



**Stittsville PS
School Council Principal Report
March 8, 2021**

To submit a general school question to me prior to the next School Council meeting, please use [this form](#).

Staffing Update

Acting VP Shannon McKelvie will be going on leave as of March 21st. Once a new VP has been appointed, we will update the community.

Jean-Serge Boua will be taking over the grade 6 EFI class for the remainder of the school year. Alison Snell will be our new English as a Second Language teacher.

Lisa Turnbull is returning to the grade 5/6 class after the March Break. We are very grateful for Emily Anderson's guidance and care in the role. Emily will be taking over one of our Designated Occasional Teacher positions at the school so she will still be around and part of our staff.

Callie Killeen will remain in the role behind Deb Jackson while she is on leave. We have welcomed ECE Angela Timmons back to SPS part-time in the Sea Turtle class.

One of our lunch monitors has resigned. If there is anyone who is looking to pick up some work for two hours a day helping to supervise students, please tell them they can contact me.

Reminder - Staffing Shortages

Staff absenteeism continues to be an issue across our province, and our District. This often exceeds the supply of replacement employees, which leads to circumstances where it is necessary to temporarily close a classroom for in-person learning. This could be done for one class or multiple classes where it is necessary to ensure student safety. In most cases, the temporary closure of an in-person class would be supported by a pivot to virtual learning.

Whenever possible, the decision to close a class to in-person learning would be made the day before, rather than the morning of closure, in consultation with the Superintendent of

Instruction. This provides parents/guardians with a more reasonable opportunity to make child care arrangements.

It is important for families to have contingency plans in place for when this situation occurs.

New Bell Time - September 2022

This past month, the Ottawa Student Transportation Authority (OSTA) conducted a consultation at Stittsville Public School concerning a proposed minor bell time change for this coming September. The response from the school community was overwhelmingly in support of this change.

As of September, 2022, our new bell times will be 8:40-3:10. Communicating this change now will help families and staff make any necessary changes to daycare arrangements, extra-curriculars, work hours, etc.