

MEETING:	S.L.S.S. School Council	DATE:	January 20, 2014
ATTENDEES:	Parents: Bryna Abtan, Mary Allen, Linda Behr, Yael Gross, Karina Gelman, , Nicola McDonald, Debbie Morris, Anneta Ralph, Rhona Stessel, Liat Waisenberg, Deborah Woodbine –Thompson, Maya Wenger, Mohan Toor, Sigal Almog, Karima Kassam-Gravelle, Parisa Alfatourian, Natalia Axentiev, Melissa Kotton Students: Raji Gandhi, Karin Kazakevich Staff: Principal – Ken Shigeishi Teacher Representative - Patricia Wotherspoon		
Regrets:	Lori Goldhar, Davoud Hemayat, Jordanna Silver, Mehrdad Ziabakhsh		
Chair Minutes Start time	Karina Gelman, Nicola McDonald Melissa Kotton 7:15PM		
AGENDA ITEM			ACTION
Welcome and Introductions	The meeting commenced with a warm welcome from Karina followed by a round table introduction from everyone. Minutes from November's meeting were approved.		
Student Council Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sprit Day was very successful. Students who wore pyjamas to school received free pancakes and hot chocolate. • The Retro Neon Dance was on December 5 in the cafeteria. It was a great evening. • The semi-formal dance will take place on February 27, 2014, from 6:00PM to 10:00PM. The dance will be held at a banquet hall, and the theme is Red Carpet Hollywood. All grades are invited to attend. The ticket price is still being negotiated. Tickets will be sold on February 4, 2014. 		
Teacher's report	Patricia Wotherspoon represented the teachers at this meeting. Student Success: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Three After School Literacy courses were held October and November. Another course will begin when second semester starts. Additionally, there will be a school-wide Literacy Blitz which will target each task on the OSSLT in mainstream classes. 2. Grade 9 Lunchtime Exam and study preparation workshops--Leadership class has been going into grade 9 classes to build confidence, reduce anxiety, provide study 		

	<p>strategies, teach exam-success skills, etc.</p> <p>3. EQAO Math is in its first day and continues tomorrow.</p> <p>Guidance:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Course Selection has started. Each grade has been called down for an assembly to help support this process. Parents should go Career Cruising on with their children and work with the program. Submission of course requests start on Feb. 7th with the deadline of Feb. 18. Changes are not easily accommodated. 2. Student Ambassadors – to support peer-led initiatives and provide opportunities for leadership started and working on partnering with elementary Grade 8s for September. 3. Let's Talk Club– Peers helping peers – real talk about concerns and issues affecting teens. <p>Green Team:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Goal of becoming an Eco-school we need a Parent/Community Rep. who could ideally attend meetings to provide input and/or consultative information. <p>See appendix for additional subject area information</p>	
International Trips 2014-2015	<p>This year's trip leaves for Italy on March 7.</p> <p>Applications were submitted for a trip to France/Spain and a second trip to Costa Rica for March 2015. Trips are chaperoned by volunteer teachers. Students pay the cost of the trip.</p>	
Administration Report:	<p>Staffing Update:</p> <p>Five teachers are currently on leave. Hiring for the second semester is currently underway.</p> <p>Exams and report cards:</p> <p>Exams start on Friday. If buses are cancelled due to inclement weather, exams will be written on January 30th. Exam review day will be held on January 31st, 2014.</p> <p>Transfer process:</p> <p>Enrolment for next year has commenced. SLSS is closed to transfers for families outside of our boundaries. This decision is made at the board level, due to an anticipation of increased enrolment for students who are currently in Grade 7. Most other schools in the area are open to transfers. If families wish to transfer to a different high school, they may pick up a form in the guidance office.</p> <p>Course Selection:</p> <p>Parents are encouraged to click on the link for Career Cruising – this program supports students in the course selection process.</p> <p>EQAO testing this year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test accounts for 5% of the students' marks. Practice 	

	<p>topics that interested them the most.</p> <p>Votes were as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pathways (Post Secondary Destination), i.e. College, University, etc. <u>6 Votes.</u> 2. Post-secondary scholarships & bursaries, <u>9 votes</u> 3. Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program, <u>3 votes</u> 4. Understanding Special Education Accommodations, <u>0 votes</u> 5. <u>Social Media</u> (presentation by local police on possible dangers and strategies to protect our kids) <u>3 votes</u> 6. <u>Other ideas?</u> Anyone with additional ideas for future council presentations is encouraged to mention them to Karina and/or Nicola. <p>Since “Post-secondary scholarships & bursaries” received the highest number of votes, this will be our topic for discussion at the next council meeting.</p>	
Other Business:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • York Catholic District School Board is hosting a one day conference for parents and educators, titled: The Neuroscience of Learning. The event takes place on Friday, March 28, 2014. Participants will learn effective, brain-based classroom strategies to motivate student learning. Cost is \$75 for one workshop; \$140 for both. Email: info@ldayr.org for more info. • On Wednesday, April 9th, 2014, four parents are invited from each school to attend a York Region Forum at the Sheraton Parkway Hotel. There will be guest speakers, and breakout workshops. Four parents on council volunteered to attend and report back. • An Ambassador Club will be starting soon. Grade 11 and 12 mentors will be paired with Grade 9s. These peers will help guide new students through the transition from elementary to high school. • A Professional Engineer who lectures at Sheridan College will be volunteering at our school in the technology and design program, He will be working mostly with Gr.11 students. One objective will be to demonstrate how relevant math is to their future careers, and how these skills and concepts from the curriculum can be incorporated in future roles. 	
Adjournment:	<p>This meeting adjourned at 8:35PM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next Parent Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 17, 2014, at 7:15PM in the Library. Trustee Joel Hertz is planning to attend. 	

Appendix--Other information reports from Subject Heads, Athletics and Clubs:

Technology:

- Fire Marshal presented to Construction Technology classes early in the fall.
- Upcoming is a Skills Competition involving: Robotics, Video Production, and Hair/Aesthetics
- New course offerings from Technology include Sports Broadcasting as well as a Small Engines course

History:

- ROM field trip “Sacred Places” in the last month – very well attended and enjoyed by all
- Visit to Courts, film analysis (field trips to movies with Civics and History classes),
- In class work on essay-writing in preparation for post-secondary demands,
- Model U.N., and Mock Trial Clubs are in progress

Athletics:

- Basketball Night – Tues Feb. 18. S.L.S.S. Athletics is hosting the semi-final tournament of Tier One Boys Basketball teams.
- Sr. Girls Volleyball is 1st place in the Tier 2 division (WEST).
- Hockey play offs
- Spring sports try-outs will begin after these events.
- Wrestling--So far this year, we have garnered a number of medals at two major tournaments – the first had 800 participants and the second had 400 participants. We have 4 Gold, 7 Silver, and 8 Bronze medals. We are looking forward to the York Regional Championship in February and are hoping to continue to do well!

Special Education:

Integration opportunities have rich rewards for our community special education classes and S.L.S.S. students in regular program classes. Hair and Aesthetics, Civics, and Parenting students have shown maturity and sensitivity when welcoming special needs students into their classes. Students in regular program classes gain a sense of confidence and potentially a future pathway in these interactions both in class and during the lunch-hour.

English:

Grade 10 English students are going to a live performance of Shakespeare’s *Macbeth*. Grade 11 students are going on a field trip to the TIFF Bell Lightbox to study the production of movies.

Moderns:

We are preparing for two international trips in 2015 March Break—one between the French and History depts. to France and Spain and a second between the Spanish and Science depts. to Costa Rica. If approved, teachers will provide itinerary and show slides. Students will receive 24/7 supervision and the experience will be tied to the curriculum.

Music:

Upcoming March Break trip to Italy!