

Stephen Lewis Secondary School Minutes - March 7, 2016

Motion to approve of March 2016 Minutes – Saiyed & Rebecca - carried

Guest : Linda Aversa – School Trustee -Wards 3 and 4

- Thank you for the welcome
- Covers 17 schools elementary and secondary
- Recently elected – 2nd year
- Parent of YRDSB students
- Many Changes over the years in board but the focus is on student well being and achievement
- Role: advocate for public education, board budget, recommendations to board on areas needing attention
- New schools: Block 12 elementary Rutherford Rd; Block 11 – secondary not in process enrolment does not meet Ministry of Education requirements; Alex Mac boundary changes: north of Rutherford bring feeder schools some relief
- Policies: always up for renewal, notice given to school councils. Advisory committees also give input When policies comes up for review, trustee looks at given feedback
- Board Improvement Plan drives the Directors Annual Plan – built in curriculum already. All what's in best interest of students and Student achievement and well bring always top priority
- Three main foci:
 1. Mathematics
 2. Mental health
 3. Modern learning

Student Council- James Wang

- Semi-formal was cancelled due to low interest
- Variety of events for future
 1. April – cancer week hoping to have activities and raise funds for different types of cancer
 2. Multi cultural Fair – honor different cultures, foods and customs in May.
- Mental health nurse if available through referral
- 2 social workers on site Tues and Thursday Friday addiction council – Addiction Services of York Region
- Track.org – Staff at SLSS involvement
- Posihre mental health.

Teacher Report – Marissa Ellis

- Mental health supports
- York Region mental health nurse is available through referral
- YRDSBSchool social workers on site Tues
- JF&CS Social worker here on Thursday
- Addiction Services of York Region counsellor- Friday
- Jack.org – Student club that helps students deal with stress and anxiety
- Feb – DECA team to provincials, 2 students to National.

- Teacher-report: handout present to attendees: reference on back of handout.
 - Black History Month – Road to Freedom.
 - Course selection – completed Feb 19, lots of school support.
 - Wrestling team did really well.
 - Peter Kent talked to Civic classes.
 - John McCallum – Minister of Immigration to civic classes.
 - Intern report cards went home, very early reporting period, few assessments. Mid-term will have actual marks
 - Parent teacher interviews March 10, 2016
 - Europe trip – 10 students, specific to Moderns and History during March break Mar 14-18
 - Assembly – Shane Feldman – count-me-in-conferences, motivating 21 year old message to get involved.
 - March 31- Literacy test, modified day/schedule
 - Cultural student alliance – Multicultural, have done video what black history month means to you.

Admin report – Ken

- YRDSB enrollment across board leveled across board holding steady, no increase and no decrease. Compared to TDSB where newspaper reports say there is lower enrollment.
- SLSS Grade 9 next year a little bit lower, students have opportunity to transfer to other secondary schools if they have space. 8 elementary schools zoned for Stephen Lewis. For 2016-17, SLSS is open to transfers in YRDSB
- School Improvement Plan
 - Modern learning focus covers many aspects of teaching/learning. For example, try to engage students in learning; work on solving problems and asking questions – ways of involving students so they are not just sitting like parents used to do much of the time. Not only based on technology, lots of tools. Really want students to learn how to learn.
 - Mental Health
 1. Awareness done, working with York Region health
 2. Support level, how we help each other
 3. Mental health continuum
 - Mathematics trying not to learn just theory but to recognize math is everywhere.
- SLSS involving students to work on School motto, slogan – trying to get done before end of June so will be ready for 2016/2017. Parents are welcome to submit suggestions

School Council – Saiyed and Anna

- Regional parent forum – March 30, 2016-Sheraton Parkway
- PRO Grant
 - Feb 11, 2016 parents reaching out grant – 35 attended, was bullying, and cyber bullying.
 - April 7, 2016 – Connecting with teens guest speaker: Dror Enbar, M.A.
 - next year 2016-2017 application is due on May 27, 2016
- Fundraising – won't be able to achieve this year, not enough man power.
- Staff appreciation event – June 3, 2016
Try to collect funds from council members and parent, any donation will be helpful, no obligation to donate only a suggestion.
- Topic for next meeting to be held on May 9, 2016. – no suggestions

- Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.