

Stouffville District Secondary School Minutes – Parent Council Meeting – November 20, 2017

In Attendance: Reid Wilshire, Ranjit Gill, Laura Taccone, Vipneet Johar, Lisa Hume, David Palmer, Diana Bohemier, Dalene Serebro

PRINCIPAL REPORT – Reid Wilshire

Current/Upcoming Events:

- Mid-term Report Distribution - November 16, 2017
- Grade 8 Open House - November 30, 2017
- Drama Plays - December 13/14, 2017
- Holiday Season Assembly - December 22, 2017
- Grade 9 EQOA Math - January 18/19, 2017
- Semester 1 Final Exams - January 25-31, 2018

Next year's staffing cycle will begin in February – there will be an update and the next council meeting. The Number for the students will probably be about the same for 2018-2019 school year.

There will be no second high school in Stouffville – they will only be adding to SDSS moving forward.

Edsby information was distributed – Edsby is a cloud-based platform that will be used from grades K-12 in the YRDSB. There are many aspects of it for teachers, parents and students alike.

Pro-grant funds will be used for "Raising Awesome Kids" Seminar, which will take place on January 18, 2018 at SDSS. Gary Drenfeldt will be sharing. More information at his website: <http://www.yoursocialworker.com/>

TEACHER REPORT – Laura Taccone

Tutoring update

Tutoring is in full swing. We are always looking for more tutors to help. Students can apply by filling in the application form which is available both in paper (on the Student Success door), or online through the SDSS website, found under the student success page. Requests for tutoring support can also be found online or in guidance. At this time we have more requests than tutors and are doing our best to try to find a match for everyone.

Leadership Network

We have successfully trained 25 student leaders and SHSM students in Leadership Skills and Conflict Resolution. These students are helping us to expand our mentoring program here and we look forward to being able to support the newest members of SDSS as they approach their first set of exams in January. SNL members will be planning and running short 10-15 minute 'How to and Words of Wisdom' sessions with Grade 9 students in January.

Semi-Formal

We have confirmed semi this year at Crystal Fountain Banquet Hall in Markham on Thursday, February 15th from 5:30 - 10:30 pm. Students will be able to purchase tickets online starting in December. There will be limited in-person sales in January. Students are encouraged to purchase tickets early as we require a minimum of 200 students to run this event. **UPDATE: this event was cancelled due to lack of sales.**

Community Service Hours

Students are encouraged to start thinking about and planning to complete their CSH. The holidays present a great time to reach out to the community and help others in need. See the bulletin boards outside of Guidance for upcoming and ongoing volunteer opportunities. Remember, it is strongly encouraged to complete your hours in grades 9 and 10, before the workload of senior grades increases. Don't wait to submit

your forms; they can be handed in at any time to guidance so that you don't risk losing track of the time that you've completed.

Study Hall

Study hall has re-opened now during period 3 in room 2039. Students needing can use the time to complete homework and or outstanding assignments, or as a quiet work space. Students eligible for extra time can also use the room to complete tests. Any students who do not have a 3rd period lunch are encouraged to access the library and/or learning centre should they need a space to work during their lunch or spare.

Senior art show

Latcham Gallery entitled "17 moments" opens Thursday Dec 14 7-9 pm all are welcome!!!

"Chill Zone Room"

This will be in Room 1003H (next to Guidance) and will be open Tuesdays and Wednesdays during periods 2,3 and 4 on the following dates. Nov 22, 28, 29, Dec 5, 6, 12, and 13.

The room provides our students with information and activities that will support their social, emotional and mental well being.

Music Department

The Music Department just performed in the Family of schools concert this past Friday. It was a big success. This was the 25th anniversary of this concert and a celebration of Canada's 150th. Our program celebrated this by performing a combined version of The Maple Leaf Forever for choir and band that was arranged by our very own music teacher David Marlatt!

Next for us is the Santa Claus parade.

Make sure you look for us on our float themed "Do you want to build a Spartan"!

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT – Vipneet Johar

Last month, Student Council held their annual Halloween Costume Contest!

Students were encouraged to go on stage in their costumes, and compete in categories (funny, pairs/groups, scary, fictional character). Everyone received candy for participating and winners received a Halloween themed bucket of goodies. We had great participation from both contestants and the crowd!

During the week of November 20-23, Presidents' Council will be hosting Spirit Week with the purpose of enhancing school spirit within the student body. The majority of clubs/councils will be participating by hosting their own events.

Lastly, Student Council is running a Semi Formal in February! The theme is still TBD, but each ticket will be \$60 and it will take place on February 15th at the Crystal Fountain. It has been a great couple months, and there will be many more fun events to come! **UPDATE: this event was cancelled due to lack of sales.**

MEETING ADJOURNED @ 7:30PM

NEXT SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING – APRIL 16, 2018@ 6:30PM (Cancelled due to Ice Storm)