important Dates: November 12 - Grade 8 night
November 19 - Parent Information Night
October 1 - Grade 9 night

Chair Update: Will setting and advertising topics to be discussed at meetings help increase attendance? First could be School Supports. Focus on mental health next semester.
Scholarships and Award opportunities could be tied into the Post Secondary online Info session Nov. 3.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 16, 6:30 PM.

Meeting Adjourned 7:30 PM.