

Stephen Lewis Secondary School - School Council Meeting

Monday, March 9, 2015

1. January minutes –

Motion to Approve by Karina and Sayeed - carried

2. Introduction of attendees

3. York Region Transit Presentation– William Choi, Erica Springate from YRT

- Maps made available to attendees
- YRT Ambassador at each secondary school. Look for displays and information; a Yrt rep will come to school to help ambassador set up
- 3 Routes service SLSS area – 1) #23 Thornhill Woods – Teston – Promenade Mall 2) #87 Autumn Hill 3) #105 TTC – Dufferin -- use the route navigator on yrt.ca to look for schedules
- Yrt.ca – send email about requests – 7am-7pm; Call line for service request – GPS system at bus stops; For service requests – feel free to call anytime
- Fares are described in– in pamphlet; students (12-19) show any student card; Presto = electronic fare card offers the best options and ease of use for all users; Yrt.ca to check where tickets are sold
- Pricing approved through fare policy review by York Region council/regional/mayors
- YRT must achieve 50% cost recovery, the other 50% comes from property tax For example, if fares are reduced, the balance must come from property taxes; YRT has one of the highest subsidy in GTA
- Changes to routes are reviewed annually. Nov-Dec Planning – review data from previous year; Mar – Apr= to public; May – Jun= YRT reviews data; Sept = to council= e.g. Viva Purple – Centre St – to Promenade Terminal to York University
- Questions:
 - North of Rutherford – 5 Elementary Schools next year What bus routes are available for these schools? Route #23
 - Can we get a direct route to Stephen Lewis SS? We need 25 riders per route to start a discussion YRT looks at useage patterns demand. Could write a request as a whole council to YRT for route adjustments

4. Teacher's Report - Marissa

- Clubs/Activities
 - Black History Month – 2 young ladies involved at school – karaoke at lunch
 - DECA – students participated in the regional competition downtown.
 - Science Olympics – our team placed 3rd overall
 - Sears Drama Festival and competition with other high schools– Mr. Del Bianco – excellent job – well done
 - Purim Celebration at lunch– successful
 - Feb 26 – Semi formal
 - March break trips to Costa Rica and France/Spain
 - One Match bone marrow clinics are being held in all secondary schools in York Region. Ours is on April 27 Commitment to donate if they are a match.
- Sports
 - Wrestling; our team won York Region and 15 students went to OFSAA in Windsor with 3 teachers
 - Boys basketball – Jrs lost in a very close game in finals; Srs went to the semi-finals
 - Girls volleyball quarter finals – 2 girls junior teams
 - Boys hockey entered two tournaments and won one!
 - Track and Field, Girls Soccer, Girls Flag Football, Boys Baseball, Ultimate will start in the spring
 - Special needs – Floor hockey tournament and track and field in the spring

5. Guidance Services - Marissa

- Summer School register on Career Cruising in April. It is a full semester of work condensed into 18 summer school days so goes through curriculum very quickly
- Course selection – Small group presentations – successful – hands on – students asked questions and it was effective
- The philosophy Stephen Lewis Secondary School is that all students maintain full-time status for the entire school year. Those students who maintain a full timetable tend to be our most successful students. Full-time status is defined as: • Eight courses for Grade 9 and 10 students •

Eight courses for Grade 11 students, with fewer than 24 credits • A minimum of seven credits for Grade 11 students, with 24 credits or more • A minimum of six credits for Grade 12 students with 24 credits or more (3 each semester) Students are expected to maintain full-time status, in order to graduate from SLSS. We recommend Grade 12 students choose 7 courses so they have a backup plan in case their plans do not work out.

- Grade 11 Students should be seeing their counsellor about post-secondary plans.

6. Admin Report

- Thank you to all our staff for the work in classes as well as the co-curricular activities that were described tonight!
- Anti Bullying Campaign – Anthony Mclean – Grade 9 assembly – great presentation – free style rapping – power point presentation
- Safe Schools assemblies were held for all grades to review board policies and school code of conduct
- 2 Staff leaving due to medical issues and will be replaced with teachers to the end of June
- Scheduling for next year is starting now. The board looks at student course requests and uses a formula to determine how many teachers are assigned at our school. Projecting about 1350 students for September 2015, slightly higher than the current year. The board determined that SLSS will not accept transfers from outside our attendance area. Portables may be put on site for future growth of the school.
- OSSLT –We will have a practice test on Feb 19 as well as a field test on Feb 25 of the new OSSLT formats. This will give students a chance to see what the test questions look like. March 26 for Grade 10 students. There will be a modified day schedule and the cafeteria will be closed; ELL and students with an IEP will have accommodations. Results will be received in late June.
- Upcoming events are listed on back of tonight's agenda
- Policies for comments – board of trustees – Linda Aversa is our trustee every 6 Months they look at feedback Parents can make comments
- Regional Parent Symposium Wednesday April 15th, 2015 – evening (5pm-9pm) Several parents attending the dinner and workshops.

7. Parents reaching out grant – Karina and Sayeed

- April 30. Looked at ways to promote event; local newspapers -some free, some charge for ad space. Will use social media promote event. Flyer will be sent to all elementary and secondary schools when finalized, posted during parent night; Door prizes – committee decided not to go ahead
- Translation of languages of handbook 1 page of essential information and contact numbers
- Council approved motion to apply for a grant for 2015-2016

8. Fundraising - Dan

- Move on next year – for September. Can use to cost-share for computers
- Following YRDSB Policies on school fundraising and administration of school generated funds
- Fundraising committee to meet before next council meeting and give 1 or 2 proposals to be considered for the fall

9. Staff Appreciation Lunch - Rebecca

- Staff appreciation lunch for about 120 staff (teachers, support staff). Letter will be drafted to take home requesting donations, parents choose amount. Want to show appreciation for staff who go above and beyond for our students

8:45 – Meeting adjourned.