OAME Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

Doubletree Hotel, Toronto Int'l Airport
655 Dixon Rd., Toronto
416 244 1711
Oct. 12-13, 2012

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of OAME, held at the Double Tree Hotel, October 12-13, 2012
Attendance: Cathy Hall, Connie Quadrini, Sonia Ellison, Tim Sibbald, Bill Otto, Paul Alves (Saturday only), Suhana Kadoura, Gina Micomonaco, Robert Sherk, Marc Husband, Jane Silva (Friday only), Tom Boland, Jung Choi-Perkins (Friday only), Anne Yeager, Anne Michele Stenning, Jill Lazarus, Frank DiPietro, Phil Longpre, Pat Kehoe, Cheryl Geoghegan, Judy Mendaglio (Friday only), Mary Bourassa, Claudio Attanasio, Greg Clarke, Jen Gravel, Allison McAuley, Bill Lundy, Paulene Washington, Angelina Glynn, Sandra Jean Price, Immaculate Namukasa, Kyla Kadlec (Saturday only).
Regrets: Carl Davey, Laura Thompson, Pamela Chun, Cathy Chaput, Laura Tonin, Sheridawn Maloney, Todd Romiens, Mary Lou Kestell, Kathy Kubota-Zirivnij, Henry Santos.
Absent:

Friday October 12, 2012

President's Welcome and Remarks

President Cathy Hall called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting. She started by putting on a tiara. She spoke about the breadth of experience and talent. Cathy announced that Susan Pitre has resigned from the board and welcomed new directors Frank DiPietro, Bill Lundy and Jane Silva, our new Gazette editor Immaculate Namukasa. People at table groups were then asked to consider ways that we could promote OAME in the mathematics community.
Cathy and Lynda talked about Thoughtstream, an online resource that polls members on various topics and collates the results. A Thoughtstream message will be sent out to board members so that others can experience this forum.
Lynda Ferneyhough went through some housekeeping items, reminding members about the agenda, chapter reports, a list of committee members, a salmon coloured Gazette page (please check your information), expenses claim form, a green sheet for finances, and a purple sheet for committee of the whole. Lynda pointed out that all board members now have new email addresses that end with "@oame.on.ca". Greg has tied this to the personal addresses of members. This allows us to avoid publishing personal email addresses in the Gazette.

Reports:

NCTM Report: Todd was absent. Report was included in the agenda
OAME 2012: Bill Lundy reported on the recent conference in Kingston which profited around $95 000. Bill will send his report to Lynda to be attached to the minutes.
OAME 2013: Wayne Erdman report attached to minutes
OMO 2012: David Petro could not attend but sent a report to Lynda. This will be included in the minutes. Profits were turned back to OAME for future OMO meetings.
Leadership 2012: Cathy Hall. Although Theme is "On the Leading Edge, Making Mathematics Happen". Part of the impetus for the conference came from people who have come from the ranks and have success stories to share. The Friday night speaker is Cathy Marks Krpan.

MoE K-12 Math Working Group: Connie Quadrini reported on the K-12 Math Working group.

Professional Learning Activity: Cathy Hall, Connie Quadrini led us through an activity entitled "Focusing The Lens of Equality: A Continuum of Learning". What we work on tonight is just a slice of a larger activity.

Saturday, October 13, 2012

9:00-10:00 **General Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Approval of the Agenda: Moved by Bill Otto, seconded by Tim Sibbald that the agenda be approved. Carried.
Approval of the Minutes of February 10-12. Moved by Phil Longpre, seconded by Bill Otto that the minutes of February 10-12 be approved. Carried.
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting will be approved at the 2013 Annual General Meeting.
Lynda Ferneyhough presented the Financial Report for 2011-2012. Due to some cost cutting measures last year, the deficit was lowered from around $90 000 to close to $15 000.
Proposed Budget 2012-2013: Lynda Ferneyhough presented the proposed budget for the current year. Two changes were made in the document distributed – the OMO costs and the share of conference profits. Moved by Cathy Hall, seconded by Sonia Ellison that the amended budget be approved. Carried.
Notices of Motion:

1. Moved by Tom Boland, seconded by Mary Bourassa:
   The Executive Directors' honoraria be $24 000 per year. Carried.
2. Moved by Tom Boland, seconded by Anne Yeager:
   The percentage amount for Chapter rebates be 30% for full and retired members and 0% for student members". Carried.
3. Moved by Bill Otto, second by Jill Lazarus:
   As always, shared accommodation is an expectation. Attendees can request a single room by paying the difference in price. Amended by Anne Yeager, seconded by Jill Lazarus to read "Shared accommodation is an expectation. Attendees can request a single room by paying the difference in price." The question was called on the amended motion. 13 were in favour, 8 opposed and 6 abstained. Motion is carried.

10:00 – 11:45: **Committee Meetings**
The committees met in small groups at tables.
11:45 – 12:00: Reports
The President's Report was done last night.
Executive Directors' report: Lynda reports that about one-third of our members have chosen the digital option. It was indicated that the option to renew using the digital option is not prominent on our website. Greg Clarke is to see if this could be improved.
Judy Mendaglio will submit a report for the Field's Institute.
Chapters may wish to include a report if they have not already done so.
OTF Report: Bill Otto reported on the Subject Association meeting at the Ministry. Bill will send a report on the OTF Forum. The College Math Project is now finished. The recommendations will be included in first and second year math courses.
There was no correspondence.

Lunch

Committee of the Whole:

The **Communications Committee** reports that OAME is now on Facebook and Twitter. Look for information in the reports.

Yesterday, the **Outreach Committee** hosted a meeting of the conference chairs of OAME 2012, 2013, and 2014. What came out of this meeting was that each group has to re-invent the wheel learning about the running of a conference and working with a new venue each year. The committee wants the table groups to consider the hiring of a conference facilitator with responsibility for the venue and exhibitors. Secondly, the Outreach Committee wants to find someone who would sponsor some portion of the awards to defray costs of awards.

Curriculum Committee

One of the sub-committees reported that there are support documents to support the seven principles. The committee hopes to list the seven principles and provide links to support documents.

Another sub-committee reported that they are looking at a format for classroom teachers to use that would easily link them to resources by grade and strand.

The third sub-committee wants to get some feedback on the process that was used last night in the professional activity and how this might be enacted beyond the board (say at a chapter event).

Strategic Planning and Renewal Committee

As a result of the constitutional changes, five chapters will be selected in each of the next three years to assign a chapter representative for a three-year term. A letter has been drafted that will be sent out to Chapter Presidents soliciting their ideas of how to select chapters to initiate this cycle.

All Committees met to consider feedback from the board and provide feedback for the board.
K-12 Curriculum Activity Part 2 was included in the Committee of the Whole activities due to time constraints.
Last minute business: All comments on the new venue were positive. Good food, cookies and nice rooms.
Adjournment: We adjourned at 2:46.

Reminders:

Nominations for OAME Awards should be submitted to Outreach using the forms found on the OAME website.

Nominations for Board positions should be submitted to the Connie Quadrini.

Currently, there is no chapter to host OAME 2015 and OMO 2014. Chapters are asked to consider these opportunities.

Written Reports:

Chapter Reports

The **CHAMP** Fall Event 2011 provided another great PD opportunity with a selection of workshops aimed at K - 12. The evening was capped with a keynote titled "Marvelous Mathematics for All Ages" from George Gadanidis from Western's Faculty of Education.
The OMO regional playdowns took place in three boards in our region last May. CHAMP ended up sending 3 teams to the provincial playdowns hosted by the South West Ontario Association for Mathematics Education at St. Clair College in Windsor. Although we did not win the individual or team medals, CHAMP Team #3 won the Scavenger Hunt and a great time was had by all participants.
Last spring, CHAMP Math Contests for students in grades 9-11. Close to 20 schools participated in this opportunity for students to enjoy MORE math. We plan to run the contest for yet another year.
In addition, the executive committee is currently involved in the early stages of planning for the provincial conference in 2014. The conference organizing committee has had several meetings and we are excited to be playing host for the first time since 1991. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the either of the Chairs, Paul Alves and Dwight Stead. We hope to see all OAME members at the conference in 2014 at the DoubleTree Hotel.
Finally, On October 23rd, 2012, CHAMP is hosting its Fall Event: Problem Based Learning Across the Grades. This event will host two keynote speakers: David Zimmer and Ron Lancaster. Hope to see you all at the event! We hope that everyone has had a good start to the new academic year.
ISOMA is busy planning their two major events of the year: their annual conference and their Math Olympics.
ISOMA would like to thank Beth Johnston and her colleagues at Greenwood College for hosting yet another very successful ISOMA Math Olympics in April 2012. The day was filled with fun math challenges and all participants expanded their mathematical knowledge. Congratulations to the ISOMA team, consisting of students from Havergal College and Crescent School, who achieved gold overall at the 2012 Ontario Math Olympics! ISOMA is proud of their accomplishments. We would like to recognize Karen Mackasey

(Havergal College) and Kee Ip (Crescent School) for their time and great effort in preparing the ISOMA team for the OMO. We look forward to the events Brad Stephens and his colleagues at Holy Trinity School are planning for the 2013 ISOMA Math Olympics this upcoming April.
ISOMA is also starting to plan their annual Math Conference. This year, the event will be held at Bishop Strachan School on January 9th, 2013 from 1:30 pm to 6:00 pm. The theme of this year's conference will be "Project-Based Learning". The conference will begin with a project sharing opportunity by grade level, followed by 2 sessions centered around Problem-Based Learning, concluding with a keynote speaker. We are very excited to have Carmel Schettino as our Keynote Speaker. Carmel is currently a teacher at Deerfield Academy and a doctoral student at the University of Albany. Her research interests include pedagogical and instructional methods centered on Problem-Based learning, gender equity and social justice issues in mathematics education, discourse in the mathematics classroom, as well as technological implications for teaching mathematics. With 20 years of teaching experience, Carmel has consulted for a number of schools and presented for the NCTM with respect to Problem-Based Learning in the Secondary Mathematics Classroom. More details, including a copy of the program and a link to the registration page, will be available on the ISOMA website (http://chapters.oame.on.ca/isoma/) by mid-November. Please contact Sheila Barclay (sbarclay@bss.on.ca) for more details.
MAC2 had a very successful year this year. We hosted a Spring conference entitled Social Justice and the Math Classroom. It was well attended. We also hosted students from both the local Public and Catholic boards to attend the Math Olympics competition. The students had an exciting and fun-filled day doing Math activities. We sent two teams of students to the OMO. We will be hosting our fall miniconference within the next two weeks. It is entitled Bringing Math to Life with a plenary session Laughs and Math by Don Fraser.We have invited both parents and educators to attend. We also are looking forward to offering Professional Development at our future meetings.
This school year brings with it some changes in the **NOMA** executive. We wish some of our former members all the best in their new professional roles and we look forward to welcoming new members who bring energy and enthusiasm to NOMA. Traditionally, NOMA has hosted a conference in the fall, however with the local Numeracy PA days being held in the fall we are shifting our conference to the spring. It will be a busy spring as we will also host our regional OMO playdowns at that time. We continue to work towards developing stronger connections with district school boards, the faculty of education, and all of the communities in the NOMA region.
NWOAME has a busy year planned. We are kicking it off on Wednesday, October 24 with an evening presentation by Dr. Cynthia Nicol. Dr. Nicol's presentation will focus on Culturally Responsive Mathematics (based on Tluuwaay 'Waadulxan Mathematical Adventures: Living Culturally Responsive Mathematics Education in Haida Gwaii). We have also planned a February evening event featuring Dr. Ed Doolittle as speaker. Dr Dolittle will speak about aboriginal math education and learning. All events will be promoted to both members and non-members, with a focus on increasing membership. A well, NWOAME will be hosting our annual Pi Day celebrations in city schools and our regional math Olympics in April. We are looking forward to a busy year.
The principal focus of **QSLMA**'s being this past year was somehow causing "OAME 2012: con.networks" to happen with few, if any lynchings as well as to happen at a profit. There were a few dark days when we'd paid for promo items and deposits, but before revenue started to arrive, when we weren't sure about our solvency; however, we prevailed and in the end our fears were unsupported. As far as lynchings, it appears none were needed, as the vast majority of attendees appeared to enjoy and benefit from the conference sessions offered to them as well as the many Kingston places where one could indulge oneself in gustatory or shopping pleasures.
The fall 2011 mini-conference was attended at a level expected: David Zimmer was the feature speaker capping a series of Saturday-morning workshops. The 2012 mini-conference has been moved to Saturday 02 February, with Cathy Bruce and Ruth Beatty being the scheduled feature speakers.
New president Melissa Baker has organized teams to implement this as well as other professionally-oriented activities.
WOMA will host a fall mini-conference. Our location is close to major highways and the school has Smartboards in every classroom. Each mini-conference begins with snacks and drinks along with a keynote

speaker and dinner to wrap up the evening. Our last mini-conference was well attended in large part due to Marian Small, our keynote speaker.

Other reports:

NCTM Since launching its Agenda for Action in the 80's, NCTM has provided mathematics' educators with several groundbreaking publications that have defined a vision for change in mathematics education. Although mathematical content is important in all of these publications, they also focus on the significance of changing traditional approaches to how we teach mathematics – change that is critical to offering every child the opportunity to achieve his or her maximum potential for learning mathematics.

Keeping this in mind, NCTM has started a new daily electronic email newsletter called NCTMSmartBrief. This is a free resource that allows you to learn more of what's happening in the mathematics community. Current articles are chosen by knowledgeable educators, summarized and you are given direct links to the original source, to follow up and learn more. NCTMSmartBrief is found on the NCTM website.

I have found that whenever I go to the NCTM website for SmartBriefs or "illuminations", I find ideas that I know teachers can use in their classrooms. In one of the recent SmartBriefs, a teacher used sticky notes to engage students to give feedback on lessons. The teacher gave a sticky note to each student in the class and asked them to give an example of work they had learned in the lesson that day. As students exited the class they placed the notes on the door. After collecting the notes, the teacher had a clearer view of what the students had learned. It was a nice way to get instant feedback.

Other teachers responded with more ideas around how they used these notes in their classrooms. Ideas included:

a) give "way to go" notes to students who did well that class. This is specific praise and reinforces good behavior
b) use the above idea and have students accumulate these notes to use them later, perhaps for marks or to bid on items that you may want to auction for fun.

Make sure you always use them in a positive way. Nothing turns students on more than rewards for success.

I have always felt that for students to learn mathematics they must be engaged in doing it. This is not always easy to do and often teachers may not know how or whether or not students are really engaged, and learning.

A member of NCTM posed this question "what engages you as a student", to a class of students. Here are the top 10 answers they said about what engages them:

1. working with peers
2. working with technology
3. connecting what they do in school with what they see and do outside of school
4. knowing that you really love what you do as a teacher
5. you allow movement in your classroom. We are allowed to get out of our seats to do math
6. you bring in visual material
7. you give students choice. i.e. on assignments, homework questions etc.
8. you know us as people – our names, what we do outside of school etc
9. you mix up your approaches to teaching – you vary your lessons
10. you are human – you have a sense of humour

"Every student is engaged differently – that's okay. There is always a way to keep a student interested and lively, ready to embark on the journey of education. What is that way? –some teachers will ask? THE WAY IS TO ASK THEM."
(this is a quote from a grade 8 student)

NCTM is also currently looking for articles to publish in their journals or yearbook. I will only list a few specific areas in which they are interested:

a) Assessment – how you do it and how you view assessment
b) Technology Tips – do you have a neat idea that you have used with success in your classroom
c) My Favourite Lesson – create an informal, personal narrative of no more than 600 words to describe your favourite lesson
d) 2014 Focus Issue – what makes ideas stick? Ideas to engage students (you could use my previous notes as a guideline)

You can Google NCTM to get specific details about writing articles for them.

OMO 2012 & OAME 2012 Reports: attached FYI

Fields Institute Report:

- Fields is hosting the inaugural Fields Medal Symposium Oct 15 – 18, 2012. On October 16, there will be a special program geared to high school and undergraduate students from 7 – 9 PM. Admission is free but registration is required. It will also be live streamed. The program for the evening can be found at http://www.fields.utoronto.ca/programs/scientific/fieldsmedalsym/12-13/studentprgm.html
- Fields has created the Margaret Sinclair Memorial Award recognizing an educator in Canada who has demonstrated innovation and excellence in promoting mathematics education at the elementary, secondary, college, or university level. For more information, visit

http://www.fields.utoronto.ca/press/12-3/www.fields.utoronto.ca/honours/sinclairaward.html

- On Oct 27, the MathEd Forum will meet at York University to celebrate the life and work of Margaret Sinclair.
- The year 2013 is the Year of the Mathematics of Planet Earth. For more information, go to http://mpe2013.org/
  It is also the 20th anniversary of the Fields Institute. The MathEd Forum has formed a sub-committee to develop a contest to engage students with mathematics. The working title is *The Probabilistic Revolution and the Taming of Chance.* Funding is currently being sought. An app, Aakkozzll, is available free from the AppStore.
- September's MathEd Forum meeting focused on engaging students with mathematics in non-traditional ways.

OTF Curriculum Forum Report - Toronto May 26th 2012 – Bill Otto (OAME Rep)

Cyndie Jacobs from OTF hosted the forum. The minutes appear below after my comments.
Highlights included an Envisioning Exercise with the Subject Associations present, an NFB Presentation (see below), an Equity and Inclusivity Presentation and Discussion and an Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Update. The other point worthy of note is that a number of Subject Associations are very frustrated at the current delays in getting out the Revised Curriculum document for their particular subject(s) and asked that Cyndie Jacobs pass those concerns and frustrations along to the Ministry of Education.
Here are some notes that were taken regarding the NFB presentation followed by the OTF-provided minutes.
National Film Board Presentation – Jessie Curell, NFB Workshop Facilitator
Jessie made an awesome presentation and is available to school boards and school staffs or groups of educators to make a presentation (eg. PD Day session(s), meetings, conferences, etc.) in both English and French. Please contact her for more information.
Email: J.CURELL@NFB.CA Phone: (416) 973-2278 Mobile: (416) 272-8035
Please consider subscribing and passing this along to all of your teaching colleagues – there is a wealth of resources here for educators!
Here are some points ... and instructions to access CAMPUS, the free teacher's portal:
http://www.nfb.ca/
The Public has free access online to 2,000 films [Teachers have access to 2,500 titles]
[Full off-line library is 12,000 films]
All Ont teachers have licensing rights for classroom-screening [Campus]
>Build own playlist
>Create "chapters" to your playlist [for saving/showing only that segment]
Presently free live-streaming [possible issue re: bandwidth in-school]
Some are downloadable to your PC [fee-based]
You can access Film Teacher's Guides [free, downloadable PDF-docs]: http://www.nfb.ca/education/guides/
For your free CAMPUS subscription:
From homepage, click "Subscribe to CAMPUS"
Click "Subscribe now"
Click the 1-year for $24.95 [you will not be paying for this]
Create your account with password
You will continue to a screen which asks you for your school
Click your school [or nearby school]. There is no verification from them J
You will then get a free account for one year.
Thanks to Marc Verhoeve from OSCA for providing his notes to me in this regard.
1112/91
June 5, 2012
Ontario Teachers' Federation
1300 Yonge Street, Suite 200, Toronto Ontario M4T 1X3
Minutes from the OTF Curriculum Forum Meeting held on Saturday, May 26, 2012 at the Ontario Secondary School Federation, Erie Room, Toronto, Ontario

"Looking Forward…Moving Ahead

1. Housekeeping, Cyndie Jacobs

a) Beth Brown will send all the presentations from the Ministry to Cyndie and she will send them out to us.
b) Summer Institute
   - On the OTF website. Arts is filling up, but there's still room. Also available are workshops on phys education and modern languages, and others.
   - May 30, 2012 – environmental initiative proposals due.
c) Check lists for correct information (conferences and personal contact information) were passed around.
d) Peter Beens will facilitate the Curriculum Forum's Envisioning Exercise.

2. Curriculum Forum Envisioning Exercise, Peter Beens

One person per table needs access to the Google document.
Part 1 – keep it to 140 character response (similar to tweeting) – respond to "What do you think the Curriculum Forum is?" The 6 groups gave their responses:
Group 1

- PD, networking, sharing, creating, fun, ongoing realistic communication, PD directly into teachers' hands, deciphering

edu-babble, valuable

Group 2

- Informal meeting/more fun/sharing of ideas/networking/hub for communication amongst teachers

Group 3

- Communication between Ministry and between Subject Associations
- Promote initiatives
- Influence policy??? or Sounding Board?? Or Conduit

Group 4

- Networking with teachers from all areas of the province
- Professional development and growth
- Awareness building of current and upcoming issues

Group 5

- Provides a collaborative platform.
- Because it involves individuals representing Subject Associations, it provides an opportunity to gain a broader and deeper view of education.
- Ideas for conferences, for example sharing speakers' list
- Professional Development
- Staying current for purposes of advocacy and furthering student achievement.
- Share ideas that can drive your initiatives and practices in your own association.
- Transition planning – to ensure continuity for members attending.

Group 6

- Associations can learn from each other such as sharing, associations need to share same issues or problems.

Part 2 – Small group facilitated discussion to answer:

"How could the Curriculum Forum be improved?"

- Finding ways to share and communicate the information and resources with all teachers/members of the associations using technology and social media.
- Distance/climate can prevent face-to-face/virtual meeting opportunities reduce travel/cost/need to break into the elementary panel.
- Orientation for new people
- OTD – push RSS – facebook groups-Google groups
- More interaction beyond face-to-face meetings
  - It is set up that the best part is on volunteer time, worst part on paid times.
  - Flip the Ministry day to Saturday and OTF on Friday.
  - Arrange seating so that we are in a better formation for interaction and collaboration.
  - Assign seating in order to facilitate mixing people up.
  - Need broader representation from North, elementary, French (isolated groups).
  - Profile two or three subject associations at each meeting what they are doing at each meeting (not just conferences)
- Awareness of portal on OTF site.
- Focus on PD, sharing ideas that are universally applicable to all associations.
- Critical awareness of issues.
- Virtual curriculum forum
- What's the protocol for communication between members?
- How do you advertise for new members?
- Have a town hall meeting at each forum.
- Technology access for meetings
- Showcase member websites to address positive and negative issues and concerns.

"How should we identify ourselves as an entity? Should/could we have a logo that includes a few words about us?"

- Logo would brand
- Embed QR code as part of logo
- QR Code to take us to the OTF website
- Logo- to convey to new and outside the "what we do"
- Mission statement/vision

"How do we sustain and maintain the important work we do for teachers across Ontario?"

- Increase memberships in groups
- Inform the memberships
- Communication improvement
- OTF updates – standing item on Association Agenda
- Virtual: member's lounge – board lounge – archives- reading rooms
- EduGains site has Subject Association links
- Union representatives promote Subject Associations and OTF at the end of every staff meeting

- Bypass Ministry/Board/Administrator – message directly to teachers

"Are there other things that the Curriculum Forum could/should be doing?"

- Sharing strategies for increasing interest in Subject Associations
- Networking
- Highlight all subject associations – store fronts
- Logo
- More proactive with the Ministry
- Collective feedback to direct future agenda/direction

"How can we, as Associations, increase the membership of elementary and Francophone teachers?"

- Raise awareness
- Lobby the Ministry for secondary and elementary representation
- Look for representation on board of a balance of elementary and secondary
- OAEA has regional workshops, pre-service connections through conferences
- Elementary need to choose between subject associations in order to access resources
- AQ courses
- Needs to be valuable and relevant
- Collaboration/representation from CAPE/OAJE – awareness and involvement needed
- Elementary
    - OTF CF associations represent K-12 perspective
    - Separate elementary and secondary workshops
    - Elementary-literacy and numeracy focus
    - School based memberships pop
- Can ETFO send more than one representative?
- Association needs to have Elementary curriculum (i.e. Family Studies)
- Francophone
    - Move to bilingual Associations (support)
    - Francophone workshops

3. <u>National Film Board Presentation (NFB) – Jessie Currel</u>

- Jessie Currel is the National Facilitator in the Education Department.
- She shared with us the on-line resources and the new site called Campus for Educators.
- She traced the early beginnings of the National Film Board of Canada, going back 73 years
- Animation films use 24 photos per second.
- Documentaries and animation films are the root of the NFB.
- Two different ways to access the site:

a) For free from home, access to 2,000 films; or

b) A subscribed educator to Campus for Educators (all teachers in Ontario are subscribed, one just needs to set up an account to register). Such a subscription will allow access to 500 more films (licensing rights to stream them in class). Jessie explained that you can add them to your playlist and you can "chapter" films (excerpt sections and save them).

- NFB has its headquarters in Montreal.
- Jessie explained some of the symbols used on the site: the little white arrow means the movie is downloadable; the red "!" can show that caution needs to be taken if using that film (not intended for the general audience).

4. <u>Equity and Inclusivity</u>

- Jim Giles of ETFO presented and distributed kits on Positive Space to all.
- Kids have a sense of their sexual orientation as young as 10 years of age (gay, straight or bisexual).
- Heterosexuals need to lead this awareness and support so that it is not seen as simply the LGBT "agenda".
- Anne Horton of OECTA distributed information on her association's position on inclusivity and gay issues. The focus was on acceptance and respect.
- OECTA partnered with CPCO on a conference about inclusivity and equity in Catholic Schools: Reach EVERY Student – Know Their Story, May 4-5, 2012.

5. <u>Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Update – Jeff Holmes</u>

- Jeff Holmes clarified how the pension plan works.
- Every year we value the pension plan.
- Obligations – to pay the retirees their pension.
- Valuations must take into account: RRB rate (real return bond rate); mortality; inflation.
- Shortfalls: assumptions; shortfall; contributions.
- There was an 11.2% return on investments this past year.
- $11.7 B increase in value
- Liabilities of the plan have out-paced growth.
- Check out the OTP website for more information.

6. <u>Other Business</u>

Members of the Curriculum Forum would like Cyndie Jacobs to take back to the Ministry how very frustrated and dissatisfied they

are with how long it is taking to get the new curriculum out.
Minutes by Lela Lilko

CMP report

The College Mathematics Project (CMP) has now been completed but a new exciting project, the College Student Achievement Project (CSAP), has taken its place. For further information, click on the link to the last newsletter for CMP and the first for CSAP at our new web site: http://csap.senecacollege.ca.
The CMP published its final report earlier this year. The highlights are described in this newsletter and the full report is available on the web site: http://collegemathproject.senecac.on.ca.
The CSAP will analyse both mathematics *and language* achievement data for college students in their first *and second* semesters, beginning with students who entered college in September 2011. Like CMP, CSAP is designed to support deliberations among college and school board teachers and administrators about ways to improve student success in their transition from school to college.
We hope that you enjoy receiving these quarterly newsletters. If any colleagues wish to receive them, or if you no longer wish to receive updates, write to us at csap@senecacollege.ca.
The CSAP team
Link to newsletter: http://csap.senecacollege.ca/en/CSAP%20News%20Vol%201%20Iss%201%20English.pdf

Ministry of Ed Subject/Division Association Meeting – May 25, 2012

(added by Lynda: if you would like a copy of any of the reports listed here please contact me. Too many to send all now.)
This has been an annual meeting of representatives from each subject or division association across the province, convened by the Curriculum and Assessment Policy Branch (CAPB) of the Ministry of Education, updating us on Ministry Initiatives plus other initiatives in the various subject areas.
Hosts: Maureen Callan - Policy Branch, Cyndie Jacobs – OTF, Beth Round - CAPB Branch, Irene Charette - French Branch

1. **Introductions** were made around the room, most subject areas were represented (one rep. could attend from each provincial-level subject area and report back to their Subject Association, Council or Division).
2. **A few Subject Association/Council updates**:
    a. Kim Snider updated us on **CODE** (Dance and Dance) financial literacy resources tied to drama and dance and integrated with other subjects (full lessons and units posted on EDUGAINS).
    b. **New writing project process guide,** online, created by CODE (Kim Snider) outlining the process they developed when writing the curriculum resources. The process went beyond financial literacy, applicable to any subject area, to help with any curriculum writing group. *This was very impressive and this information will be useful for any team leader/group/organization planning any kind of writing project (please see attachment for the guide).*
    i. "How-to" run a joint or curriculum writing process of any kind, great tips and how to run any writing project efficiently.
    ii. "How to" steps for building a team, whether to use a webmaster, lead writer, think tank model, reviewers, other roles in the process.
    iii. Differences between publishing for the web vs. in print.
    iv. Samples of forms to use (writers' contracts, editing conventions and more).
    v. It will be posted on EDUGAINS under the Financial Literacy banner (even though it is not about Financial Literacy).
    c. Update from Bill Mackenzie about the **ECOO** conference: not any one particular curriculum, but interest in technology in education, Financial Literacy, BYOD, software, OAME workshops, e-learning Ontario - They wish to hear more from other divisions, especially if interested in presenting at their pre-conference. Pre-conference starts on Oct 24 2012, then main conference Oct 25/26 including guests Michael Fullan & Nora Young. Sheridan Centre Hwy 7 & 404.
    d. **OAEA** Ontario Arts Education Association presentation by Pat Rocco, new president. Was Ontario Society for Education through Art - they are in transition. Upcoming conference: Art Attack. Outreach: consolidation with renewed constitution; outreach across Province, with Bob Philips. Media arts, visual arts, English. Assessment & evaluation and teaching in a thematic way.
3. **Financial Literacy updates:**
    a. Tom Hamza, **IEF** and co-chair Financial Literacy at the Ministry.
    IEF: Investor Education Fund, a non-profit organization funded and established by the Ontario Securities Commission (not-for-profit unbiased advice on financial literacy across the lifespan). Mandate: to develop engaging and relevant educational programs and resources that help people better manage their personal financial affairs. Has worked with math educators, business educators, teachers, teachers colleges and others to help create classroom resources to inspire financial learning. (Please see the attached ppt.)
    i. http://getsmarteraboutmoney.ca/ , their public site, to sign up for summer institutes and free classroom content (videos, print and more). General information with a link to the teacher section.
    ii. www.Inspirefinanciallearning.ca, specifically for teachers. Including info on their free educator workshop Aug 20 2012.
    b. Beth Brown (CAPB) discussed the new documents just released on EDUGAINS: videos, viewer guides, support materials, lesson plans, for teachers and professional learning facilitators, gr. 4-12, across subject areas.

c. Videos for professional learning facilitators to use in subject area meetings and workshops.
d. Ministry publications: cross-curricular Financial Literacy curriculum documents (French and English)

4. **Junior Achievement:** (Please see the attached ppt.)
   a. Jane Eisbrenner & Jennifer James, largest not-for-profit organization dedicated to the education of young people about business.
   b. Mandate: teacher financial literacy, teach work readiness, and an entrepreneurial program.
   c. To secure funding and guest presenters from the business community.
   d. Day programs (with curriculum and learning objectives, special workshops, competitions and scholarships for gr. 6-12) and After School Company (entrepreneurial) programs.
   e. http://central-ontario.jacan.org/program/company-program
5. **OSP**: Ontario Skills Passport, Chantal Locatelli. (Please see the attached ppt.)
   a. Is a web-based free cross-curricular multi grade resource, funded by Ministry of Ed. and Ministry of Training, Colleges & Universities.
   b. Focus on students' essential skills and work habits in everyday life and on the job (ex: reading text, document use, money math, scheduling, data analysis, job task planning, decision making, finding information, teamwork, reliability, initiative, self-advocacy and more).
   c. www.ontario.ca/skillspassport ; http://skills.edu.gov.ca ; www.skillszone.ca
   d. Tips for Classroom Teachers – All Subjects
   e. Track your Essential Skills and Work Habits in Learning Activities: a tracker for students to track their own skills across classes.
   f. *Guide to Linking Essential Skills and the Curriculum*, CESL guide
   g. Handouts: sample classroom activities using a template;
6. **Mental Health Strategy Update** (Please see the attached ppt.)
   a. Sandy Palinski, Paul Grogan, Myra Stephen; Ministry of Ed, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS)
   b. Schools play a critical role in supporting student mental health and well-being
   c. *Open Minds, Healthy Minds*, released last year (MCYS)
   d. Mental Health Commission of Canada released their Canada-wide strategy last year.
   e. Year one of three year strategy.
   f. Education focus: Identify And Intervene Early, provide tools to help educators.
7. **Revision of the *Choices into Action*** document (Guidance and Career Ed.) with Anne Sasman, John Lavelle, Anne Clifton.
   a. Previous document was in 1999, was an OSS document, now revised as a K-12 document, online, with connections to all the other policy documents out there.
   b. Guidance and Career Ed. Section. Goals very much like previous ones. Changes made to help people see how to work with the learning across all subjects and classrooms.
   c. New name: *Education and Career Planning Policy Document* K-12, focusing on learning education and career planning competencies.
   d. 4 competencies and inquiry questions:
   iii. Self knowledge: Who am I?
   iv. Opportunity awareness: What are are my opportunities?
   v. Decision making/goal setting: Who do I want to become?
   vi. Preparing for transitions: What are my plans to achieve my goals?
   e. K-6: Personal Profile; 7-12: Individual Pathways Plan (ultimately leaving school with a post secondary destination: apprenticeship; college; community living; university; the workplace). Notice there are now 5 pathways, not just the 4 (community living is included now).
8. **Full-day Kindergarten Update** – Jill Snider, Dianne Riehl, Stephen Kelly.
   a. Plan to have a fully electronic document with all content useful for users.
   b. Last 3 years: training staff in education (boards, principals, teachers, ECEs, program leaders).
   c. The 3 Rs framework in planning: rethink, repeat, remove (looking at current initiatives). Samples:

1. Rethink: the learning environment, theme-based planning.
2. Remove: generic worksheets; generic arts and crafts.

   d. Produced several resources, documents and videos. Also on EDUGAINS.

9. **CAPB Unit Updates**. John Ryall, Peter Sovran, Susan Orchard, Catherine Sim, Maureen Callan, Irene Charette.
   a. John Ryall, Assessment and Reporting Unit sample updates from last year:

1. Kindergarten Assessment & Evaluation policies 2nd version projected for 2013.
2. OSR policy needs updating (since 2000). Various policy and community changes since 2000 create a need to update the OSR records and policies (ex: change of gender and other new issues, security, common format across the province). Projected for 2013 or 2014 (after much legal vetting).
3. EDUGAINS continuously updated, more resources, more videos for teachers.
4. Are in the designing stage of a video on models of "how to determine a grade" (more recent most consistent etc). 15 teams working collaborative inquiry projects across the province.
5. Superior-Greenstone Board: unique issues of travel to get PD and services they need. *Instructional Rounds* well received in pilot boards.

6. They only have 4 educational officers and one secondee coordinating all of this.
7. PCAP (Pan-Canadian Assessment Program) contextual report 2013, focus on science
(see 2010 report here – also attached, for ease of reference).
8. PISA testing May 2012, focus mathematics.
9. No move away from using balanced Achievement Charts (even if some boards seem to be doing that).

b. Catherine Sim, manager 21st Century Teaching and Learning unit

1. brief intro today: will plan a longer presentation at the Fall meeting
2. Janet Murphy on secondment from the York Region DSB.
3. Multi-phased approach: now in the research phase with 46 school boards, final report later in the summer 2012.

c. Implementation Review Unit, Maureen Callan, 3 areas:

1. Financial Literacy.
2. Full Day Early Learning Kindergarten Program.
3. Curriculum review process: They are in the last year of 7 years of curriculum updates for all areas not yet updated (!) Working towards release of documents.
4. No word yet on Social Science/History, Phys Ed or other areas. They are working on them.

10. Great thanks to Cyndie Jacobs OTF for collaboration on these meetings with the Ministry.
11. Cyndie Jacobs wraps up with future plans:

a. Potential dates for next year, still to be confirmed:

1. October 19th 2012? TBA
2. May 10th 2013? (weekend before the long weekend next year?) TBA

- ** An observation:
  With so many excellent and important cross curricular initiatives it becomes challenging for individual subjects and teachers to focus on them all, or even be aware of them all (Financial Literacy, essential skills and work readiness, 21st C. Learners, computers across the curriculum, ECOO, Mental Health Strategy, Choices into Action…) How do we keep up? How does the information practically get used or get disseminated? And if funding is not specifically delineated or sweatered, it could be used anywhere.

Thanks to Lisa Dempster (OSLA) for sharing her notes with me.

Committee Minutes:
OUTREACH

Present: Cheryl Geoghegan (Chair) Phil Longpre Claudio Attanasio
Ann Michele Stenning Sonia Ellison

1. **Review of minutes from last Outreach Committee Meeting**
   Action item from last time, not dealt with: Return to Executive Council asking that they approve one electronic OAME membership per award, not including Life Membership
2. **Awards Committee Timeline**
   Phil and Sonia and Claudio to divide list of Directors of Education in Ontario and update. Updated list will be recompiled by Claudio.
   Action Item: Cheryl to email Hentry Santos, and then forward the School Board Directors List to three updaters
   Action Item: Letter to past nominees who are still eligible for consideration to be mailed out by EDs with edits in [year] field etc. as appropriate.
   With the cancellation of the June meeting, the group missed the discussion that would have been scheduled around the Timeline, and thus solidified the way forward for Awards. This discussion was effected today, but the Gazette deadline is passed.
   Action Item: EDs to send out a Webmail that contains a link to the Nominations portion of the OAME website, urging members to make nominations according to criteria at that link. It is also requested that a prominent link appear on the OAME homepage.
3. **Review of Awards Rubrics and Letters**
   Agreed that the rubrics bring better specificity to the awards, and we all know to judge a candidate by the merits as laid out in the submitted package, setting aside
   personal knowledge of a candidate.
   Discussion continued around the form of the letter that goes to nominators, allowing them to update nomination packages
   Action Item: Remove "You are invited to update or revise" to be replaced by "Please consider this an opportunity to enhance" [before "the supporting documentation for your candidate."]
4. **Sponsorships for Awards**
   Phil: Texas Instruments might be a sponsor (Fred, we're looking at you).
   Sonia: Is there a reciprocal arrangement we could look at, like Fields?
   Claudio and Sonia did some searching: Canadian Institute of Actuaries (CHAMP used to run a data fair for which they were a sponsor); Stats Canada used to sponsor chapter. Canadian Mathematical Society. A university, perhaps specifically York that has a Masters degree for math teachers, as does U. Waterloo. Need a form letter? In order to get their name on the award, what would the level of donation have to be in time commitment and dollar value? Phil suggests $100 with five year commitment.

Question #1 to Committee of the Whole: Might offer two levels of sponsorship: short-term smaller donation (one-off), or a longer commitment (doesn't need to be big) that would have them engraved as the sponsor ON the award plaque. What would the dollar amount and/or commitment period be, to delineate? If we allow sponsors to select from our list which awards they wish to sponsor, would the staff awards come with a higher threshold? How high?

5. **Future OAME Annual Conference and OMO host chapters**
   a) Updates since yesterday's meeting
      - At OAME Chairs meeting October 11, it was proposed that OAME presenters should be OAME members. Call for presenters might be transparent in that requirement.
      - Discussion from OAME Chairs meeting about the value if having a consistent thread through conference organization, either a location or an organizing go-to person
      - Value in staying with same chain of hotels OR same locales in rotation
      - Ann Michele: If we had not gone out to Kingston, that $15000 would not have come to the committee.

   After discussion, it was determined by the Outreach Committee that the one-site discussion might be laid aside for the time being, and focus brought to the Conference Facilitator idea. Even if we don't want to lose the local flavour of a conference setting, and want to keep away from the same 5 locations idea for now, we need to consider the daunting work that comes with location arrangements (site, meal planning, hospitality, parking) and exhibitors' arrangements. The aspects of theme, choice of a site, promotions, presenters, etc. could remain the chapter committee's work. OAME Chairs have been suggesting this for a number of years.

   Question #2 for Committee of the Whole Given that general task description, what other parameters would the group wish to see in regard to remuneration, contractual period, qualifications expected.

6. **Outreach reaching out! We need a Chapter to host OMO 2014 and OAME2015!!!**

COMMUNICATIONS

Present – Tim, Robert, Greg, Marc, Frieda (for Laura Thompson) Immaculate, Lynda, Paul Regrets: Kathy, Mary Lou

1. *Business from last meeting*
   a) Welcome
      - Welcome to all members of the committee and a special welcome to our new Gazette editor, Immaculate.
   b) More Gazette Reviewers
      - We probably have enough for now. Will put it back on the agenda if there is a need.
   c) 40th Gazette Update
      - Very happy with the final result and the work of the group who put this together.
      - Everyone received a paper copy (even digital subscribers).
      - Lynda's extra copies are almost all gone.
   d) Gazette Advertising Rates
      - Robert presented our current rates, which have not changed in the past five years. Question was to put to the group as to whether we should reduce the rate in order to attract more advertising. Most felt it should remain as is since it hasn't changed.
      - Idea was presented that we have a package rate for all 4 issues that is at a discount. Most felt that 20% off of the rate per issue would be good to look at. Too late for this year but maybe a discount rate can be presented to advertisers for last two issues of the current school year.
      - **ACTION**: Robert will add a column to the advertising rates for a discount bulk rate.
2. *Reports*
   a) Gazette Editors Report
      - Thanks to all who have supported Immaculate in the first edition. Most things went well but a couple of minor bumps. A few more submissions for the December issue. Same issue of getting regular features submitted.
   b) No Abacus Report.
   c) Website
      - Greg has been doing a bit more with MCIS as there has been a change in personnel. Some tweaking has been done. Kathy Pilon (from OAME 2012 group) has recently taken on the role of MCIS administrator. She is learning on the job.
      - Left panel navigation buttons have been improved in MCIS to help with knowing where you are in the various online processes. The new look is also available to administrators in MCIS. A new feature is the Admin Help link which takes users to a wiki that is context sensitive. Videos and help are available on various features.
      - For users who forget their password, there is a new security feature that requests users to pick a security question. Still some working going on to try to link users with multiple MCIS accounts.
3. *New Business*: **Publications and Website**
   a) Facebook/Twitter
      - Greg, Marc and Frieda created a Facebook page and Twitter account for OAME. Please "like" us on Facebook and "follow" us on Twitter.
      - Some discussion on who should be our tweeters. Group agreed that it should be Greg, Fred, Lynda and few select OAME member who use Twitter who are distributed around province (e.g. Mary Bourassa in the eastern part of the province).

- **ACTION**: Confirm our tweeters and revisit at next meeting to see progress of social media use.

b) Change in Gazette mailing – Lynda
- Proposal was put forward to change the way the Gazette is mailed out to members. A portion of the cover in the lower right would be blank for the recipient address. A sticker would then be used to hold the magazine together. There would be a cost savings for the mailing and envelopes. Everyone present was in favour of the proposal and so it will proceed.

c) Website "to do list"
- The following have been completed and can be removed from our business items: ED links – chapter updater; elementary resources; Secondary website updates;
- OMO registration process – TEAMS did not use the online process.
- **ACTION**: Check with QSLMA if they want to use the online registration process. Robert
- Collaboration tools for posting minutes – The committee felt that minutes are sent so no need to post in another area.
- Advertising on the website – The committee doesn't feel that it wants to permit ads on the website.
- Request for research access – We get requests to approach OAME members to participate in research. We need a standard approach to these requests. The committee decided that the appropriate response (including requests to advertise on website) is to forward information on advertising those requests in the Gazette.

4. *New Business*: **Promotions**

a) Look into other databases that can carry the Gazette, similar to EBSCO in order to boost revenues.
- **ACTION**: Tim will look into it.

b) Lego set
- Discussed a lego set that could be used to construct logo. Frieda mentioned a lego set that can be used to construct a monthly calendar. One brick could have OAME logo on it.
- **ACTION**: Lynda will look into pricing for these sets.

c) Decal Sheet
- Discussed get decal sheets with OAME logo.
- **ACTION:** Lynda to look into pricing. Stickers 4 You has a promotional offer right now through Edvantage.

d) Protractors sheet
- This will be a reproducible sheet of protractors with OAME logo that can be printed by teachers on transparencies for classroom use.
- **ACTION**: Everyone was in favour. Who is doing it???

e) Thank you cards for departing board members, etc.
- These have been created and will be picked up.

f) New members to be directed to OAME store
- Asked Greg if it is possible to have a button/link available to the OAME store for new members or members that are renewing.
- **ACTION**: Greg will get on it.

g) Ipad Case
- Sandra Jean shared an idea of an ipad case with OAME logo. This idea had been brought up in the past but the committee felt that it would be difficult given the number of different tablets available.
- **ACTION**: Possible ipad accessories are available. For example: http://www.motivators.com/Promotional-iPadCasesandAccessories-Custom-34-926.html. Table it for now.

SPARC

1. Welcome/Introductions
2. Aligning constitution, policy & procedures to the new Board structure passed at AGM
   - Discussion of plan to revisit side-by side amendments passed at AGM. These changes will determine our work for the upcoming meetings.
   - Consider the alignment of the school year. Are there any loose ends we have missed? We agreed that there are no further loose ends.
   - Discussion of the plan we need to put in place re: Chapter Reps emerged as our most pressing item i.e. each year, which chapters will be asked to appoint their representative and how will those chapters be selected?
3. Letter that President will send to Chapter presidents and reps on above issue was drafted. Bill consulted the President and President-Elect about our intent to send this out in the near future. Responses to be sent to Bill by the end of November. During the Committee of the Whole, Bill also updated the Board on our intent to send the letter asap. (Lynda adds: this letter was sent and is attached FYI)
4. Email seeking information will also be sent to each Chapter Rep so our Committee will be aware of how the role works in their chapter and ensure we have all the information we need regarding the selection of chapters.
5. Bill also asked the Board if they have any further questions/concerns related to the motion to last AGM. Restructuring was to save money, make Board more efficient. The job of the Chapter Representative is just as important as the role of Director – likely more. AGM Motion will be added to the minutes so people new to the board will be aware of the changes. Point was raised that the person who holds the Chapter Rep position, doesn't have to change at the end of the three year period. It could be the same person in multiple three year cycles at the discretion of the chapter.

6. Next Steps
    - Go through Constitution, By-Laws & Terms of Reference with a fine tooth comb
    - Individually we will look at Constitution by Nov.1, By-Laws by Nov.15th and Terms of Reference by Nov.30
    - Conference call(s) to be planned by Fred with entire Committee
    - At some point in the future we should revisit the terms of office for president and vice president